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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

Integrated Care System (ICS) – The Impact on Our Primary Care Constituents

You might already be aware that the next 12 months will bring significant change to how healthcare is commissioned and organised in the Humber region. This will bring about changes to General Practice and will impact on all of our constituents.

Humberside LMCs believe that Primary Care must have a strong voice and influence over how the ICS will be structured and the role of Primary care leadership going forward. We are working on your behalf to represent general practice and we propose to create a new Primary Care Collaborative body comprised of Clinical Directors, GPs, Federations, Primary Care providers, Commissioners and Humberside LMC (and potentially other primary care stakeholders including Pharmacy/Optom/Dentistry and Community Services) - to be this voice.

We would like your support to take this forward please. There is more information in [this discussion paper](#).

We have recently sent an email to constituents with more details along with information on how you can support, comment and perhaps even volunteer to be part of the collaborative group. Please let us know if you haven't received this, or if you have any queries.

Vaccination Programme

We have continued to support practices in the Humber area with their queries regarding the Covid-19 vaccination programme. Thanks to all involved in delivering the programme with such excellent progress made in delivering the vaccine in the past month.

We have had some queries recently about the pause in the shielding advice from April 1st and implications for clinically extremely vulnerable staff. See the item below on [Information on Supporting Clinically Extremely Vulnerable Staff](#) which stresses the importance of conducting individual risk assessments.

TRAINING, EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Diabetes Interest Group

These are monthly meetings via Zoom for GPs with an interest in Diabetes. WPEM Ltd is working with Paul Dromgoole (Clinical Lecturer in Diabetes / DSN) to deliver regular updates via the virtual platform ZOOM. Hot Topics in diabetes will be delivered by various Healthcare Professionals. An E-Certificate of attendance will be issued to all delegates to assist with CPD requirements. [View the list of meetings and agendas](#) for the coming months.

CATALYST Programme for New to Practice GPs

New GPs are invited to join the CATALYST programme - a new and unique career development programme for new to practice and First Five GPs across Humber, Coast and Vale.

CATALYST has been designed to help you create the vision of the future GP you want to be. The CATALYST programme starts on **16th April 2021** and runs **one day a week on alternate weeks** (with holidays). You will join a novel programme of professional development that will help you think differently and confidently manage the challenges of supporting patients with complex healthcare needs. There are more details on the attached flyer.

There is no fee to join the CATALYST programme. Bursaries from NHSE are available to enable you to come out of clinical practice, or extend your contracted hours, to join the programme. Practices employing GPs who qualified between Feb 2020 and July 2021 can claim £7200 for each GP attending the course. GPs qualifying on different dates can still register for the programme (with no charge). Additional bursaries may be available to support you. By completing the registration form, NHS England can advise on what is available. You won't be committed to doing the course by completing the registration.

Further details can be found on the [CATALYST programme flyer](#). To register your interest in the programme visit

https://york.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bf63kKLeATwf7Ce.



GP Retention Scheme Webinar

You can now view a video of the BMA's recent GP Retention Scheme webinar, which explains how the GP Retention Scheme works for both employees and employers, and tackles some common misconceptions about the scheme. Access a recording of the webinar [here](#).

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. View the full schedule of events with booking links at [Humberside LMC: External Events and Training](#).

ICON Programme Information Sessions – Coping With Crying

If you work with families and are interested in how you can support them to understand and cope with a crying baby you may be interested in these lunchtime training/briefing sessions. There are four lunchtime sessions to help practitioners learn about the ICON programme and how it will support you to support families to manage a crying baby and ultimately keep babies safe.

The sessions will be held via Teams on:

Wednesday 21st April 2021, 12.00-13.00

Wednesday 28th April 2021, 12.00-13.00

Wednesday 5th May 2021, 12.00-13.00

Friday 7th May 2021, 12.00-13.00

The session will include a narrated presentation by the programme founder Dr Suzanne Smith. If you would like to book onto a session please email Sue Major at sue.major@nhs.net with your preferred date. You will then be sent the Teams invitation to the session.

