

Welcome to our November 2018 Newsletter

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REGIONAL:

A. SEASONAL FLU VACCINES 2019/20

LLR LMC has received several queries relating to seasonal flu vaccines for 2019/20. Following guidance from the LMC Buying Group they have confirmed they will be working with all four remaining flu vaccine companies for the 2019/20 season to ensure they are in a position to help members no matter which supplier they decide to use next year.

GSK and Pfizer **will not** be producing flu vaccines for the UK market for 2019/20 which leaves **MASTA, Mylan, Sanofi and Seqirus**.

The Buying Group has negotiated discounts on all vaccines that are currently available to order as well as other terms such as sale or return, reserves, early delivery etc. We know that there have been concerns over having a sole supplier for vaccines for patients aged 65 and over and at this point in the season this is still the case.

However, please read the new guidance from the October meeting of the **Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI)** for more information about new developments. The Buying Group will regularly update their website as more information is released.

The full information can be found on our [website](#).

B. UPDATE ON TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT FUND

As practices may be aware, the future of the Training and Development Fund has been a concern within LLR over the last few months, with practices and the LMC expressing concerns on the impact this would have on practices if this was withdrawn.

We are pleased to confirm that the LMC has had correspondence from Ian Potter (Head of Primary Care, West Leicestershire CCG) who is leading on this area which state:

“Following review across the 3 CCGs and in discussion with colleagues in general practice, I am pleased to confirm that the courses provided by the Training Department will continue to be delivered during this year

and that we have made a commitment to continue the service into 2019/20.”

There will now be further discussions with colleagues across LLR on how the Training and Development Fund is delivered.

C. CHRISTMAS EVE AND NEW YEAR'S EVE SUB-CONTRACTING ARRANGEMENT

The LLR LMC is pleased to confirm that we have agreement from NHSE for practices to take up the sub-contracting arrangement on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve from 4.00-6.30pm.

We have recently sent out communication to all practices in LLR regarding the details and costings for this arrangement. This service will cost £100 for the 2 days.

If you are a practice which has “opted-in” we require your completed form and payment by Friday 14th December 2018.

To view the letter and form for DHU please click [here](#)

D. LETTER FROM BIOBANK

Practices may have received a letter relating to data extracts for UK BioBank, a leading international research cohort.

Following advice from the GPC, it has been advised that practices do not engage with this research as it has not currently gone through the correct information governance.

E. LLR LMC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



We look forward to welcoming you to our AGM this Wednesday 21st November at College Court Conference Centre, from 7:30pm.

Dr Richard Vautrey (Chair of General Practitioners Committee, BMA) will be our key note speaker - *“General Practice: The Foundation for the NHS long term plan”*

A hard copy of our Annual Report has now been sent to all LLR practices and a PDF version has been sent to all LLR members. If you have not received the above, please let us know and we will send you another copy.

F. LLR LMC ONE-OFF REBATE TO PRACTICES

Thank you to all practices that have now returned their completed one-off rebate form.

If your practice is yet to return the form, we request this is done so at your earliest convenience to ensure payment is made in a timely manner.

G. PARTNERSHIP REVIEW

Over the last few months the GP Partnership Review has been meeting GPs across the country to listen to the challenges that the profession faces. There is a significant issue with the GP workforce, despite a record number of GP Trainees the number of partners is decreasing. The GP Partnership Review would like to gain a better understanding of how this affects those in the early, middle or later part of a GP's career, and also what the potential solutions might be.

It would be helpful if you could take 10 minutes to complete this simple survey, it may help you and it will

help the profession to provide them with more evidence to support the recommendations that they intend to make to the Secretary of State and the Chief Executive of the NHS in the final report at the end of the year.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MHVW5GP>

The survey will close on Monday 3rd December.

H. LEASEHOLD DILAPIDATIONS

DR Solicitors have released guidance on Leasehold Dilapidation- How to prepare and protect yourself.

To view this guidance please click [here](#).

I. KEY THEMES SHARED BY NHSE COMPLAINTS TEAM

The NHS England complaints team, Cathie Cunnington (Complaints Manager, NHSE) has shared November key themes which could be beneficial to the wider GP Community:

- Practice Complaints Policy – Review policy annually to ensure accurate and up to date.
- Palliative Care Patients – Review of access to services for palliative care patients.
- ANP Support – Review of procedures to ensure ANP's have easy access to GP advice when required.

