

West Pennine Local Medical Committee

Supporting and representing GPs in Oldham, Tameside and Glossop

July 2023 UPDATE FROM YOUR LMC



Dr Amir Hannan, Chair



Dr Alan Dow, Secretary



Dr Andrew Vance, Vice Chair



Jane Hill, LMC Liaison Officer/
GP Practice Data Protection Officer

LMC meeting – 11th July 2023

The committee met on Tuesday 11th July at 7pm via Teams. Dr Alan Dow flagged that, whilst the SLF – Support Level Framework, which has recently been rolled out across GM and Derbyshire, is not intended to be a performance management tool, it is a scoring matrix of 1-4 which means NHSE are in effect managing the ICBs. Dr Dow has already flagged this with colleagues at Derbyshire ICB and he will raise it at the forthcoming Association of GM LMCs meeting.

Alan also flagged that the national bowel screening programme had recently requested, a (GP) decision on continuing Rivaroxaban (for AF/CVA) as a polypectomy might be needed. Dr Tina Greenhough added that she's received the same query from an ophthalmic provider. If you have received any similar requests, please do let us know by emailing westpennine.lmc@nhs.net so we can further investigate this issue.

Save the date!

West Pennine LMC AGM is set to take place on Tuesday 14th November 2023 at 7pm at Oldham athletic Football Club. You are invited and it would be great if you could join us. Please watch this space for further information...

GP of Note award nominations

As in past years, at our AGM we will be presenting a GP from the West Pennine area with a GP of Note award. If you would like to nominate a colleague who you feel has made an outstanding contribution to the GP Profession, please email details to Jane at westpennine.lmc@nhs.net

Summary of GP contract changes

By way of reminder, please be aware the changes to the 2023/24 contract changes, which were imposed on April 1st, 2023, are in the following areas:

- Prospective record access
- Cloud-based telephony
- Removal of reference to medical cards in the patient registration provisions
- Additional Access requirements
- General practice pay declaration guidance

The GPC (the GP Committee of the BMA) updated their guidance, explaining what this means for GP practices: [GP contract changes England 2023/24 \(bma.org.uk\)](https://www.bma.org.uk/gp-contract-changes-england-2023-24)

[GP access: meeting the reasonable needs of patients \(bma.org.uk\)](https://www.bma.org.uk/gp-access-meeting-reasonable-needs-patients)

CQC Quality Improvement support

If required, the LMC can offer practice visits before or after CQC inspections to support with the CQC process. Sue Gilks is a very experienced Practice Manager and would be happy to come out to your practice to sit with the management team and assess what improvements may need to be made.

Vacancies

The West Pennine LMC currently have vacancies for an Ashton Locality representative, an Oldham Generalist representative and an Oldham based Trainee GP representative. The LMC meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 7pm (apart from in August) and representatives are offered a meeting attendance payment. If you, or your colleagues may be interested in joining the LMC as a representative, please do send Expressions of Interest to westpennine.lmc@nhs.net by Friday 11th August 2023.

GM locum bank

We have\ attached details of the GM locum bank, which you may find useful.

West Pennine Locum WhatsApp group

Several years ago, the West Pennine LMC set up a locum WhatsApp group, which practice management teams have found useful when looking to appoint locum GPs without paying hefty agency charges, and equally locums find useful for finding ad hoc employment opportunities. If you wish to be added to this group, please do send your mobile number to westpennine.lmc@nhs.net, or contact Jane Hill on 07951 530 417.

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Updated complaints/feedbacks contact for patients:

GM ICB recently shared the following information, which you may find useful:

Oldham Complaints,
Oldham – NHS GM,
Civic Centre
West Street
Oldham, OL1 1UT

Email:

gmicb-old.customercare@nhs.net

Call:

07966 746 117

Tameside Complaints,
Tameside – NHS GM,
Headquarters,
Tameside One,
Market Place,
Ashton-under-Lyne,
Tameside, OL6 6BH

Email:

gmicb-tameside.customercare@nhs.net

Call:

0161 342 5500

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Data Protection Office Update

Access to records update

In response to the imposed contract, the GP Committee of the BMA have recently published updated guidance:

<https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/gp-practices/gp-service-provision/updated-guidance-on-accelerated-access-to-gp-held-patient-records>

As you will see in the guidance, the GPC are taking further legal steps in challenging the way this is being rolled out and we will update you further as these challenges progress.

Concerns about enabling access to prospective data via the NHS app and similar apps, which the Association of GM LMCs listed in the attached statement, still haven't been mitigated. I will be attending the Oldham Practice Managers' forum in September and the Tameside admin Target meeting in October to further discuss this scheme of work and the associated ongoing concerns, including lack of funding and resources and inadequate redaction software.

Caldicott Guardian training

<https://www.ukcgc.uk/>

The UK Caldicott Guardian Council will be delivering a training session via Teams on Tuesday 5th December. If you wish to book onto this session, please contact Helen Dyer at

helen.dyer10@nhs.net

Data Protection training

Having received requests for training from several practices, I have started to deliver Data Protection training sessions for GP practice teams. There are online training sessions from a variety of providers available, but if you would prefer a short F2F session, I am very happy to come out to your practice building to support you with this.

Barts Health NHS Trust/ Manchester University Cyber attacks

You may already be aware that recently both Barts Health NHS Trust and Manchester University have been victims of cyber-attacks. Although the scale of the incidents has not yet been identified, it is likely that huge amounts of personal data will have been breached by both organisations. Please do be vigilant; ensuring the source email address is from a legitimate sender, and never opening email attachments if you are not expecting them.

If you wish to discuss any of the above, or any other Data Protection concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me on 07951 530 417 or Jane.hilldpo@nhs.net