LMC Support Offer April 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](#).

Looking After You Too - Coaching Support for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Colleagues

This programme has been developed to offer any NHS colleagues who identify as part of our Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic workforce in the NHS to be supported to maintain their psychological wellbeing during this challenging time. This individually tailored coaching support will focus on proactively supporting you to process experiences, offload the demands of whatever you are experiencing, deal with difficult conversations, develop coping skills and be supported in developing practical strategies.

Due to high demand for the programme additional places are now being offered. New dates have now been made available and can be booked via the link below. All sessions are available on first come first served basis.

<https://people.nhs.uk/lookingafteryoutoo/registerbook-bame/>

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

Medicine Supply Issues Update March 2021

This [Supply Issues Update for Primary and Secondary Care report](#) has been produced by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) Medicine Supply Team. This information is confidential to the NHS; please do not upload to websites in the public domain. Please do share with relevant colleagues and networks.

Easter Weekend Arrangements

Practices can close on Good Friday (Friday 2nd April 2021) and Easter Monday (Monday 5th April 2021). Any extended hours that would normally be delivered on these days through participation in the PCN DES Contract can be repurposed over the weeks commencing 29th March 2021 and 5th April 2021.

Any extended hours practices deliver as a requirement of the PCN DES on Saturdays



and Sundays should be provided as usual on Saturday 3rd April or Sunday 4th April 2021.

Information on Supporting Clinically Extremely Vulnerable Staff

Although the shielding advice is to be paused nationally from April 1st, the government is still advising that people continue to work from home where possible. If individuals cannot work from home, employers should undertake a comprehensive individual workplace risk assessment.

NHS England have advised in [a letter to all trusts and primary care organisations](#) that employers should refresh their risk assessments for all clinically extremely vulnerable staff to determine the appropriate workplace arrangements from April 1st. [Download the letter](#) for more information on next steps: advice and support for staff.

GUIDANCE & RESOURCES

GPC Roadshow 2021 - Resources and Q&A

We were delighted to welcome Dr Krishna Kasaraneni, GPC executive team member at the BMA, for our online GPC Contract Roadshow earlier this month. Krishna gave an overview of the changes agreed in this year's GP contract negotiations and we can now share the presentation and a summary of the Q and A session from the evening. These can be downloaded via the following links:

[GP Contract Roadshow 2021 Q&A](#)

[GP Contract Roadshow Presentation](#)

You can also view a [BMA webinar on the new contract on the BMA website](#). Our thanks to Krishna for presenting at the event.

Guidance for QOF Payments

The BMA has published [guidance about QOF payments for 2020/21](#). Due to the pandemic, these payments will be calculated differently to normal. Some indicators are based on achievement, some are awarded in full and some will be income protected.

Income protection is based on achievement in previous years but updated for the 2020/21 QOF point value, prevalence and list size adjustment. Therefore, it is not the



case that practices will have a floor for payments equal to payments in previous years – it will be a different calculation.

Read the joint BMA/NHSE/I letter and QOF guidance for 2021/22 [here](#). The letter summarises the changes as follows:

- A new vaccination and immunisation domain (as previously agreed in the update to the GP contract agreement) consisting of four indicators to replace the current Childhood Immunisation Directed Enhanced Service (DES). Three of these indicators focus on routine childhood vaccinations and one on incentivising the delivery of shingles vaccinations.
- The reintroduction of three indicators focused on patients with a serious mental illness to promote improved uptake in all six elements of the SMI physical health check.
- A new indicator focused on cancer care has been introduced and amendments made to the timeframe and requirements for the cancer care review indicator.
- The four flu indicators have been retired with incentives relating to flu vaccination for target groups being introduced into the Investment and Impact Fund.
- The date of diagnosis has been amended to ‘on or after April 2021’ for the asthma, heart failure and COPD diagnostic indicators.
- To account for the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on care, the Learning Disabilities and Supporting Early Cancer Diagnosis Quality Improvement modules are to be repeated in their intended format (prior to amendments for the refocusing of QOF in September 2020) with some slight modifications to account for the impact of the pandemic on care.

