

**Monday 23 July 2018**

**Issue 1**

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**GPC England meeting**

GPC England held its meeting on Thursday 19 July. The following issues were discussed at the meeting:

- The GP partnership review
- The QOF review report
- NHSE Consultation – Evidence based interventions: reducing the delivery of clinically ineffective interventions
- NHSE Consultation – Digital First Funding
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

**The next meeting of GPC England will take place on Thursday 15 November 2018 and the next GPC UK will take place on Thursday 20 September 2018.**

**GPC England Executive and GPC policy leads confidential update**

Please see the attached (appendix 1) which is an update that summarises developments since the last meeting of GPC. These updates are produced on behalf of the GPC Executive and the GPC Policy Leads.

**General Practitioners Committee England – membership**

There are currently 61 voting members of the committee.

35 are Principals (57%)



20 are Sessionals including the four representatives from the sessional GP subcommittee (33%)  
 2 are Trainees (3%)  
 4 are otherwise defined (7%)

There are five new members of GPC England for this session, 2018-2019.

## Independent review of partnership model - England

The committee received an oral update from Dr Nigel Watson (GPC member and Chief Executive of Wessex LMC) who is leading an independent review into the partnership model of general practice. As part of the review, commissioned by the Department of Health and Social Care, a [key lines of enquiry document](#) has been published calling for evidence to feed in to an interim report, which aims to make recommendations that will revitalise the partnership model and ensure that the views of GPs, other staff working in general practice, patients and the wider system have been considered. Members are encouraged to feed in to the review, by emailing [GPPartnershipReview@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:GPPartnershipReview@dh.gsi.gov.uk). Dr Watson has also been blogging about the review - read [here](#).

## QOF review - England

The Committee discussed the report of the [Review of the Quality and Outcomes Framework \(QOF\) in England](#), which was published earlier this month. It was highlighted that NHS England are inviting feedback on this report by emailing [england.qofreview@nhs.net](mailto:england.qofreview@nhs.net) before 31 August 2018. GPC has been working with NHS England, RCGP and others to review QOF and expect the report to stimulate further discussion. Our intention is that any changes to QOF must provide stability for practices and better enable them to respond to the needs of their patients. GPC has also published [a briefing on quality indicators](#) to provide background and context in preparation for the QOF negotiations and the potential changes to the QOF following the review.

## NHS England consultation on digital-first primary care - England

The committee also discussed the BMA's draft response to the [NHS England's consultation on digital-first primary care and its implications for general practice payments](#). While it was recognised that there are the many advantages that technology and innovation can provide for general practice, there is serious concern about the model used by providers, such as GP at Hand.

## Evidence Based Interventions consultation - England

The committee discussed the recently launched NHS England's [Evidence Based Interventions consultation](#), which looks at design principles of the programme, the interventions that should be targeted initially and proposed clinical criteria, including proposed new terms in the NHS Standard Contract. This follows research evidence which showed that some interventions are not clinically effective or only effective when they are performed in specific circumstances. The Evidence Based Interventions Programme is a collaboration between a number of organisations and is counterpart to the [items that should not be routinely prescribed in primary care programme](#), and the BMA (led by GPC) responded to this related consultation – read our response [here](#).

## General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

### Data Protection Officers and GP practices under GDPR

A DPO has formal responsibility for data protection compliance within an organisation. The appointment of a DPO under the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is only mandatory when the organisation is a public authority or body, or when the organisation's core activities consist of either:

- Data processing operations that require regular and systematic monitoring of data subjects on a large scale; or
- Large-scale processing of special categories of data (i.e. sensitive data such as health, religion, race, sexual orientation, etc.) and personal data relating to criminal convictions and offences.

The BMA has recently published new guidance on the role of the DPO in GP practices and can be found by visiting the [BMA GDPR hub page](#).

## Letter to the Information Commissioner's Office – UK

The Chairs of the BMA's Professional fees and General Practitioners Committees, wrote to the Information Commissioner's Office seeking greater clarity over specific terminology used within the newly enforced General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) in relation to Subject Access Requests. A copy of the letter is attached at Appendix 2.

