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CORONAVIRUS

Updates and Guidance

The LMC is committed to helping our practices in the Humber region in this most difficult time for the health service. We'll be making sure you can access the latest updates and information, but we're also aware that you will already be receiving a huge volume of communications. We'll therefore approach things as follows:

- Our guidance page <https://www.humbersidelmc.org.uk/coronavirus> is regularly updated. It includes links to trusted sources of information and guidance (including NHSE/I, PHE, and government advice to the public) which are being updated daily.
- We are issuing a weekly coronavirus bulletin on a Friday afternoon to GPs and practice managers. This includes a round-up of the week's updates and new guidance. This will also be available on the [coronavirus guidance page](#) as a PDF.
- We have published a list of FAQs which are based on queries we've received from practices. We'll be adding to this as the situation develops. You will always find the latest version of the FAQs on the [coronavirus guidance page](#). If you have a query it's worth taking a look at the FAQs as it may be answered there.
- The LMC social media feeds on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) will be regularly updated with new information.
- The LMC team are all working as normal during this unprecedented situation and we're here to support you. If you need our help with your queries [contact us](#) in the usual ways and we'll respond as soon as we reasonably can.

Thank you for all your hard work and commitment to supporting patients and communities in these challenging times.

Your Wellbeing

As we find ourselves facing incredibly difficult times, please remember that the LMC is here to support you. Please visit our resilience web-page <https://www.humbersidelmc.org.uk/resiliencegpsandpracticemanagers> for information about support and resources.

Mentoring:

If you are a qualified GP, please use the following contact details to access our mentoring service or contact Humberside LMCs for more information:

- www.gp-s.org - complete the online contact form

- email contact@gp-s.org

We are working with GP-S and our mentors with a view to providing shorter, virtual sessions so that as many GPs as possible may benefit from the service over the coming months.

Mentoring can help by providing general support or specific support including the following areas:

- Emotional support
- Working through stressful situations
- Support development
- Move forward with personal and career goals
- Create a greater work life balance
- Advance professional development
- Build self confidence
- Enhance abilities outside and inside work
- Achieve aspirations
- Enhance leadership skills and build resilience.

Lighten the Load:

We are planning to hold this one day event in September, date to be confirmed, instead of 18th June as previously announced.

You will learn how to 'lighten the load' by skilling up with some of the must-know, fundamental and empowering coaching skills and techniques, along with the theories that underpin them. By the end of the day, you will feel lighter and be even better equipped to have some great conversations that will change things for the better going forwards, for you, your staff and patients.

The programme is free and aimed at medical practitioners and practice managers in the Humber area, provided through our GP resilience programme. Lunch will be provided. Online booking details to follow.

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

General Medical Services (GMS) Ready Reckoner 2020/21

This ready reckoner has been produced by NHS England and NHS Improvement in partnership with the BMA General Practitioners Committee (GPC) and is intended to provide an indication of the changes in income streams that may affect a GMS practice and Primary Care Network (PCN) from 1 April 2020.

[Download the GMS ready reckoner.](#)

Medicine Supply Updates

The Supply Issues Update for Primary and Secondary Care published in late February 2020 can be found [here](#).

Specific alerts:

- In late February a [diamorphine injection supply disruption alert \(SDA\)](#) was issued.
- Early in March the Department of Health and Social Care issued a [patient level recall for all unexpired batches of Emerade 150 microgram auto-injectors](#) from patients due to an error in one component of the auto-injector believed to cause some pens to fail to activate and deliver adrenaline.
- A Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) for fluoxetine 10mg tablets came into effect on 13 March, with an expiry date of Friday 12 June 2020. The SSP will enable community pharmacists in England, Wales and Northern Ireland to supply patients with fluoxetine 10mg capsules. Read more [here](#).

Financial Impact of GP Contract and ARRS Funding

NHS England has published a [letter to CCGs which sets out the financial implications of the GP contract](#), which includes details about how the ARRS funding will work.

