

West Pennine Local Medical Committee

Supporting and representing GPs in Oldham and Tameside & Glossop

September 2021 UPDATE FROM YOUR LMC



Dr Amir Hannan, Chair



Dr Alan Dow, Secretary



Dr Andrew Vance, Vice Chair

LMC meeting – 14th September 2021

The committee met on the evening of Tuesday 14th September via Teams. Dr Amir Hannan, LMC Chair, welcomed the newly appointed Trainee GP representatives. Dr Helen Moss and Dr Adil Khan will be representing trainees in Tameside & Glossop on a job share basis, Dr Kiran Nadeem has joined the committee as Trainee GP representative for Oldham. We were also pleased to welcome our Guest Speakers - Dr Sundeep Puri and Emma Cunningham who explained the Medical Examiners' programme, which will be implemented in the Tameside area next year. The Medical Examiners have been mandated by law to provide scrutiny of all non-coronial deaths, providing greater safeguards to the public. In her capacity as GP Practice Data Protection Officer, Jane Hill shared that the GM Care Record data is set to be migrated to the Cloud, a necessary move since the existing infrastructure is under stress. The migration fits in with the government's Cloud First Strategy and Jane has scrutinised the associated DPIA and fully supports this development. The individual GP controllers of course remain the decision makers about how the patient data they hold in their clinical system is processed. Currently however, the data flow via Graphnet into the GMCR is mandated by the COPI Notice (Notice under Regulation 3(4) of the NHS Control of Patient Information Regulations 2002) for Covid-19 purpose data. Dr Amir Hannan, LMC Chair, explained the notion of the "Waiting Well", and shared information from a learning event he had recently attended (presentation attached for further information). The committee acknowledged that there are currently a lot of unhappy, frustrated patients and the number of complaints is increasing, with the media aggravating the situation for GPs. Dr Alan Dow drew attention to the focus on protecting the reputation of hospital services while GPs, who have continued to see people face to face throughout the pandemic, are not being given similar support. Dr Alan Dow flagged that the community referral process in the T&G area continues to be a labour-heavy task, adding to the workload pressure of GPs. The LMC has again escalated this issue with the CCG and the T&G ICFT.

A&E poor quality discharge letters

It was flagged at the LMC meeting that GPs are sometimes receiving very poor-quality discharge letters from A&E, with very little information in them. If you have any examples of this, please do send them to the LMC (redacting any person identifiable data) so we can escalate this problem.

westpenninelmc@btconnect.com

IT System User Group

In order to support GPs, Practice Managers and practice staff in Oldham and Tameside & Glossop, the LMC, in collaboration with Oldham CCG and T&G CCG, is delighted to host a regular system user group meeting. The first meeting is set to take place on Thursday October 14th at 12.30pm – 1.30pm via Teams and Pauline Cheetham from EMIS will be the Guest speaker, updating system users on developments with the system and offering the opportunity to respond to any queries in person. Dr Shelley Grumbridge and Dr Amir Hannan will co-chair the meeting and we look forward to seeing you there.

Please follow the attached link to join the meeting:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Pauline Cheetham, EMIS Manager, has requested that you send questions in advance of the meeting, so she can ensure she has received a response from the most relevant EMIS team member. Please do send any questions/ issues/ queries to westpenninelmc@btconnect.com by Friday 7th October.

Institute of General Practice Managers membership

IGPM – Institute of General Practice Management

West Pennine LMC fully supports the work of the IGPM and as a further way of supporting you, the LMC would be happy to pay 50% of the membership fee for Practice Managers to join the IGPM for the first year. If you would like to take up this offer, please contact the LMC office before Friday October 1st, 2021.

If you have already paid for membership, please let us know and we can reimburse you 50% of the membership fee.

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Appointment of Freedom to Speak up Guardian.

The CQC are citing a “Freedom to Speak up Guardian” as a requirement for GP practices. We sought feedback from LMC member practices on whether this role would be best carried out by a GP practice staff member, a buddy practice, or whether the LMC could perhaps provide this function as a way of further supporting you. Thank you to those of you who shared your thoughts on this matter; some of you suggested it would be very useful for your LMC to provide a “Freedom to Speak up Guardian” service. We have progressed this and are currently in the process of appointing a Freedom to Speak Up Guardian. We will send you further details as soon as we have finalised the appointment.

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SOM (Supporting Occupational Health) wellbeing webinars

In collaboration with Public Health England, SOM have produced a series of wellbeing webinars, which you may find useful. The recordings and presentation slides are [here](#):

They have also produced several factsheets to support health and social care workers to maintain and improve good health and work outcomes during the pandemic and its aftermath.

1. [Managing stress, burnout and fatigue in health and social care](#)
2. [Supporting workplace mental health and wellbeing in COVID-19 and beyond](#)
3. [Developing a COVID-19 secure mental health and wellbeing strategy](#)

DPO Update



Jane Hill, GP Practice Data Protection Officer

COPI Notice extended to March 31st, 2021

Please be aware that the COPI Notice (Notice under Regulation 3(4) of the NHS Control of Patient Information Regulations 2002) has been extended until March 31st, 2022. As I'm sure you're aware, the COPI notice provides a temporary legal basis to allow the sharing and processing of patient data with a Covid-19 purpose.

Please do update your practice privacy notice with the following link:

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): notice under regulation 3\(4\) of the Health Service \(Control of Patient Information\) Regulations 2002 – general - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/coronavirus-covid-19-notice-under-regulation-34-of-the-health-service-control-of-patient-information-regulations-2002-general)

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NDOO compliance deadline also extended to 31st March 2021

The deadline for GP practices to demonstrate compliance with the National Data opt Out programme has also been extended to March 31st, 2022.

[Compliance with the national data opt-out - NHS Digital](#)

NHS Digital GP Practice data Collection for planning and Research

[General Practice Data for Planning and Research \(GDPR\) - NHS Digital](#)

You should have received a letter, dated 19th July 2021, from Jo Churchill, Parliamentary under Secretary of state for Primary Care and Health Promotion. The letter explains that the GDPR has again been postponed and there will be no specific start date for the collection of data until the following requirements have been met:

- The ability to delete data if patients choose to opt-out of sharing their data
- The backlog of opt-outs has been fully cleared
- A Trusted Research Environment has been developed
- Patients have been made more aware of the scheme through a campaign of engagement and communication

I have attached a copy of the letter; in case you wish to read it in full.

Code of practice for Records Management 2021

The Code of practice for Records Management has been updated. Please ensure you have a copy of the up-to-date version in your suite of IG/ data protection policies and procedures.

<https://www.nhs.uk/information-governance/guidance/records-management-code/>

GM Care Record development

The GMCR is set to migrate to the Cloud over the next few months. I have scrutinised the DPIA on your behalf and I fully support the development. The Cloud will provide a more secure data warehouse for the GMCR data, and it is in line with the Government's Cloud First strategy. The DPIA will be uploaded to the Information Sharing Gateway in the next couple of weeks.

If you require any further information about the above, or any other Data Protection issues, please do not hesitate to contact me at jane.hilldpo@nhs.net or westpenninelmcc@btconnect.com, or mobile 07951 530 417.