## Thinking about a career change? - England

Health Education England has received an increase in the number of enquiries from doctors who are considering retraining as a GP - from other medical speciality trainees across all specialities, consultant, trust and staff grade doctors. Changes in the NHS over recent years means that more services are provided by multi-professional primary and community care teams.

There are [some case studies](#) and [FAQs](#) on the GP National Recruitment Office (GP NRO) website. Please share this with networks for information or colleagues, peers or friends who may be interested in switching career and considering re-training as a GP.

Email [gprecruitment@hee.nhs.uk](mailto:gprecruitment@hee.nhs.uk) if you would like to be put in contact with a GP who has gone through the re-training programme or to find out more information from a pool of local experts.

The final specialty training application adverts for this year will appear on NHS Jobs, Oriel and Universal Job Match websites on the 19 July with **applications open 31 July – 17 August 2018**

Please go to the [GP NRO website](#)

## Sessional GPs e-newsletter - UK

The July addition of the sessional GP newsletter includes an update from Zoe Norris on the partnership review and a blog from Mary McCarthy, UEMO representative about general practice in Europe. Read the newsletter [here](#).

## LMC access to the BMA website - UK

It has been drawn to our attention that some LMCs may be having difficulty accessing the BMA website. All LMCs do have access, but need to use the login details registered for submitting conference motions. This may, however, be an individual's email address, registered to input conference motions only.

If you wish to create an office account, using the office email address as part of your login and a password that everyone can use, or if you are unsure of your current login details and password, please email Karen Day at [kday@bma.org.uk](mailto:kday@bma.org.uk) and she will email you your relevant information.

## LMC observers at GPC meetings - UK

LMC observers are welcome to attend GPC meetings. If your LMC would be interested in sending an observer, please contact Kathryn Reece ([kreece@bma.org.uk](mailto:kreece@bma.org.uk)). A maximum of three LMC observers may attend any one meeting.

The date for the 2018/19 session for GPC meetings are below. Meetings will commence at 10:00am and will usually finish at 5:00pm (never later than 6:00pm).

GPC UK	Thursday 20 September	BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP
GPC England	Thursday 15 November 2018	BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP
GPC England	Thursday 17 January 2019	BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP
GPC UK	Thursday 21 March	Northern Ireland – To be Confirmed
GPC England	Thursday 18 July 2019	BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP

Please note that all travel and other expenses for LMC observers should be met by the relevant LMC.

## Dates for your diary

A reminder of the forthcoming dates for LMC conferences as per our email of 28 June:

LMC England conference – Friday 23 November at the Mermaid, London.  
LMC Secretaries conference – Friday 14 December at BMA House, and  
LMC UK conference – the afternoon of Tuesday 19 and a full day on Wednesday 20 March in Belfast.

Exact start and finish times and more details will follow in due course.

**Deadlines for submitting conference motions**

LMC Conference, England – Midday 21 September 2018

LMC Conference, UK – Midday 13 December 2018

More details including how to submit your conference motions will be sent out in due course.

**LMCs – change of details - UK**

If there are any changes to LMC personnel, addresses and other contact details, please can you email Karen Day with the changes at [kday@bma.org.uk](mailto:kday@bma.org.uk).

**GPC UK next meets on 20 September 2018. LMCs are invited to submit items for discussion. You may like to review these, beforehand, with the representatives in your area who serve on the GPC. The closing date for items for the GPC UK meeting is 11 September 2018. It would be helpful if items could be emailed to Kathryn Reece at [kreece@bma.org.uk](mailto:kreece@bma.org.uk). You may also like to use the GPC's listservers to exchange views and ideas.**

**GPC News**

LMCs are reminded that their regional representatives can provide more detailed information about the issues covered in GPC News, and other matters. Other members of the GPC would also be pleased to accept invitations to LMC meetings wherever possible. The secretariat can also provide a written background brief if required, but it would be helpful to have such requests well in advance of your meetings.

Finally, if LMCs require assistance on local issues, they can also contact the BMA's local offices. Their details are available on the BMA website.

This newsletter has been sent to:

Secretaries of LMCs and LMC offices  
Members of the GPC  
Members of the GP trainees subcommittee  
Members of the sessional GPs subcommittee