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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.

## TRAINING, EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

### Better Conversations – A Free Training Event for GPs

Wednesday 4th December 2019, 18:00-21:00

Lazaat Hotel, Wood Hill Way, Cottingham, HU16 5SX

Food will be served from 18:00. The programme will run from 19:00-21:00.

This is a free event for GPs in the Humber region provided as part of our GP resilience programme. We are inviting GPs to receive a free two hour training session to equip you to provide support for other GPs. The LMC are running the training and will co-ordinate the GPs who have been trained with those who have requested support.

Humberside LMCs acknowledge that doctors increasingly need protected time with trusted colleagues to have "better conversations" about challenging issues affecting them in their professional lives.

We have developed this programme to promote the idea of having "better conversations" by developing and teaching a framework to provide informal yet timely support. This allows the sensitive exploration of any potential contributing factors and the possibilities that might exist for change.

This is not mentoring, coaching or outcome focused problem-solving, but is intended to provide some clarity and direction for doctors seeking a quick response to a problem or concern. It gives consideration to whether that response is constructive and appropriate, and offers an opportunity to gain a wider perspective in a supportive environment.

Working very much in collaboration with LMC colleagues, GPs across our region are now being offered access to this training which is delivered by this single two-hour session.

Book your place online at <https://www.humbersidelmc.org.uk/events/10029>

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## Humberside LMC Resilience Support - Appeal for GP Mentors/Coaches

Humberside LMCs invites you to apply to attend a two day Mentor Training course with a view to becoming a self-employed paid mentor for GP-S. GP-S is a free peer mentoring and coaching service for GPs due to launch in Humberside in early 2020.

The service will give all GPs in the area access to a free trained peer mentor/coach for four sessions of face to face support lasting two hours at a time.

Sessions can be used for any problem or opportunity an individual feels they may have, from career or personal development to stress and work/life balance. Everything discussed within GP-S is kept confidential.

To help set up this service, GP-S and Humberside LMC are looking to recruit a number of local GPs to become self-employed paid mentors for the scheme. All Humberside GPs are eligible to apply for the positions. Mentors will need enough time to complete two-hour mentoring sessions away from practice and will be able to determine the distance they feel able to travel.

Once GPs have applied for a position they may be invited to attend a two day training and assessment course. **The GP-S potential mentor training and assessment course takes place over two full days on 16th and 17th January 2020.** Delegates will need to attend both dates to have the opportunity to progress.

The course will cover mentoring and coaching techniques and focus on the Egan model. On the first day delegates will learn key skills and cement the knowledge already gathered through the pre-course learning materials. The second day will give everyone a chance to practice the model as a client, mentor and observer. Through this, delegates will be assessed to determine if they would be suitable for the role of mentor with GP-S locally.

The course is intensive but highly rewarding and previous delegate feedback has praised the safe and informal learning space created by GP-S trainers.

The training is due to take place on **Thursday 16th and Friday 17th January 2020** at the LMCs Boardroom, Albion House, Albion Lane, Willerby, HU10 6TS.

If you'd be interested in attending the course to potentially become a GP-S mentor for Humberside GPs, please email [contact@gp-s.org](mailto:contact@gp-s.org) by Friday 29th November 2019 to receive an expression of interest form.

## Humberside LMCs Roadshow, February 2020

Places are still available at our free event early next year. Book your place at <https://www.humbersidelmc.org.uk/lmcroadshow>



### Humberside LMC Roadshow - North Bank

Tuesday 11th February 2020

17:30-20:00

KCOM Stadium, West Park, Hull HU3 6HU

**A free event for GPs and practice teams to hear the latest updates, highlight issues and engage with the LMC.**

Agenda:

**17:30** Arrival

**17:30-18:30** Time for networking including:

- **Free equipment check** - bring your blood pressure monitor and thermometer to be professionally checked and recalibrated
- **LMC surgery** - bring your queries for LMC officers to help you with

**18:30-19:00** Buffet

**19:00-19:30 GPC Update** - topics include PCN Update, Digital Services, NHS Pensions - Dr Krishna Kasaraneni, GPC Executive Team

**19:30-20:00 Primary Care Workforce Update** - topics include Humber Coast and Vale workforce strategy, New models of care, additional PCN roles - Professor Dominic Patterson, Health Education England - GP Director and Acting Dean, Vice-chair, COGPED

**20:00** Close

This event provides 2 hours CPD and certificates will be issued afterwards.

