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Items marked \* in orange on the content list are highlighted either because of their importance or because they contain information you may not have seen elsewhere.

## HOT TOPICS

### This Month's Hot Topics

#### Humber Coast and Vale

The LMC is working on behalf of constituents to ensure primary care is well represented in the new integrated care structures that will emerge in Humber Coast and Vale. The LMC [submitted a detailed response](#) to the ICS engagement exercise expressing our concerns about primary care representation, commissioning support, quality and accountability in any new system. The LMC will continue to engage with clinical directors and practices to help create the new ICS structures with a strong primary care voice. You can see [our ICS presentation here](#) (PowerPoint) which may help you understand the changes.

#### Discrimination Survey Update

Thank you to everyone who completed or forwarded the Racism and discrimination survey over Christmas and the new year. There were a large number of responses which the LMC is collating into a report which will include a summary of the data and proposed next steps. We are keen this is the beginning of a local strategy for making Humberside primary care an anti-racist place to work, and look forward to hearing feedback from constituents. If you asked to be kept updated specifically on ongoing work, you will be emailed directly in addition to general updates in the usual LMC newsletters and emails.

#### Coronavirus Updates

We are continuing to issue regular updates to constituents – all issues can be found on our website [here](#).

## TRAINING, EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

### GP Contract Roadshow

Tuesday 2 March, 19:00-21:00 (preceded by Humberside LMCs AGM, 18:30)  
Via MS Teams



**GP Contract Roadshow**

An opportunity for GPs and Practice Managers to hear about the 2021/22 GP contract changes, with time for questions afterwards.

Speaker:  
Dr Krishna Kasaraneni, GPC Executive Team

**Tuesday 2 March 2021**  
**via MS Teams**

7:00pm-9:00pm

This is a **FREE** event but booking is essential.  
Book online at:  
[www.humbersidelmc.org.uk/events/11936](http://www.humbersidelmc.org.uk/events/11936)

The annual LMC AGM will take place immediately before this event, starting at 6.30pm, with a break before the roadshow commences at 7.00pm. If you would like to attend the AGM, please also book via the roadshow booking link.

N.B you do not need to book twice if attending both events, simply join at 6.30pm for the AGM or at 7.00pm for the roadshow.

[Book your place.](http://www.humbersidelmc.org.uk/events/11936)

## Freedom to Speak Up

Wednesday 3 March, 13:00-14:00

Via MS Teams



The LMC is now offering the Freedom to Speak Up Guardian service to anyone working in primary care in our four CCG areas who wishes to raise a concern. Any members of staff from GP practices can speak up about concerns they have which they feel are not being listened to by their own management reporting.

When things go wrong, we need to make sure that lessons are learnt and things are improved. If we think something might go wrong, it's important that we all feel able to speak up so that potential harm is prevented. Even when things are good, but could be even better, we should feel able to say something and should expect that our suggestion is listened to and used as an opportunity for improvement. Speaking up is about all of these.

This short webinar event is to tell you about our service and about *how* to speak up and *when* you might do so. The event will be delivered by Humberside LMCs' Freedom to Speak Up Guardians in conjunction with the Julie Huggan, Regional Liaison Lead (North East & Yorkshire) for the National Guardian's Office.

[Book your place.](#)

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## Advanced Clinical Practice Recruitment Process 2021/22

Humber, Coast and Vale Health Partnership have published details of the process for applications for ACP trainee funded places for 2021/22. Applications must be made via the online system by 19 March 2021. Full details can be found on the following documents:

- [ACP Apprenticeship Route Recruitment 21/22 - letter to employers](#)
- [Recruitment Timeline](#)
- [University Apprenticeship Route Cohorts for ACP Training 2021/2022](#)

## Spire Free Primary Care Online Education

Spire are offering free education sessions for GPs and nursing staff over Zoom. All the sessions carry CPD points with certificates, and there is no limit to the number you can sign up to. The full schedule with booking links is below:

Date/Time	Speaker	Topic/Specialty	Registration link
Wednesday 3rd March, 6.30-7.30pm	Mr Andrew Edwards	Hip Examination (Orthopaedics)	<a href="https://spirehealthcare.zoom.us/j/83564503285">https://spirehealthcare.zoom.us/j/83564503285</a>
Wednesday 10th March, 6.30-7.30pm	Mr Salim	Bunions / Hammer Toe (Orthopaedics)	<a href="https://spirehealthcare.zoom.us/j/83524641837">https://spirehealthcare.zoom.us/j/83524641837</a>
Wednesday 17th March, 6.30-7.30pm	Professor Shernaz Walton	Dermatology In Images (Dermatology)	<a href="https://spirehealthcare.zoom.us/j/86571377951">https://spirehealthcare.zoom.us/j/86571377951</a>
Wednesday 7th April, 7.00-7.30pm	Dr George Abouda	LFTs (Gastroenterology)	<a href="https://spirehealthcare.zoom.us/j/88213865715">https://spirehealthcare.zoom.us/j/88213865715</a>
Wednesday 21st April, 6.30-7.30pm	Mr Salim	Achilles Tendon update (Orthopaedics)	<a href="https://spirehealthcare.zoom.us/j/88999408241">https://spirehealthcare.zoom.us/j/88999408241</a>
Tuesday 27th April, 6.30- 7.30pm	Mr Yassir Khiyar	Colonoscopy: Red Flags & When to refer (Gastroenterology)	<a href="https://spirehealthcare.zoom.us/j/85178605506">https://spirehealthcare.zoom.us/j/85178605506</a>
Wednesday 5th May, 6.30- 7.30pm	Professor Shernaz Walton	Dermatoscopy: Step by Step Tutorial (Dermatology)	<a href="https://spirehealthcare.zoom.us/j/82961196712">https://spirehealthcare.zoom.us/j/82961196712</a>

