

## CONTENT

### **1. HOT TOPICS**

[This Month's Hot Topics](#)

### **2. TRAINING, EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES**

[Time for Care Support for General Practice Teams and Primary Care Networks Uplift Trial](#)

[Free Mentoring Service](#)

### **3. GUIDANCE & RESOURCES**

[Education and Training Tariff Guidance and Prices for 2021/22](#)

[Home Delivery of Medicines and Appliances](#)

[NICE Shared Decision Making Guideline](#)

[Vaccines and Undocumented Migrants - Safe Surgeries Toolkit](#)

### **4. CONSULTATIONS**

[Review of the England Medical Performers List Regulations](#)

[Research: The Use of Locum Doctors in the NHS - Participants Request](#)

[Survey - CQC Inspections and their Effect on Ethnic Minority GPs](#)

### **5. GENERAL NEWS**

[Health and Care Bill](#)

[PCSE Pay and Pension System Update](#)

[One Career, Endless Opportunities #Choose GP](#)

[ICS Development Update](#)

[Enhanced Shared Parental Leave System for Salaried GPs](#)

[Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#)

[LMC Podcast Looks At Workload Pressures](#)

[GP Patient Survey Results 2021](#)

[DDRB Pay Uplift](#)

[Pandemic Regulations](#)

[General Practice Data for Planning and Research](#)

[Annual Flu Vaccination Letter](#)

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

#### Face Masks Post 19 July

Earlier this month we discussed concerns about the potential impact on practices and other health premises of the removal of legal restrictions from 19 July with colleagues from Community Pharmacy Humber, the Local Dental Committee and the Local Optometry Committee. We jointly issued a [poster to download and display](#).

Following [confirmation from NHS England](#) that the IPC guidance for GP practices is still in place, the [BMA has also published a poster](#) which can be downloaded to display. NHS England stated in their [letter to primary care practitioners](#) that 'contractors continue to have our support in enforcing the IPC guidance'. The NHS Confederation has launched a campaign [#NotTooMuchToAsk](#) which encourages people to continue to consider both their own and the safety of others as the restrictions lift by continuing to take sensible precautionary measures.

#### Wellbeing Support

We have secured further funding with a Humber Coast and Vale NHSE bid to continue our wellbeing offer to include Front of House Support, Leadership Programme for GPs from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds and Vulnerable locum support programme - more details will be announced as these develop.

#### Support from the LMC

Thank you to all GPs and practice teams for your continued hard work to support patients when general practice is under such pressure. Please check out the ways you can access support from the LMC. See our [August support offer summary](#).

## TRAINING, EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

### Time for Care Support for General Practice Teams and Primary Care Networks

The Time for Care programme can support practices and primary care networks (PCNs) to manage delivering care in a different way, to ensure people get what they need through continued, iterative improvement of these new delivery models.

#### Support

- Manage increases in patient demand.
- Reduce admin workload for GPs.
- Optimise total triage and remote consultations.
- Collaborative working between practice teams and local partners, for example, care homes.
- Lead change in an evolving landscape.
- Improve processes to maximise benefits for staff and patients.

#### Benefits

- Better availability and improve access to GP appointments.
- Improve care to benefit patients and release time for staff.
- Developing skills and confidence to innovate.
- Embedding and sustaining positive changes already made.
- Improve patient experience.
- Effectively managing patients' unmet needs.

Further details can be found on the [NHS England website](#). To access support complete an expression of interest form via the website.

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### UpLift Trial

UpLift is a randomised control trial to improve NHS staff wellbeing. It is aimed at NHS workers who have direct contact with patients, including medics, nurses, allied health professionals, receptionists and administrators. This research is being conducted by the RDASH Centre for Psychological Research and The University of Sheffield. NHS workers will participate in six video-based group workshops – each lasting just an hour.

Participants will also have access to accompanying online resources including videos, worksheets and self-help tools. There is a prize draw for people taking part. For further details including how to get involved see the [flyer](#).