GPS, practice managers and all practice staff are welcome to attend. These events are free to attend but places must be booked in advance online.

Book your place:

[www.fourteenfish.com/events/9268](http://www.fourteenfish.com/events/9268)

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## ENT Skills for GPs, GP Trainees and Nurse Practitioners Course

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020

Newcastle Surgical Training Centre

Freeman Hospital

Newcastle NE7 7DN

This one-day practical skills training course is aimed at General Practitioners, GP trainees and Nurse Practitioners with an interest in ENT.

The course aims to reinforce the basic concepts and techniques in ENT, train candidates efficiently in ENT examination and to inform GP's of regional treatment and protocols for common ENT conditions. The practical aspect of the course will refresh clinical skills in assessment and examination.

Further information on the content and pricing can be found on the [course programme](#) (Word). For course bookings contact Lucy Thomas at Newcastle Surgical Training Centre, email [lucy.thomas@nuth.nhs.uk](mailto:lucy.thomas@nuth.nhs.uk).

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## Specialist Skills Post Registration Development Short Courses, University of York

The University of York's Health Sciences Department offers a number of short courses for health professionals under the banner of [Specialist Skills Post Registration Development](#).

Courses currently available for booking include:

- [Assessment of Minor Injuries in First Contact Care](#)
  - [Dual Diagnosis \(working with people who have a drug/alcohol and mental health problem\)](#)
  - [ECG Interpretation](#)
  - [Managing Minor Illnesses in First Contact Care](#)
  - [Mentor Preparation Programme](#)
  - [Non-Medical Prescribers: Independent and Supplementary Prescribing \(v300\)](#)
  - [Palliative and End of Life Care](#)
  - [Patient Assessment and Clinical Decision Making](#)
  - [Service Improvement in the Workplace](#)
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Click on the link for each course to view the full details, dates and entry requirements. View the full list of courses [here](#).

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## **Executive MBA Healthcare Leadership, Sheffield Hallam University**

From January 2020 Sheffield Hallam will be offering a pathway on the Senior Leader Master's Degree Apprenticeship program specific to the health and social care sector.

The course length for the MBA is 3 years, followed by the EPA period. Successful completion of the EPA is awarded with an ILM Level 7 Diploma in Leadership and Management and graduates can apply for ILM membership. Learners attend on mini-blocks of 3-4 days; there are four in year 1, three in year 2, and in year 3 the apprentice has 1:1 mentoring meetings and meetings with their dissertation supervisor.

Assessment is via work-based focused assignments following every module and through a learning-journey portfolio. This portfolio is one of the constituent elements required for the End-point Assessment. The course is accredited by the Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) and successful graduates will gain an ILM Level 7 Diploma in Leadership and Management and can apply for ILM membership (subject to application).

The first cohort starts on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and applications are open until 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019. Further details can be found on the [course briefing paper](#) (pdf). For further information either email [business@shu.ac.uk](mailto:business@shu.ac.uk) or call 0114 225 2883.

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## **RCGP Courses and Events Autumn 2019**

RCGP have a number of CPD courses and events available in the Yorkshire region in the remainder of 2019. Forthcoming topics include: Primary Care and Cancer Matters; Mastering 6-8 Week Baby Check; Dermatology; and Women's Health Update.

Full details including dates and pricing can be found on the [RCGP course schedule](#) (pdf).

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## General Practice Nursing Regional Round Table Event

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019, 09:30-16:30

Novotel York Centre

Fishergate

York YO10 4FH

General Practice Nurses working in the North East & Yorkshire are invited to a free conference which aims to unleash their talents to support the development of Primary Care Networks.

It is sponsored by NHS England and NHS Improvement through the [GP Nursing 10 Point Plan Programme](#) and is for General Practice Nurses, Advanced Nurse Practitioners, and Health Care Support Workers based in GP practices. PCN Clinical Directors and their deputies are also invited to attend.

The event will include 'round table' discussions which will help to shape initiatives to develop General Practice nursing into an attractive long-term career option with increased opportunities for training and development.

Speakers include: Ben Scott - ANP, Conisbrough Group Practice and CD for Doncaster South PCN; Karen Storey - Primary Care Nursing Lead, NHS England & NHS Improvement; and Dr Johnny Marshall - practising GP in Buckinghamshire and President of NAPC.

