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GP Contract Changes 2021/22

The GPC has negotiated minimal changes to the contract to help practices cope with the response to the pandemic.

The highlights are:

ARRS

- ♦ Planned uplift in amount of ARRS funding available will go ahead but the additional 4 services planned will not be introduced from April.



- ♦ Paramedics, Advanced Practitioners and Mental Health Practitioners added to the PCN roles.
- ♦ Mental Health Practitioners to be 50% funded by Community Mental Health Provider.
- ♦ Further opportunity from April 2021 to September 2021 to transfer Clinical Pharmacists from NHSE scheme to PCNs with ARRS funding.
- ♦ Limits on number of pharmacy technicians and physiotherapists which can be reimbursed will be removed.

QoF changes

- ♦ No new QI modules and LD & Cancer Care slightly modified to account for the impact of the pandemic;
- ♦ Additional investment to strengthen SMI physical health check indicator set;
- ♦ Minor changes to Cancer Care and some Asthma and Heart Failure indicators;
- ♦ A new vaccinations and immunisations domain with 4 indicators which will replace the Childhood Immunisation DES targets along with Item of Service payments for these immms.

Extended Access

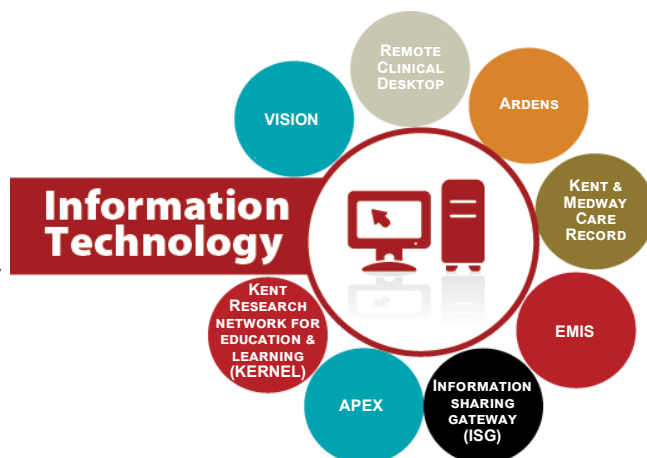
- ♦ Planned merger of Extended Hours and Improved Access services delayed until April 2022 except in those areas that have already made local agreements.

Further details on these and all other elements of what has so far been agreed can be found on the BMA website [here](#).

GPIT Update

There are a number of digital solutions being introduced to practices at the moment, some of which will require a Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) to be signed by the practice. We thought it was worth summarising the projects that the LMC has been consulted on and that have received IG approval from the Data Protection Officers (DPOs):

- ♦ **Remote Clinical Desktop** – this enables remote working from any device, either personal or NHS provided, and together with a card reader gives access to your clinical system and PDS (the spine) meaning you can access EPS. Details were in the [CCG GP bulletin on 23rd February](#). A DPIA has been completed by the GP DPO team and can be provided by contacting the team.
- ♦ **Ardens** – 163 practices are already using Ardens which provides clinical templates within EMIS for ease of data entry. There is also an analytical side to this and the CCG will be providing more information about this to you shortly. Practice aggregated data can only be shared once a DSA (which is held within the system) has been signed by individual Practices which gives Practices control of how their aggregated data can be viewed using “Access Levels” and “Connected Groups”. A DPIA is being finalised by the GP DPO team and will be available shortly.
- ♦ **Kent and Medway Care Record (KMCR)** – most of you will probably have heard of this as it has been in the pipeline for some time. It is now about to be rolled out and will eventually replace the MIG and CPMS which are in use in certain parts of the county. It enables health and social care to share information easily in read only format. The Acute Trusts are already feeding data in and you may well have already had contact from the project manager June Telford from Cantium. There are 2 IG documents that you will need to sign for this – a DSA and a Joint Controller agreement. June is presenting at meetings and has produced FAQs. You can contact her on June.Telford@cantium.solutions