The Department of Health and Social Care has published the [amended QOF SFE for 2020/21](#).

Vaccination and Immunisation Guidance

NHSE/I has published [a letter confirming the changes to the provision of routine vaccination and immunisation \(V&I\) in general practice from 1 April 2021](#), which includes:

- The provision of V&I services becoming an essential service for all routine NHS-funded vaccinations with the exception of childhood and adult seasonal influenza and COVID-19 vaccinations.
 - The introduction of five core contractual standards to underpin the delivery of
- 

immunisation services.

- A single item of service fee for all doses delivered in vaccination programmes funded through the GMS contract, including where additional doses are required to meet clinical need and where children are vaccinated outside the routine schedule.
- The Childhood Immunisation Target DES will be retired on 31 March 2021 and a new V&I domain in the Quality and Outcomes Framework introduced for 2021/22.

The BMA will be publishing further guidance on this shortly and we will circulate it when it's available.

General Medical Services (GMS) Ready Reckoner 2021/22

A new [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 2021.

Implementing the 2021/22 GP Contract Changes to PMS and APMS Contracts

NHSE/I have [published this document](#) which sets out the approach to the funding changes that will apply to Personal Medical Services (PMS) and Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) contracts. Commissioners will update local PMS and APMS contracts as soon as possible, applying the funding changes identified in this guidance with effect from 1 April 2021.

Testing for Professionals Visiting Care Homes

This [Department of Health and Social Care guidance](#) sets out the testing policy for visiting health and care professionals who need to visit residents within care homes to provide services.

Medical Assessments for Prospective Foster Carers and Adopters

The BMA and the Royal College of GPs have published a [joint statement](#) to support GPs in considering requests for medicals for prospective adopters and foster carers. These



assessments play an important role in safeguarding vulnerable children and are the final requirement for many families across the country.

CONSULTATIONS

Everyday Sexism Survey

Earlier in March the theme of this year's International Women's Day was 'choose to challenge'. The BMA has launched a new survey which aims to tackle sexism in medicine by exploring what doctors have experienced or witnessed. Sexism, sexist practices, gender bias and discrimination have a negative impact on the whole workforce. The results of the survey will be used to support the BMA's work in creating a fair and inclusive culture which gives doctors and medical students equal access to opportunities, free from prejudice and discrimination. Doctors of all genders are invited to [complete this survey](#). Read more in [Dr Chelcie Jewitt's blog](#).

NHS Digital Research Session Request – NWRS (National Workforce Reporting System)

NHS Digital is currently carrying out research focused on improving the NWRS and wishes to engage with users to understand current experiences and potential opportunities. The workforce data GP practices and PCNs share via the NWRS is essential to ensuring there is an accurate national primary care workforce picture, prudent workforce planning can take place and general practice can ultimately recruit sufficient and safe levels of staffing. NHS Digital staff would like to speak to people who use NWRS in both practices and Primary Care Networks.

Participants would be asked to join a Microsoft Teams meeting for 30-60 minutes and tell NHS Digital colleagues about your job, work practices and what that entails in relation to NWRS. They would also find it helpful if you could share your screen, and talk them through how you use NWRS and comment on some design ideas they have.

There will be two NHS Digital staff on the call with you: a User Researcher and a Designer. They are ready to speak to willing participants now, so we urge willing GP practice and PCN staff to get in touch and assist NHS Digital with this vital research via Katherine.tyte@nhs.net.



GENERAL NEWS

Dr Saskia Roberts



After 11 years supporting our constituents at Humberside LMCs, Dr Saskia Roberts, Medical Director, will be leaving us on 30 April 2021. Saskia's service at the LMC has seen an enormous number of changes in primary care and we know Saskia has been instrumental in navigating and advising our primary care colleagues through most of them. We are sure you will join us in sending our best wishes to Saskia for her future plans. Our existing team members will be providing additional hours in order that the LMC can continue to provide constituent support.