Places are limited and can be booked now at:

<https://www.events.england.nhs.uk/events/regional-round-table-event-york-71875>

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## Physiotherapy Degree Apprenticeship, Sheffield Hallam University

This apprenticeship is suitable for both existing staff such as therapy assistants or support workers, and people new to the sector.

This apprenticeship prepares people for a career as a qualified physiotherapist by providing the underpinning knowledge and interpersonal skills the profession demands, such as working in an integrated working environment with multidisciplinary teams to enhance the quality of care to the service user.



The course will deliver against the nationally recognised [Level 6 Physiotherapist Degree Apprenticeship standard](#). The apprenticeship includes a combination of work-based learning modules and specialist education, which leads to a BSc Hons Physiotherapy. Graduates are eligible to apply to register with the HCPC and can apply to become members of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy.

Full details at <https://www.shu.ac.uk/business/develop-your-people/higher-and-degree-apprenticeships/apprenticeship-subjects/health-and-social-care/physiotherapist>

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## **MSc Advanced Clinical Practice in Musculoskeletal Management, Sheffield Hallam University**

This course is designed for experienced postgraduate healthcare professionals working in musculoskeletal clinical practice. It is also suitable if you have studied manual therapy at a high level on clinically- based courses, such as with the International Maitland Teachers Association. You can have relevant clinically focused learning recognised and the credits transferred via a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process.

Full details at <https://www.shu.ac.uk/courses/physiotherapy/msc-advanced-clinical-practice-musculoskeletal-management/part-time>

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## **Trainee Nursing Associates in General Practice TNA Ready Scheme**

Health Education England have published details of the Trainee Nursing Associates in General Practice Scheme in a new information pack for practices in Humber, Coast and Vale.

Recruitment is underway for courses commencing January 2020. The pack includes details on funding and support; eligibility and criteria; support available to practices; and financial support. The deadline for expressions of interest for training at the University of Hull is 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019 with an interview date of 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

[Download the Trainee Nursing Associates information pack](#) (pdf)

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## Save the Date – General Practice Nursing Conference 2020

Next year's General Practice Nursing Conference for the Humber, Coast and Vale area will be held in Hull on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020** at the Double Tree Hilton, Hull. Further details will be circulated soon.

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## Primary Care Networks Practice Managers' Conference

NHS England and NHS Improvement are holding a series of regional events for practice managers focusing on:

- Hearing about the fundamental role of practice managers and the development support available
- Providing an opportunity to talk to practice managers working within PCNs and understanding how their roles have developed
- Getting involved in interactive workshops focussing on:
  - o PCN leadership: clinical directors and practice managers
  - o Health and Wellbeing: work/life balance and resilience
  - o Proactive patient care and collaborative working
  - o Creating time and capacity: understanding your demand and future workforce needs

The closest event to our region is in **Leeds on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019**. For further information click [here](#) or email [england.gpdevelopment@nhs.net](mailto:england.gpdevelopment@nhs.net).

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## Clinical Directors Development – An Offer from Humberside LMCs

Humberside LMCs would like to offer funded development support for Clinical Directors of primary care networks in the Humber Coast and Vale STP footprint.

In August 2019, NHSE published development guidance to support the development of PCNs and clinical directors:

- The development funding is intended to be recurrent for five years for PCNs and is built around maturity matrices needs for each PCN. £1.05m is available in Y1.
- It is a universal offer, with all PCNs and every CD receiving support matched to their needs on the basis of an allowance of £3,500 for each CD in year 1.

Humberside LMCs have reviewed the CD job description, talked to CDs across our region, understood maturity matrices from PCNs and worked with several providers to

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develop a modular support offer available for all 29 CDs in the HCV region. It is free and will also attract some backfill costs, the level of which are to be agreed with NHSE. The basis of the development is:

- Five full day sessions.
- Suggested content is Building Effective Networks, Leading and Strategy Development, Population Health, Implementing changes and working to scale & Implementing quality improvements – the first session will include a consultative element to shape the needs to the CD group and ensure future content is what is needed.
- Spread over seven months
- Masters/MBA level
- Delivered by subject experts – Kings Fund/PMA
- External venue (likely to be near Hull)
- 29 places available to all Clinical Directors (& potentially senior managers) in Humber Coast and Vale (29)
- Commencing Winter 2019
- Requirement to attend at least four of the five day sessions
- We need take up from you of at least 20 confirmed places to make this viable for the £3,500 per CD funding available please

Clinical Directors who are interested in taking up this offer are asked to let us know by **Monday 4 November 2019**. We will confirm if we have sufficient interest to run the training by **Monday 11 November**. If you have any queries please call 01482 655111 or email [humbertside.lmcgroup@nhs.net](mailto:humbertside.lmcgroup@nhs.net).