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## Free Mentoring Service

GPMplus is a free mentoring service for GPs, PMs, Nurses, and other senior practice staff with leadership or decision making responsibilities. The LMC is now able, through GPFV funding, to make this service available to our constituents in the Humber area.

The service is provided by trained mentors who all have experience of working in frontline General Practice and is free at the point of access. GPMplus can help you to:

- Move forward with personal and career goals.
- Work through a problem or potential opportunity you feel you have.
- Manage transitions positively.
- Build confidence.
- Improve your work life balance.
- Build your resilience.
- Achieve your aspirations.

More information can be found on the [GPMplus leaflet](#) and on their [website](#). Use the [contact form](#) to get in touch about mentoring.

## GUIDANCE & RESOURCES

### Education and Training Tariff Guidance and Prices for 2021/22

The Department of Health and Social Care and Health Education England (HEE) have published the [education and training tariff guidance and prices](#) for 2021 to 2022 financial year. The guidance provides further information in support of the education and training (ET) tariff payment process for the 2021 to 2022 financial year, with medical placements in GP practices listed as an exclusion (see section 5.12-514).

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### Home Delivery of Medicines and Appliances

The Medicines Delivery Service for self-isolating patients, commissioned from community pharmacies and dispensing doctors in March 2020, will be extended until 30 September 2021.



Read the [letter on home delivery of medicines and appliances during the COVID-19 outbreak](#), which explains that to help provide support to people who have been notified of the need to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace, the Community Pharmacy Home Delivery Service and the Dispensing Doctor Home Delivery Service is being extended from 1 July 2021 to 30 September 2021 for anyone living in England who has been notified by NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate.

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## NICE Shared Decision Making Guideline

NICE has published a new [shared decision making guideline](#), which aims to help people using healthcare services feel more confident in discussing care and treatment options with their healthcare teams.

NICE has collaborated with NHSE/I to develop a [standards framework](#) to determine whether the quality of shared decision-making support tools, including patient decision aids, is sufficient. In addition to this, as part of a package of resources to accompany the shared decision making guideline, NICE has worked with Keele University to develop a [learning package](#), aimed at healthcare professionals, to help with implementing these recommendations. You can find out more about the guideline, standards framework and learning package [here](#).

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## Vaccines and Undocumented Migrants – Safe Surgeries Toolkit

Practices are urged to use the Safe Surgeries [toolkit](#) developed by Doctors of the World (DOTW), which is an accessible presentation of existing DHSC guidance and supports clinical and non-clinical NHS staff to promote inclusive care through GP registration. Notably, it aims to address specific barriers to primary care faced by vulnerable, un/under-documented migrants by ensuring that GP practices are aware of all relevant guidance and rules. This includes, for example, that patients should not be turned away if they lack a proof of ID, address, or immigration status.

DOTW also offer free [training](#) to clinical and non-clinical NHS staff that aims to improve awareness of migrant entitlements to NHS care and enables staff to better advocate for their patients.

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## CONSULTATIONS

### Review of the England Medical Performers List Regulations

The Department of Health and Social Care has commissioned NHSE/I to review the England Medical Performers List Regulations in the context of the wider regulatory landscape in operation across England. This review has the potential to identify where regulatory requirements can be streamlined and simplified, while maintaining the high professional standards that ensure patient safety.

This questionnaire aims to gather information from stakeholders about their views of the existing regulatory landscape for GPs in England and thoughts on how this landscape might be transformed. The feedback will contribute to the content of a series of focus group discussions and inform an options appraisal that will be shared with the DHSC during autumn 2021. [Take the survey.](#)

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### Research: The Use of Locum Doctors in the NHS – Participants Request

Researchers at the University of Manchester are conducting interviews for a study looking at the use of locum doctors in the NHS. They are particularly keen to involve doctors from black and minority ethnic backgrounds. A better understanding of the quality and safety of locum doctors working in the NHS is needed, and could help to find ways to improve the working arrangements for locum doctors and the quality and safety of patient care that they provide. Participants are being asked to take part in an interview. Interviews will last for approximately one hour and will be conducted by one or more researchers from the University of Manchester.