J. EAST MIDLANDS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The East Midlands Leadership Academy are offering an OD virtual mentor scheme which offers an opportunity to be mentored by an experienced OD Practitioner.

Applications are open until November 30th.

For more information please visit our [website](#).

K. JOB VACANCIES

To view current vacancies please visit our [website](#).

Advertising any vacancies your practice may have is free through the LMC. Just send the details of the vacancy to enquiries@llrlmc.co.uk

Shared Learning and Issues raised with the LMC this month:

A. Access to Health Records in relation to Police Reports:

LLR LMC has recently received queries in relation to Police rights to access Health Records.

The BMA offers full guidance on this matter which can be found on their [website](#).

Their guidance does state that:

“If the police do not have a court order or warrant, they may ask for a patient's health records to be disclosed voluntarily under section 35 of the DPA 2018. However, while health professional has the power to disclose the records to the police, there is no obligation to do so.

In such cases, health professionals may only disclose information where the patient has given consent or there in an overriding public interest.”

B. Withholding Patient Medical Records:

Recently, practices have received requests to share patient's mental health records and they are seeking clarity on whether they can withhold this information based on the patient's current mental health state.

The ICO provides guidance on this, which states:

For the purposes of the act, 'prejudice' means causing harm in some way. Many of the exemptions listed below apply if disclosing the information you hold would harm the interests covered by the exemption. In the same way, confirming or denying whether you have the information can also cause prejudice. Deciding whether disclosure would cause prejudice is called the prejudice test.

To decide whether disclosure (or confirmation/denial) would cause prejudice:

You must be able to identify a negative consequence of the disclosure (or confirmation/denial), and this negative consequence must be significant (more than trivial); you must be able to show a link between the disclosure (or confirmation/denial) and the negative consequences, showing how one would cause the other; and there must be at least a real possibility of the negative consequences happening, even if you can't say it is more likely than *not*.

The view of the LLR LMC is that if the data controller believes releasing the patient records is going to be detrimental to patient's health, then they can withhold the information in the best interest of patients. The practice might wish to add a disclaimer which states that information that might be considered detrimental to the health of persons would be withheld.

NATIONAL:

L. PREMISES SURVEY

The BMA are currently participating in a review of the GP premises system, which is being led by NHS England and the Department of Health and Social Care. A 'Call for Solutions', seeking input from interested parties for ways in which the GP premises system could be altered to address issues in the system, was recently undertaken with a wide range of proposals submitted for

consideration, and detailed assessment of proposals drawn from this is currently underway.

To help inform this process and the continuing discussions with NHS England and other key stakeholders, the BMA are running a premises survey to build a fuller picture of the current landscape for GP premises.

The online survey can be found at <https://www.research.net/r/BMApremisessurvey> and will be running until the 21st November.

It only requires one response per practice and should take no more than 10 minutes to complete.

For any questions about the survey please contact info.gpc@bma.org.uk or info.lmcqueries@bma.org.uk.

M. BMA UPDATE

Richard Vautrey has released his update for November:

Winter indemnity scheme

The winter indemnity scheme (WIS) will run again from 1 October 2018 to 31 March 2019. Matt Mayer, GPC England's policy lead on workload, has written a blog which will guide you through the WIS, and explain how to access it.

Have you been impacted by annualisation?

We believe the current arrangements relating to annualisation within the 2015 NHS Pension Scheme are discriminatory and are prepared to take legal action to address this. In order to help strengthen our argument against this unacceptable process we need more examples we can use as test cases. Krishan Aggarwal, deputy chair of the GP Sessional subcommittee, explains what annualisation is and what to do if you have been

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL



MEDICAL COMMITTEE

affected by it. If you have been impacted by annualisation, please fill the survey and email us with your responses at pensions@bma.org.uk.

DWP guidance on completing medical reports

The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) has published [guidance](#) for doctors who are involved with the benefit system. There is also more specific guidance which has been designed to offer support to GPs when asked to provide information on behalf of their patients and help clarify the various different benefits and processes involved. We continue to liaise with the DWP and meet regularly to seek improvements where possible.

The full updates can be found on our [website](#).

LMC CONTACT DETAILS:

Telephone: 0116 2962950

Email: enquiries@llrlmc.co.uk