You may also wish to consider similar offers from other providers:

BMA offer of development

<https://www.bma.org.uk/collective-voice/committees/general-practitioners-committee/gpc-england/gp-contract-agreement-england/primary-care-networks-pcns/pcn-services-how-we-can-help#Learning>

## PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

### General Practice Jobs Website – Free Vacancy Posting and Recruitment Resources



A reminder that all practices can post their vacancies for GPs and other practice roles for free on <http://www.generalpracticejobs.org.uk/>. This website was created to help Humber, Coast and Vale practices attract staff to the region, and features a wealth of background information on living and working in our area.

Accompanying the website is a set of professionally designed resources to help you format and present your vacancies in the most appealing way.

Practices need to register to use the site if they haven't already done so - register [here](#). If you have already registered but mislaid your log-in details, or would like another copy of the resource pack, please contact the LMC.

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### Flu Immunisation for General Practice Staff

Yorkshire and Humber Public Health Contracts Team have circulated the following statement:

“The position on flu vaccinations provided to own staff, in relation to Clinical Negligence Scheme for General Practice (CNSGP). Flu vaccinations will not be covered by CNSGP for the following reasons:

- Vaccinating your own staff is not a GMS service and would be undertaken as an occupational health benefit, it is not a commissioned service through GMS. PMS

or APMS and therefore would fall outside the scope of the CNSGP.

- The scheme applies to ‘any liability in tort ...that arises as a consequence of a breach of duty of care owed by an eligible person to a third party...’ The CNSGP regulations (5(1) (a) and (b)) make it clear that in this context the third party (injured party) must be a person other than the eligible person or a member of staff.
- DES Specification (Seasonal influenza and pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccination programme) makes clear that staff of GP practices/contractors and other primary care staff are the responsibility of their employer as part of occupational health arrangements. See: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/dess-sfl-and-pneumococcal-1920.pdf> (Annex B (page 25)).

We have been informed that some practices do directly vaccinate their own staff, but others have an Occupational Health service to do it for them or refer staff to their own GPs. This is set out in NHS Resolution’s scope table at:

<https://resolution.nhs.uk/scheme-documents/scheme-scope/>

We have made enquiries with the three main medical defence organisations (MDOs) and all have confirmed that their standard indemnity products cover these vaccinations. MDDUS have uploaded an FAQ to their website <https://www.mddus.com/join/gp---england-wales> and are writing out to all members to confirm the same.

MPS have issued the statement from Dr Rob Hendry to their members, and MDU are have uploaded a statement to their website to indicate the same <https://www.themdu.com/guidance-and-advice/latest-updates-and-advice/providing-work-related-vaccinations-to-practice-staff>. These services are covered at no additional cost and so all GPs who have indemnity cover with MDOs (for professional indemnity, private work etc.) are covered for staff flu vaccinations. I hope the MDOs’ position helps allay your initial concerns on this issue.

In addition the Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) has worked with the CQC, MHRA, RCN, PHE, BMA Occupational Health Committee and representatives from NHS and independent sectors to identify a way that organisations can offer employee seasonal ‘flu vaccinations within the legislation. The outcome of this work has been to produce a written instruction for seasonal influenza vaccination.

The written instruction can be adopted by organisations following the signed authorisation of the written instruction by an appropriate doctor. This medical signatory must be the doctor assuming responsibility for the delivery of the influenza vaccination programme to staff within an organisation; this should be an Occupational Health Physician employed by the organisation but where there is no such doctor employed/contracted by the organisation it should be the doctor assuming responsibility for the delivery of the influenza vaccination programme to staff within the organisation (for example the organisation's Medical Director or a GP partner). Once signed and adopted it allows named registered nurses to administer the seasonal influenza vaccination to the organisation's staff, including as a peer to peer vaccinator. Immunisers must be trained and competent to work in accordance with the written instruction.

