

# West Pennine Local Medical Committee

Supporting and representing GPs in Oldham, Tameside and Glossop

## October 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 – 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023

The LMC met on the evening of Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October via Teams. Dr Amir Hannan, LMC Chair, flagged the fact that, because PCNs operate differently, with different staffing resources, etc, there can be a gap in a cohesive strategy such as cancer. The GM ICB level strategy and other workstreams don't fit with the individual PCN delivery models. A conversation followed about the PCN's responsibility for staff members ongoing training, such as the training and development needs of physician's associates. Dr Amir Hannan agreed to flag this with the GM GP Excellence team in the hope of getting a clear steer to support PCN teams. Dr Einas Ben Hamieda, Oldham Generalist representative, shared an update on the SCoM meeting (Shared care of Medicine – Task & Finish Group) she had recently attended. She flagged that a lot of secondary care prescribing is being inappropriately transferred to GPs. She pointed out that there was only one other representative from primary care at the meeting, and she has agreed to represent the LMC and hence the GPs in the West Pennine area at this meeting going forward. The committee also discussed issues with the cardiology advice and referral system in Tameside and an update on the missing Lab results. LMC officers are continuing to flag these issues with the relevant secondary care colleagues. Dr Alan Dow updated the Committee on the possible financial and Patient consequences with the Glossop Practices having moved to Derbyshire with different LCS and Partnership Funding and different arrangements for dentistry and Optometry. Practices hosting locally provided Services could be particularly affected as could the 32,000 residents. A review is underway.

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## Learning Disability Flagging

You may have recently received an email from the bowel screening service at Coventry & Warwickshire NHS Trust who we gather are working with the local Screening Centre in the Greater Manchester area to improve access to bowel screening for people with a learning disability. As far as we are aware, they have not consulted LMCs or the GP Board about this. They are asking practices to share information on any patients with learning disabilities. This is not a contractual requirement, although you may feel it is worthwhile and it is up to you as a practice to assess whether you have the capacity to respond to this request.

## You are invited...

**West Pennine LMC AGM** is set to take place on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7pm at Oldham Athletic Football Club, OL2 5BL**. We are delighted to announce that Dr Samira Anane, BMA GP Committee Deputy Chair, will be joining us as our Guest Speaker. It would be great if you could join us, to meet Dr Anane. A Q&A session will follow her keynote speech. Please find the attached invitation and agenda for further information.

## **LMC walk – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November.**

Several years ago, Dr Amir Hannan established the South Manchester Muslim walking group, with a view to encouraging colleagues, friends, and family to regularly make the time to enjoy the great outdoors – a proven way of promoting good physical and mental health.

As Hippocrates stated, *“Walking is man’s best medicine.”*

On Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 10am, the West Pennine LMC are going to be joining the South Manchester Muslim walking group for a walk around the Wessenden Reservoir in Meltham. Please let us know if you are able to join us by registering at the following link:  
<https://www.southmanchestermuslimwalkinggroup.com/event-details-registration/wassenden-reservoir-circular-2>

We will be meeting at 10am at Wessenden Reservoir, Wessenden Head Road, Meltham, Holmfirth HD94EU



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## **CQC support**

The West Pennine LMC are very aware of how stressful the CQC inspection process can be for Practice staff, both before and after an inspection. We can offer support by coming out to your practice building and reviewing your policies, and protocols with you. If you feel this would be of benefit to your practice team, please do not hesitate to contact us on [westpennine.lmc@nhs.net](mailto:westpennine.lmc@nhs.net)

## **CQC workshop – details to follow.**

As the CQC have recently changed some of their inspection criteria, we feel it is timely to host a CQC support workshop for GPs and Practice Managers. We are in the process of organising this and will share further details as soon as we can.

## **Data Protection Office Update**

### **Accelerated Access to records update**

As you will be aware, NHS England have dictated in the recently imposed GP contract that 31<sup>st</sup> October is now the deadline for the requirement of enabling patients to have access to prospective data in the GP record, via the NHS app and other equivalent apps. The GP Committee of the BMA recently published further guidance and resources to support practices and for ease of reference, I have reattached these documents. They include a DPIA (Data Protection Impact Assessment) which you may wish to amend and use at your practice. If you have concluded that NHSE's proposal of enabling access presents risks which cannot be satisfactorily mitigated, you may consider adopting the BMA's suggested approach of using an opt in model to meet the contractual requirement. The attached documents include wording, which you could send out to your patients via AccuRx/ MJog, asking if they would like access to their prospective health data. This allows for a more measured approach, and as it could be potentially time consuming, you may wish to set up a waiting list for patients wanting to have access. The SNOMED codes, which I have also reattached, can be applied to a patient record, e.g., the "104 code" would prevent a patient from accessing their health data until the practice has had the opportunity to review the record.

### **Biobank UK – Request for coded data**

You may recently have received an email from Biobank UK, requesting that you share coded data with them for patients who have given consent to be part of Biobank's research programme. I'm aware of the potentially groundbreaking work Biobank does and if a patient has consented to their data being shared that should of course be honoured where possible. However, I can't see a clear process whereby the GP Data Controller is made aware of *which* patient's/ patients' data is being shared. I also want assurance from Biobank that they have a clear process for addressing requests from patients to revoke consent. I have contacted Biobank in the hope of getting the assurances I feel I need, and I will let you know as soon as I have a clear steer.

### **Reminder re Secure email addresses**

If you are sharing P.I.D. (person identifiable data) via email, please ensure you are sending it to a secure email address. The following are considered secure:

- Nhs.net
- nhs.uk
- Gov.uk
- Cjsm.net
- Pnn.police.uk
- Mod.uk
- Parliament.uk

It is also advisable to password protect a document containing P.I.D. or encrypt it in transit.

### **Information Sharing Gateway**

It has been brought to my attention that some practices' assurance has expired on the Information Sharing Gateway. It is usually because there isn't an updated ICO registration number recorded. Are you able to please sign into the Information Sharing Gateway and check this? Thank you.

[Home Page - Information Sharing Gateway](#)

### **Caldicott Guardian Training**

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

The UK Caldicott Guardian Council will be delivering a training session via Teams on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 5.30pm. If you wish to book onto this session, please contact Helen Dyer at [helen.dyer10@nhs.net](mailto:helen.dyer10@nhs.net)

### **Data Protection training**

I have started to deliver Data Protection training sessions for GP practice teams. If you think your team would benefit from 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](mailto:Jane.hilldpo@nhs.net)