More details can be found on the [research study web page](#). If you are interested in taking part please contact Dr Jane Ferguson, email [jane.ferguson@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:jane.ferguson@manchester.ac.uk) or Dr Gemma Stringer, email [gemma.stringer@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:gemma.stringer@manchester.ac.uk).

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### Survey - CQC Inspections and their Effect on Ethnic Minority GPs

BAPIO (British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin) GP forum is seeking views of GPs and GP Practices effected by CQC inspections, particularly from ethnic minority



GPs or practices owned and/or led by ethnic minority GPs. This will help inform the discussions with CQC on issues facing ethnic minority GPs and the practices they work in. [Please feed in your views here.](#)

## GENERAL NEWS

### Health and Care Bill

The Government has introduced the [Health and Care Bill](#), which will deliver significant health reforms in England. These include making ICSs (Integrated Care Systems) statutory bodies, dissolving CCGs and transferring their responsibilities, staff and powers to ICSs, formally merging NHS England and NHS Improvement, removing Section 75 of the 2012 Health and Social Care Act and mandated competitive tendering, and conferring new powers over the NHS to the Secretary of State.

The BMA has [published a Health and Care Bill briefing](#) giving their analysis of the bill and their position on its key proposals.

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### PCSE Pay and Pension System Update

Practices and GPs continue to report issues with the new portal. Issues involve both historical migrated data and current data. It's important that users [log any issues with PCSE](#). The BMA continue to apply pressure for improvements and greater transparency around their customer service work. Practices are advised to keep a record of the issues they are raising with PCSE and the length of time taken to get resolutions. GPs are also urged to log in to the system to check the accuracy of their records. Please also make use of [PCSE's guidance materials](#).

The BMA are asking GPs to [fill out their survey](#) on the new system to provide further evidence of the full extent of the issues and help them hold PCSE to account. Note that this survey is not a forum for individual issues – please [raise these with PCSE directly](#).

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### One Career, Endless Opportunities #Choose GP

Final applications for 2021 GP specialty training are open from 27 July – 18 August 2021. Like and follow the #Choose GP [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) page to keep up to date with news and views, and forward this information to any doctors who may be thinking



about career options. The [GP National Recruitment Office \(GPNRO\) website](#) has more guidance and there are a number of GPs and trainees who can help with enquiries. Email Daryl [gprecruitment@hee.nhs.uk](mailto:gprecruitment@hee.nhs.uk) to be put in touch.

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## ICS Development Update

July's meeting of the Humber Primary Care Collaborative included an update on the development of the ICS. You can [download the presentation here](#). Further details on the Humber Primary Care Collaborative can be found on our web page [here](#).

The BMA has published a [summary of the ICS design framework](#) which you may find useful.

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## Enhanced Shared Parental Leave System for Salaried GPs

The new [enhanced shared parental leave system](#) for salaried GPs has been launched across the UK and will allow for up to 50 weeks of the 52 weeks maternity leave to be shared between parents. Eligible parents are also able to share up to 37 weeks of statutory shared parental pay (equivalent of statutory maternity pay). The ESPL system will be offered by employers at GMS and some PMS practices. Employees may request for this new form of leave to be included in their contracts, in line with provisions for junior doctors and agenda for change staff. This change to a more flexible form of leave supports the BMA's commitment to address the gender pay gap. [Find out more about enhanced shared parental leave entitlements](#) and read the updated [Salaried GPs handbook](#).

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## Domestic Abuse Act 2021

This legislation is intended to raise awareness of the impact of domestic abuse on victims and their families, improve the effectiveness of the justice system, and strengthen the support for victims of abuse by statutory agencies.