The written instruction template is available, along with a factsheet to support the use of the written instruction by organisations via <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/written-instruction-for-the-administration-of-seasonal-flu-vaccination/>

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## Supply Issues Update for Primary and Secondary Care October 2019

This is the monthly report produced by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) Medicine Supply Team. Please share with relevant colleagues and networks. Note that this information is confidential to the NHS; please do not upload to websites in the public domain.

[Download the October update](#) (pdf)

## GUIDANCE & RESOURCES

### Tier 2 Visas for International GPs

Practices looking to recruit GPs from overseas will benefit from new guidance to help with the process of obtaining Tier 2 Visas.

Tier 2 is an immigration route for non-European Economic Area (EEA) migrants who wish to work in the UK. Initially the focus was on doctors from the EEA but has now been widened to include Australia and New Zealand.



In order to obtain a Tier 2 Visa, these migrants must be sponsored by an organisation or company that holds a Tier 2 licence. A licence is a permission given to an organisation by the Home Office to sponsor workers in its business. This licence lasts for 4 years and the organisation is then recognised as a sponsor.

NHS England is offering a package of funding to support any practice who wants to become Tier 2 Visa sponsors. Funding available includes: reimbursement of sponsor licence fee (even if unsuccessful), Certificate of Sponsorship fee, the first two years of Immigration Skills Charge and Visa fees for GP trainee and their family.

There are a number of resources to help practices with Tier 2 Visa Applications:

[Tier 2 Visa Applications: Support Information from NHSE](#) - an overview of the rules, and how to get help from NHS England

[Becoming a Tier 2 Visa Sponsor](#) - PowerPoint slides outlining the process

[Creating and Assigning Certificates of Sponsorship](#) - PowerPoint slides explaining how to create the required certificates

Please note that NHSE have recently extended the deadline for Tier 2 visa reimbursements to 31/03/2020.

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## Online Consultation Guidance

NHS England has published guidance and an implementation toolkit for practices and commissioners, in using online consultations in primary care. Read more [here](#).

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## Practices and Overseas Visitor Charging

[Guidance](#) (pdf) from the Department of Health and Social Care is clear that the responsibility for determining a patient's eligibility for NHS care lies with the Trust and never with a GP or GP practice. This guidance also clarifies that the GMS1 supplementary questions regarding a patient's eligibility for free care are not required to be completed before a patient can register with a GP practice, and that this should be made clear to prospective patients. The BMA has also produced specific guidance on access to healthcare for overseas patients, available [here](#).

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## Locum Guidance on Pension Annualisation

The BMA has sought clarity from NHS Business Services Authority on annualising for sessional GPs who are members of the 2015 career average revalued earnings scheme. Locums who work out-of-hours can now be afforded a different pension status as part of the 2015 scheme. This will change how their pensions are annualised. Read more [here](#).

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## Guidance on Meeting Your Training Obligations

The BMA have [a useful section on their website](#) which addresses the many different demands on GP practices in England to undertake mandatory training. The information is broken down into subject areas and aims to help practices make informed decisions as to what training is needed for different groups of staff. Frequently updated, the subjects include:

- Basic life support
- Infection control
- Safeguarding vulnerable children
- Safeguarding vulnerable adults
- Fire safety
- Mental capacity and deprivation of liberty safeguards
- Staff induction
- Health and safety
- Manual handling
- First aid
- Guidance for clinical staff

## CONSULTATIONS

### Digital First Consultation Outcomes

The outcomes of a consultation launched earlier this year into the provision of digital first primary care have been published. The NHS Long Term Plan commits to every patient having the right to be offered digital-first primary care by 2023/24.

NHS England and NHS Improvement recently sought views and options to change patient registration, payment and contracting rules. The response to the consultation



can be found [here](#).

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## Surveys on Issues with PCSE

The BMA are conducting two surveys on the issues many practices have been experiencing with PCSE. They will be using the evidence provided to help us push NHS England to resolve outstanding operational issues. Please spare a few minutes to give your views.