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- ♦ **Kent Research Network for Education and Learning (KERNEL)** – this replaces the KID (Kent Integrated Dataset) and will be used for research projects that will be approved by a panel that will include LMC representation. All data extracted from GP systems will be anonymised or pseudonymised and it has been created by the HisBI team. There will be another DSA required for this.
- ♦ **The Information Sharing gateway (ISG)** is an electronic solution designed to improve and modernise the administration and risk assessment of information sharing. The ISG delivers a standardised approach to data sharing agreements, supporting electronic data sharing across K&M so that organisations can work collaboratively and efficiently. The ISG is now available for all practices to use and log in details, along with details on how to set up and use the system have been sent to all practice managers. If you have any questions or need any help using the system please contact the CCG IG team at kmccg.kmccg.ig@nhs.net

If you wish to contact the DPO team for assurance on any of the above you can contact them on kmccg.northkentqdataprotection@nhs.net

Government White Paper on NHS Reform

You will be aware that the Government has published a White Paper on NHS Reform and the creation of Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) entitled “Integration and Innovation: working together to improve health and social care for all”. It is an 80 page document which can be found [here](#). The BMA have provided a useful summary and briefing on [their website](#). We already have a Kent & Medway ICS and this will see it become established in statute with powers and accountabilities it currently lacks and it will take over the duties of the CCG.

The intention is to change legislation to bring about reforms that build on the co-operation between organisations seen as a result of the pandemic. Amongst other things it should see a reduction in bureaucracy, removal of the existing competition rules and it will give the Secretary of State new powers and accountability. Kent LMC will be working hard to ensure appropriate GP representation at Board level of the ICS as well as the ICPs.

Mindfulness May

Kent LMC will be organising a series of events to promote the help and resources available, to all practice staff, to improve mental health and wellbeing. These will be in the form of four, online, 1 hour sessions on a Wednesday lunchtime between 1pm-2pm. The dates will be the 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th of May. Topics will include mindfulness, resource signposting, cognitive behavioural therapy and a ‘lift the spirits’ session from Phil Hammond! More details will be sent out in a few weeks.



ST3 Events - Preparing for General Practice, March 2021

Following the success of last year’s on-line ST3 sessions, we are running another exciting programme of events over three consecutive Wednesday’s, 2.00pm—3.30pm, from 10th March 2021, to help smooth the path from training to independent practice. If you would like to attend these events please register by clicking on the links below (please note you will have to register for each event).

[10th March 2021—A Guide to Pensions](#)

[17th March 2021—How to Stay out of Trouble, and what happens if you do get a Performance review](#)

[24th March 2021—How an accountant can help you as a GP](#)

All events will be held via Microsoft Teams, and a link will be sent a few days prior to each event to those who have registered. Whilst the events are aimed at GP trainees, they are open to any GPs who may be interested.

Mental Health ARRS

From April 2021 the Additional Role Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS) will be expanded to include mental health practitioners. The intention is to introduce these roles in a way that supports improved working with local mental health services. Mental health practitioners will be embedded in the PCN, but employed and provided by KMPT. KMPT will also provide 50% of the funding for the role and the other 50% will be reimbursable via the ARRS. PCNs with less than 100k patients will be entitled to 1 WTE and the entitlement will increase to 2 in 2022/23 and 3 WTE by 2023/24.

Kent LMC has been involved in preliminary discussions about how this may be implemented in Kent and Medway. Both KMPT and the CCG are concerned that these roles may destabilise other services, with current staff moving to the new roles with PCNs. In view of this they are exploring a variety of options including rotational roles and shared posts between PCNs. The CCG and KMPT will continue to work with CDs and the LMC regarding the implementation of these new roles.



The Kent LMC Annual Conference 2021 will be held in the afternoon of 14th October at the Orchards Events Centre, West Malling, ME19 6BJ.
Please ensure you mark the date on your calendar—details of keynote speakers will be announced shortly!

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