

QOF Changes Summary for LMC FAQs

Here is a summary of the changes to QOF guidance for 2020/21.

The four flu indicators (CHD, COPD, Stroke/TIA, DM) and two cervical screening indicators have their points doubled:

Indicator	Points in 19/20	Points in 20/21
CS005	7	14
CS006	4	8
COPD007	6	12
DM018	3	6
STIA009	2	4
CHD007	7	14
Total points	29	58

PCNs will get additional funding for achieving 70-77% for flu vaccinations to patients 65yrs or above.

Quality Improvement

The requirements for the quality improvement domain focus on two key areas now – care of people with learning disability and early cancer diagnosis. These new QI reporting templates replace the two on prescribing safety and end of life care from 2019/20.

Regular PCN meetings are required to monitor performance. This action should be completed by all practices even if they have already commenced wider QI work.

Practices are encouraged to consider how people with a learning disability can be supported through their PCN i.e. working with a social prescriber.

Early cancer diagnosis

QIECD005 27 points, QIECD006 10 points

1. Restore the cervical screening programme by actively identifying women who had their cervical smear appointment delayed or cancelled due to covid-19.
2. Proactively engage with patients, families, carers to build confidence in primary care and that primary care is safe. Focus on groups who may experience barriers to accessing services.
3. Monitor suspected cancer referral rates and assess if these are returning to their previous levels seen before covid-19.
4. Proactive follow up of those who do not attend 2ww appointments, follow up of those who were not referred for covid-19-related reasons, and monitoring those referred urgently then downgraded.

Learning Disability

QILD007 27points, QILD008 10 points

1. Restore annual health checks and seasonal flu uptake for learning disability patients.
2. Review and update current registers of learning disability patients to ensure accuracy.

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3. Restore annual health checks for people with learning disability prioritising those with long term conditions.
4. Improve delivery of flu vaccinations to learning disability patients – importance of practices developing and implementing a plan to do this.
5. Ensure any reasonable adjustments for accessing primary care are considered e.g. face to face appointments or virtual consultations. Practices should also request consent to share information.
6. Discuss and review all DNACPR decisions.

Income protection

Changes in access to some diagnostic and specialist services as a result of covid-19 have meant care is not delivered within usual timescales. Practices should continue to apply their clinical judgement to the appropriate management of affected patients.

Certain indicators will be subject to income protection and there are conditions to achieving income protection. 567 points are now available to practices. 310 points have income protection. Practices will be credited with points on the basis of historical achievement.

To be eligible for income protection practices must:

1. Agree a plan to identify and prioritise those most vulnerable to harm from covid-19 e.g. BAME patients and those from 20% most deprived neighbourhoods nationally.
2. Those at risk of harm from poorly controlled long term health condition parameters
3. Those with a history of missing planned reviews.
4. Commit to making referrals to existing and any new weight management programmes for those patients identified as needing key health and wellbeing interventions.
5. Practices must confirm their approach to population stratification via eDEC.

Payments against the indicators running on a conditional basis and those subject to income protection will be summed and aspiration payments will be calculated in the usual way using total 20/21 QOF earnings.

Heart Failure

HF005, HF006, HF007

For those with new diagnosis of heart failure on or after 1st April 2020:

1. Confirm diagnosis with echocardiogram or specialist assessment between 3 months before or 6 months after diagnosis.
2. If newly registered with diagnosis of heart failure they need an echocardiogram or specialist assessment within 6 months of the date of registration.
3. Require a licensed beta blocker for heart failure (bisoprolol, carvedilol or in some cases nebivolol). If on a beta blocker unlicensed for heart failure you don't have to change it but these patients will be excluded from this indicator.
4. An annual review is required to include functional capacity and medication review.

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Asthma

AST005, AST006, AST007, AST008

1. Keep a register of those aged >6 years with a diagnosis of asthma
2. Requirement for the use of two diagnostic tests to confirm diagnosis, spirometry or one other objective test 3 months before or 6 months after diagnosis
3. Annual asthma review to include use of an Asthma Control Questionnaire or Asthma Control Test, a record of exacerbations, assessment of inhaler technique, personalised action plan.
4. Record of those age 19 or younger with a personal smoking history of record of exposure to second hand smoke in the previous 12 months.

COPD

Where patients have co-existing COPD and asthma (approx. 15%) they will be included in both disease registers.

COPD009, COPD0010

1. Record those with a clinical diagnosis of COPD before 1st April 2020 and those who have had diagnosis confirmed by post-bronchodilator spirometry FEV1/FVC <0.7 between 3 months before and six months after diagnosis. If newly registered they should have diagnosis confirmed with spirometry in the preceding 12 months.
2. Annual review also required to record number of exacerbations and assessment of breathlessness using MRC dyspnoea scale.
3. Also to record those patients with diagnosis of COPD on or after 1st April 2020 who are unable to undertake spirometry.

Non-Diabetic Hyperglycaemia

NDH001 – new indicator

1. Record the number of patients with non-diabetic hyperglycaemia who have had HBA1c or fasting blood glucose tested in the preceding 12 months.