## LMC Support Offer March 2021

There are a number of opportunities to benefit from peer to peer support, mentoring and coaching, training, and signposting to other services – all accessible via the LMC. See this [short summary of our current support offer](#).

## PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

### Flu Vaccine Reimbursement 2021/22

NHSE/I has issued [guidelines on vaccines for use during the 2021/22 flu programme](#), following the [publication of JCVI advice](#). The vaccines recommended for use are:

- Those aged 65 years and over: aQIV or QIVc (where aQIV is not available)
- At-risk adults, including pregnant women, aged 18 to less than 65 years: QIVc or QIVe (where QIVc is not available).

Practices are urged to read the guidelines and submit vaccine orders as soon as practical.

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### Supply Issues Update February 2021

The Department for Health and Social Care have published their latest update on medicine supply issues for primary and secondary care. Please note the information is confidential to the NHS; please do not upload to websites in the public domain. Please do share with relevant colleagues and networks. [Download the update](#).

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### BMA and RCGP Statement on 'Cancard'

Some concerns have been raised by practices about the [Cancard UK website](#) and its proposed 'GP endorsed' ID card. The website offers the ability to apply for 'A holographic photo ID card. Designed in collaboration with GPs and verified at the patients surgery. The card is for people who qualify for a legal prescription but are unable to afford one.'

Applications are said to have opened on 1 November 2020. The Medicinal Cannabis holographic photo ID card is being offered by Cancard UK to patients who meet the following criteria:

- Have a diagnosis (confirmed by their GP) that is currently being prescribed for privately.
  - Have tried two types of prescription medication or have discussed and discounted these options based on side effect profile or dependence concerns.
  - Are unable to afford a private prescription.
  - Are required to be in possession of a small amount of Cannabis in order to
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manage their symptoms.

- Are at risk of criminalisation.

The BMA and RCGP supports the use of ‘cannabis-based products for medicinal use in humans’ under the supervision of specialist clinicians or prescription of MHRA authorised licenced products by doctors who have the necessary clinical experience and competences. These products must have been produced in accordance with the necessary standards for the production of medicinal products in the UK in order to ensure their safety and authenticity.

The BMA and RCGP cannot however support the use of the Cancard, nor the suggestion that UK registered GPs sign a declaration confirming a diagnosis in order for the card to be issued. The Cancard UK website states that the Cancard has been designed in collaboration with GPs, but neither the RCGP nor BMA have been formally consulted or given endorsement.

If a patient is deemed to meet the criteria for an NHS prescription for an MHRA authorised prescribable product then this may be issued where appropriate. Those patients on low incomes or with medical conditions qualifying for prescription charge exemption will be exempt from prescription charge in line with current regulations.

Read the BMA guidance on [Cannabis-based medicinal products here](#). Read the RCGP clinical guidance [Cannabis-based medication: an interim desktop guide](#).

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## NHSPS Service Charges Dispute Update

As reported previously, the BMA supported five GP practices to bring a legal challenge against NHSPS to clarify the legal basis for NHSPS’s dramatic increases in how service charges are calculated. The BMA now continues to support the same practices to defend legal proceedings brought against them by NHSPS in response to their claims.

Through the legal action, NHSPS have admitted that they cannot rely on the Charging Policy in isolation as a legal basis to increase charges. As set out in a [letter to practices](#), the BMA now recommends that GP practices facing similar demands for increased service charges that have not been explained to these five practices should insist that NHSPS provide a full explanation of the legal and factual basis on which their charges have been increased. To assist practices, the BMA have prepared [a template letter](#)



(Word) to amend as appropriate and send to NHSPS

## CONSULTATIONS

### Research on the Use of Locum Doctors in the NHS

A research team at The University of Manchester is interested in views on locum working and what this means for quality and safety. The research, titled “The use of locum doctors in the NHS: understanding and improving the safety and quality of care” is funded by the National Institute for Health Research. They would like to hear from both locum Doctors and those who work with locums and will be conducting telephone interviews which will last up to an hour. More details can be found on the [flyer](#) and on [the project website](#).

### Online Fit Note Research

The DWP is currently developing and improving the current fit note/sick note uploading system for patients. They would like to give GPs the opportunity to have their say on what they like and don't like in terms of the whole fit note/sick note process. This will then allow the DWP to make some changes before the system goes live at the end of March 2021.