It creates a statutory definition of domestic abuse, emphasising that domestic abuse is not just physical violence, but can also be emotional, controlling or coercive, and economic abuse. Among the key provisions are a duty on local authorities in England to provide accommodation based support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in refuges and other safe accommodation.

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It will also prohibit GPs and other health professionals in general practice from charging a victim of domestic abuse for a letter to support an application for legal aid. Most of the provisions of the act will come into force during 2021/22 when the necessary regulations and preparatory paperwork is completed. More information can be found on [this page on the gov.uk website](#).

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## LMC Podcast Looks At Workload Pressures

The latest episode of the Humberside LMCs podcast is now available. In this episode we're looking at workload pressures in general practice in the light of the recent Health Select Committee report which said NHS and care staff in England are so burnt out that it has become an "emergency". Colleagues at Wolseley Medical Centre in Hull also recently invited cameras in from BBC Look North to show the reality of the pressures GPs and practice teams are facing every day.

Dr Zoe Norris, LMC Medical Director explains how the LMC can help staff deal with pressures, and sets out some of the services and resources which can be accessed via the LMC.

You can subscribe to our podcast on all major podcast platforms including [Apple](#), [Google](#) and [Spotify](#), or you can listen online via our page at hosting service [Anchor](#).

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## GP Patient Survey Results 2021

This month saw the publication of the GP Patient Survey results and despite an incredibly challenging year for primary care there has been an increase in levels of trust and satisfaction with general practice. In the Humber region CCG areas an average of 81% of respondents rated their experience of their GP practice as good.

Thank you to all GPs and practice teams for working so hard to support patients in our area. Results can be downloaded and analysed by individual practice and CCG area by visiting [Survey and Reports \(gp-patient.co.uk\)](#).

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## DDRB Pay Uplift

The government has announced a 3% pay uplift for NHS staff including salaried GPs, nurses and paramedics, backdated to April 2021. The BMA has expressed disappointment with the rise, arguing that, as practices will not be given additional funding on top of the 2.1% for staff already allocated for this year, GP partners could be faced with deciding between service cuts or being able to pay the full amount to salaried GPs. GP trainer grants will increase from £8,584 to £8,842 and GP appraiser fees will increase from £543 to £559, backdated to April 2021.

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## Pandemic Regulations

NHSE/I has announced that following provisions will continue under the [Pandemic Regulations](#) until 30 September 2021:

- A suspension of the requirement for practices to report about the Friends and Family Tests.
- A temporary suspension of the requirement for individual patient consent in certain circumstances, to encourage increased use of electronic repeat dispensing (eRD).
- A continuation of the temporary increase in the number of appointment slots that practices make available for direct booking by 111, up to one slot per 500 patients per day, although we believe that for most practices 1 per 3000 in line with the core contract should be sufficient.

NHSE/I also confirm that the [Standard Operating Procedure for general practice](#) that has been in place since March 2020, is withdrawn from 19 July 2021.

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## General Practice Data for Planning and Research

The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Health, Jo Churchill, has [written](#) to all GPs in England, setting out plans for the next steps for the [GPDPR](#) (GP Data for Planning and Research) programme and extending the timeframe indefinitely beyond 1st September.

The government is not setting a specific start date for the collection of data. Instead, they commit to start uploading data only when the following are in place:

- the ability to delete data if patients choose to opt-out of sharing their GP data with NHS Digital, even if this is after their data has been uploaded
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- the backlog of opt-outs has been fully cleared
- a Trusted Research Environment has been developed and implemented in NHS Digital
- patients have been made more aware of the scheme through a campaign of engagement and communication

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## Annual Flu Vaccination Letter

The [annual national flu immunisation programme 2021 to 2022 letter](#) has now been published. This year, the eligible cohort from the start of the programme includes those aged 50 and over and the letter states that, as trials are still ongoing to ascertain whether co-administration of COVID-19 and influenza vaccines will be permissible, practices should continue planning for influenza vaccination as usual, with further advice to be issued should co-administration with COVID-19 vaccination be recommended.

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