

West Pennine Local Medical Committee

Supporting and representing GPs in Oldham, Tameside and Glossop

June 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 – 13th June 2023

The committee met on Tuesday 13th June at 7pm via Teams. It was flagged that many of the discharge letters received from hospitals continue to be of very poor quality. In some cases, patients are also being discharged without the correct after care drugs having been prescribed by the hospital. It was shared that in Tameside there is a prescribing “stopped, started, changed” proforma in use, and as this seems to be effective, it was suggested that this would be useful for the Oldham hospital to use. Dr Andrew Vance, LMC Vice Chair, has agreed to raise this with secondary care providers. Dr Amir Hannan, LMC Chair, spoke about the GP Access Recovery Plan paper, which was shared at the recent GM GP Board meeting, which he attends on behalf of the LMC.

LMC support

If practices find themselves experiencing financial instability, we invite you to contact the LMC for confidential support, before you contact the ICB. ICBs have a process which they are required to follow; the LMC may be able to offer alternative solutions to support practices.

EMIS panic button

The GP Committee of the BMA have put pressure on NHS England to stop the removal of the EMIS panic button. This has now been actioned and it will not be removed from the EMIS system.

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Medical Examiners

The Medical Examiners programme was set to be a statutory requirement from April 2023. However, as the LMC raised previously, it now won't become a statutory requirement at this time and has a new target date of April 2024. Locally it continues to be an optional pilot until then, with the existing laws unchanged.

[Written statements - Written questions, answers and statements - UK Parliament](#)

West Pennine LMC is due to meet with the Tameside Medical Examiner team in July, with a view to reviewing the pilot in relation to GP workload and to see how the local pilot compares to others.

GM NHSE GP Fellowship scheme

We have attached information about the GP Fellowship, which is a 2-year programme of support aimed at welcoming GPs into General Practice

Recruitment adverts on LMC website

The LMC is happy to advertise vacancies for GPs and Managerial positions on the website. Please send recruitment adverts to westpennine.lmc@nhs.net

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.

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Summary Care Record change of system

I am aware that GPs don't ordinarily access the Summary Care Record; however, I just wanted to make you aware that the SCR is being replaced by a new system. After 29th September the URL that is currently used will be inaccessible and replaced with the new NCRS (National Care Records service).

[Switch over from SCRa to NCRS - NHS Digital](#)

Data Security & Protection Toolkit – annual submission deadline

The deadline for the submission of your practice's annual Data Security & Protection Toolkit return is Friday 30th June.

[Log In \(dsptoolkit.nhs.uk\)](#)

As you will be aware, the DSPT is an annual assessment that must be completed by all organisations which have access to NHS patient data. The toolkit provides assurances that GP practices and other organisations have the proper measures in place to ensure that this information is kept safe and secure, by measuring their performance against the National Data Guardian's 10 data security standards.

I have attached a spreadsheet, which should help with the completion of the toolkit; please refer to columns L & M for required evidence items specific to GP practices.

If you require any further support, please do not hesitate to contact me. Alternatively, you can contact the DSPT helpdesk directly at Exeter.helpdesk@nhs.net/ Tel: 0300 303 4034.

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.

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 or westpennine.lmc@nhs.net