Once the system goes live it will be difficult to implement further changes down the line. Hence, now is the time to speak out. [Take the survey here](#) - it will only take about 10 minutes to complete.

## GENERAL NEWS

### Free Mentoring for Our Constituents

GPMplus, a new mentoring service, is now available within the Humberside LMCs' area. The service is free of charge to GPs, Practice Managers, Nurses and other senior practice staff with leadership/decision making responsibilities, working in general practice.

You can expect a professional GP colleague as a mentor who will be available to listen

and understand your situation. They can act as a soundboard. They will explore your situation with you in a way that will help you progress. They may reflect your thoughts back to you, to help you 'throw light' on things and suggest how you may move forwards. They may also signpost you to other resources that can give you direct advice and experience of additional career avenues.

You can access the service by completing the GPMplus [contact](#) form. Following this, a member of the GPMplus team will ring you at a time convenient to you to discuss the service and match you to an appropriate mentor. Individuals can then access up to 8 hours of mentoring in sessions of support lasting 1-2 hours each over 12 months to create positive steps forward. With the current Covid-19 situation the mentoring sessions will be provided by Zoom until further notice.

Find out more by visiting the [GPMplus website](#)

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## GPC Chair's Letter of Thanks

With the passing of the first milestone for the COVID vaccination programme with over 15 million of the most vulnerable patients getting their first dose of vaccine, Dr Richard Vautrey, Chair of the GPC at the BMA, has sent [a letter of thanks to all practices and local vaccination services](#) across the country. Please share with everyone in your team.

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## New Humber Long Covid Triage and Assessment Service

For patients with Post-COVID-19 Syndrome (symptoms for 12+ weeks) where symptoms have not resolved or cannot be managed in primary care, a new service is under development across the Humber area with access to multi-professional specialist advice and support to ensure patients are signposted onto the right clinical pathway to support ongoing management of symptoms. Please see the [letter introducing the service](#) for more details.

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## The Cameron Fund Trustee Election

The Cameron Fund, the charity that supports GPs, holds its annual general meeting by videoconference on May 6<sup>th</sup> 2021. [This letter](#) sets out the process for GPs who are members of the fund to be nominated as a trustee. More information on the charity can be found on their [website](#).

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## LMC Constituent Survey 2021

Please give us your views by taking five minutes to complete this year's LMC constituent survey. The survey is one of the main ways we engage with GPs and practices in our area and find out how we are doing in supporting general practice. Like other services, we have had to change how we work due to the pandemic and we're really interested in your feedback on how we have performed, and how we can develop and improve.

The survey is open until 5pm on **Friday 26 March 2021**. [Take the survey](#).

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## NHS Discharge Medicines Service

The [NHS Discharge Medicines Service](#) (DMS) launched this month and is available in all community pharmacies in England. The service has been established to ensure better communication of changes to a patient's medication following discharge, with NHS trusts referring appropriate patients. It is hoped that this will improve outcomes, prevent harm and reduce readmissions.

NHSE/I has published some [resources for the DMS](#), including guidance, a cross sector toolkit and training and assessment materials to support clinical teams across community pharmacies, PCNs and hospitals to deliver the service.

The DMS does not replace the role of general practice in managing patients' medicines on discharge. The [cross sector toolkit](#) includes a checklist for general practices and PCN pharmacy teams, which sets out how to work collaboratively, and provides examples of where the community pharmacy may require information, support and clinical expertise from practices.

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## Lung Cancer Campaign Launch

Public Health England has launched the next phase of the '[Help Us, Help You](#)' campaign, urging people to come forward and seek advice if they are worried about possible symptoms. This new stage of the campaign focuses on lung cancer, with the aim of raising awareness about its key symptom – a cough that lasts for three weeks or more. It is hoped that this will encourage those most likely to get lung cancer and who have

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this symptom, but do not have COVID-19, to contact their GP practice, reminding the public that cancer remains a priority and that the NHS is here to see them safely.

"A cough for three weeks or more that isn't COVID-19 could be a sign of cancer. Contact your GP practice. However, if you've got a new, continuous cough, contact Test & Trace. #HelpUsHelpYou"

A campaign toolkit and posters are available free of charge on the [Public Health England \(PHE\) Campaign Resource Centre](#).

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## **BMA Briefing: White Paper on NHS Reform and Integrated Care Systems**

The BMA has produced [a new briefing](#) on the UK Government's White Paper on NHS reform - *Integration and Innovation: working together to improve health and social care for all* - published in February, which sets out a range of proposals that would see dramatic changes for the NHS in England.

The briefing provides a summary of those changes, the BMA's initial analysis of them, and outlines how the BMA is working to influence the proposed legislation on behalf of members.

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## The Humberside Group of Local Medical Committees Ltd

Albion House  
Albion Lane  
Willerby  
Hull  
HU10 6TS

01482 655111  
[humberside.lmcgroup@nhs.net](mailto:humberside.lmcgroup@nhs.net)  
[www.humbersidelmc.org.uk](http://www.humbersidelmc.org.uk)

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