Including PCN Information on Practice Websites

An increasing range of care is being delivered by practices working together in networks, including the COVID-19 vaccination programme, and it is useful to patients to know which network their practice is part of. NHS England are urging practices to include information on their websites and other patient facing communications about which network they are part of and the details of the practices that make up the PCN.

Locum Income Support

The recent budget announcement included an extension of the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) to provide self-employed individuals with a grant (up to a total of £7,500) to cover lost earnings due to COVID-19 through February, March and April of this year. If you've been operating as a locum during this time and have seen your income impacted by the pandemic you may be eligible for this grant. Applications will open in April. To check your eligibility, the full list of criteria and details on how to apply is available on the [gov.uk website](https://www.gov.uk).



School Absence Note Requests

The Department for Education (DfE) has published [operational guidance for reopening schools](#) reminding schools they should not encourage parents to request unnecessary medical evidence i.e. doctors' notes from their GP when their child is absent from school due to illness.

Parents can use other evidence such as prescriptions, appointment cards, text/email appointment confirmations, and input from GPs should only be sought for complex health needs or persistent absence issues. The guidance also confirms the procedure for clinically extremely vulnerable children, and for those absent from school due to COVID-19 and self-isolation.

New to Partnership Payment - Physician Associates

As of 1 March, the [New to Partnership Payment Scheme](#) has been expanded to include Physician Associates. Although there is currently a delay in launching the regulation of this profession, the additional scheme criteria in place is that for those on the [Physician Associate Voluntary Register](#) at the time of application, registration with their professional body will be required at a later date once this is in place. In line with the current eligible professions, applications to the scheme can be made via the [online portal](#).

The [guidance](#) has been updated, and more information including FAQs is available on the [Future NHS platform](#) (GP career support hub; log in required). This addition brings this group of healthcare workers in to the scheme alongside others who are nationally regulated.

Additional Mentoring Hours Available

Last month we announced that 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. We are delighted to report that additional funding means we will now be able to provide support to an extra 10 placements this year.



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](#).

General Practice Jobs Website

We have decided to discontinue with our General Practice Jobs website [Humber Coast & Vale General Practice \(generalpracticejobs.org.uk\)](#). The website will cease publication at the end of April 2021.

This was a difficult decision and we are proud of what was achieved with the site in promoting Humber, Coast and Vale as a place to live and work. However use of the site has tailed off considerably since it first launched and in recent months there have been very few vacancies posted. We are obviously keen to ensure the best use of our resources and have therefore decided not to renew the hosting and support for the site.

The content which promotes living and working in the Humber, Coast and Vale region will transfer to a new section on the main LMC website - please look out for further details on this soon. We have decided not to include the facility to post job vacancies as there are several ways to advertise vacancies elsewhere including:

- [NHS Jobs](#)
- [Indeed](#)
- [Total Jobs](#)

If you would like to discuss these and other alternative ways to post vacancies do get in



touch. If you have any queries about this please contact us.

NHS Operational Planning and Contracting Guidance

NHSE/I has published the [NHS Operational Planning and Contracting Guidance for 2021/22](#), setting out the priorities for the year ahead, to restore services, meet new care demands and reduce the care back logs caused by the pandemic, whilst supporting staff recovery.

One of the priorities is expanding primary care capacity, which will largely be done through the increased ARRS allocation, and a renewed focus on recruiting and retaining an additional 6000 GPs.

If you wish to stop receiving newsletters from the LMC please send an email to humbertside.lmcgroup@nhs.net with 'Unsubscribe from newsletters' in the subject line. You can read our privacy policies at <https://www.humbertsidelmc.org.uk/privacy>.





The Humberside Group of Local Medical Committees Ltd

Albion House
Albion Lane
Willerby
Hull
HU10 6TS

01482 655111
humberside.lmcgroup@nhs.net
www.humbersidelmc.org.uk

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