New GPIT Support Service Details

The current GPIT contract is due to cease as of the 31st March 2020. See [details of the support service that will be available post 1st April 2020](#) - this will be in place of contacting Embed with any IT queries.

Please note that the new N3i IT service desk does not start operating until 1st April. Until then all IT calls must continue to be logged on the eMBED service desk as per usual.

The IT Service Desk will, operating hours from 1st April will be:

- Monday to Friday 8:00 to 20:00,
- Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays 8:00 to 15:00.

From 1st April you will be able to log a support request/incident including RA support, from the following channels:

- Telephone: 0300 002 0001
 - Self Service Portal: <https://servicedesk.n3i.co.uk> (live 1st April)
 - Email: n3i.support@nhs.net
-

PCN DES

[GPC England has produced guidance](#) about what practices can stop and other measures that practices and PCNs can take to focus on managing the current situation.

The PCN DES has been changed considerably in response to this emergency. It still supports practices to work in PCNs, and this is now more important than ever. The funding streams remain guaranteed, crucially to support workforce expansion and support for CDs who will be taking a key leadership role during this current crisis. The service specifications have been delayed or can be delayed due to COVID-19 taking priority. The IIF has been abandoned for at least 6 months, if not for longer, in favour of providing the equivalent funding for PCNs to use to support their COVID-19 related activity.

Practices still have until the end of May to confirm their sign up to the DES. Given the current situation, practices are now encouraged to do this as early as possible to ensure funding flows and collaborative working arrangements are in place during this extremely challenging period. If practices have questions or concerns about the new DES please contact the LMC who will provide assistance.

With the recent changes the PCN DES Specification is still being finalised but will be released very soon so you will be able to then see the detail of what has changed.

In view of the dramatic changes since last week, after careful thought and checking with GPC England, we believe that postponing, for the moment, the survey we were planning to do on asking practices about signing up to the PCN DES is the right thing to do for the profession at this time. We will revisit this decision when the situation becomes clearer and ascertain the most appropriate time to circulate the detailed survey that we were planning to do.

National Data Opt-Out

Given that the health and social care system will face significant pressures in the coming month due to the Covid-19 outbreak, NHSX and NHS Digital have made the decision to [extend the compliance deadline for the national data opt-out](#) and the final date for submission of the [Data Security and Protection Toolkit \(DSPT\)](#) to 30 September 2020. In addition [NHSX has produced some Covid-19 IG guidance](#).

Free online training to prepare for the opt-out developed by the PMA in collaboration with NHS Digital is available and you can [access the module here](#). On completion, the PMA will award a certificate for the attained CPD points.

GUIDANCE & RESOURCES

BMA IR35 Guidance

The BMA have published a new guidance document *Are you an employed GP, and does IR35 affect you?* It gives guidance for sessional GPs on employment status, including an employment checklist to help you work out individual employment status. It also explains the rules governing IR35 and when they apply. A recent [BMA blog post](#) gives further background.

[Download IR35 guidance.](#)

GENERAL NEWS

Community Mental Health Teams Transformation – Humber Foundation Trust

Humber Foundation Trust have issued a one-page update on their Community Mental Health Teams transformation programme. The new models of care will more closely align community-based mental health teams to the emerging Primary Care Networks, helping to remove barriers between primary care and secondary care to create a seamless service. Early pilots will be taking place with PCNs in our region before this is rolled out more widely.

[Download the update.](#)

Full Roll Out of NHSmail for All Locum GPs in England

NHSmail is now available for all locum GPs in England following a successful pilot. Benefits of having an NHSmail include being able to share patient data with NHS colleagues and allowing locum GPs to be added to local distribution lists such as those run by CCGs. This will enable locum GPs to keep up to date on local, regional and national issues. If you are a GP locum in England, you can now apply for an NHSmail account [here](#).

Revalidation Decisions

[NHS England has sent a letter](#) which confirms that any doctors who are due to revalidate before the end of September will have their revalidation date deferred for one year. Appraisals have been suspended until further notice.

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<https://www.humbersidelmc.org.uk/privacy>.





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