[Survey for GP practices](#) (please only complete one per practice)

[Survey for GPs including trainees](#) (aimed at partners, salaried, locum and trainee GPs)

## GENERAL NEWS

### Checks for Patients with Diabetes and the New Community Pharmacy Contract

The new contract for Community Pharmacies across England went live from 1/10/2019, and contains some substantial changes for community pharmacies. PSNC summaries can be found at <https://psnc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/PSNC-Briefing-026.19-A-Summary-of-the-Five-Year-Deal-on-the-Community-Pharmacy-Contractual-Framework.pdf>

The LMC is planning on summarising some key points from the pharmacy contract that practices need to be aware of, and sharing these in the near future.

However, we wish to draw your immediate attention to the fact that most community pharmacies are expected to participate in the revised Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS). This year one of the prevention domains of the PQS includes foot and eye screening checks for patients with diabetes. In order to fulfil the criteria for this domain community pharmacies are required to:

Check all patients aged 12 years and over with diabetes who present with a prescription from 1st October 2019 to 31st Jan 2020 have had an annual foot and eye check (retinopathy). Make a record on the PMR or appropriate form/patient record and signpost/refer as appropriate. The total number of patients who have had this intervention, the number that have not had one or either check in the last 12 months and

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where they have been appropriately signposted/referred should be recorded and reported as part of this criterion.

Pharmacies will need to direct patients who do not think they have had the relevant checks back into primary care. Recognising that this will generate work for GP practices, the LMC has been in active discussions with the LPC and NHSE. Everyone wants to avoid patients requesting unnecessary appointments in an already pressured system. This is likely to only be an issue for those patients who may need diabetic foot checks as referral into the retinopathy screening service is via an entirely separate route.

The LPC will be providing local pharmacies with nationally agreed template letters to send to GP practices, so that discussions can take place at practice or PCN level to agree a local mechanism for pharmacies to direct patients back into primary care when required.

Practices should begin to think about what they would like pharmacy colleagues to do when a patient needs directing back to their surgery – this could mean asking them not to advise patients to contact the surgery on busy days of the week, during certain peak times, or utilising email or online contact options so the practice can best manage workflow. When your local pharmacy makes contact with the agreed letter, it will hopefully be a quicker and easier process.

We are keen to hear from practices who have found solutions with their local pharmacies, or who are having problems around implementing this and addressing potential workload issues. This is the first of a number of changes to the community pharmacy contract that are likely to impact on general practice, and we are intending to work closely with the LPC to mitigate this whilst supporting our pharmacy colleagues.

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## **LMC Constituent Survey 2019 Coming Soon**

Next month we'll be launching this year's constituent survey which asks your opinion on the LMC's services over the past year. The survey is a key way for us to evaluate our services to practices and identify priorities for the future. Last year's survey helped identify a number of key areas which we have been working hard to deliver since then:

- Greater capacity within the LMC secretariat to deliver our new strategic plan
  - Practice Manager development with a programme of training and support
  - New ways to engage with our constituent GPs and practices, including a new
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website with a greater range of content

Look out for our survey, which takes no more than five minutes to complete, in November.

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## Apprenticeship Levy Transfers

From April 2018, any employer who pays the apprenticeship levy can transfer apprenticeship funds to other organisations to pay for their apprenticeship training and assessment. Employers can transfer a maximum of 25% of their annual funds to other employers. For the NHS this unlocks the opportunity to support their wider health and care systems.

Guidance from NHS Employers on the scheme and the process for transfers can be found [here](#). A briefing from Health Education England can be found [here](#).

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## GPDF/BMA Agreement for 2019/20

The GPDF funding structure is on a mutual basis across all GPs throughout Great Britain, based on a principle of shared investment for the common good and is collected as the “Voluntary levy”. This payment is made on a ‘per patient’ basis, collected initially by the LMC, and then contributed on a ‘quota’ basis to GPDF, based on the reported patient population for their area, which they confirm to the GPDF every three years. In this way, every GP and LMC contributes on the same basis for mutual benefit and the collective good of general practice. More information on how GPDF support General Practice can be found at <https://www.gpdf.org.uk/about-us>.

GPDF and the BMA recently issued the following statement:

“The GPDF and the BMA are pleased to confirm that they have reached agreement in relation to GPC grant funding for the 2019-20 session year.

The GPDF and the BMA have agreed that the GPDF will provide to the BMA grant funding of £1.375m for a further year, ending June 2020, in order to additionally support the representational work of GPC and the payments to its members and executive, on substantially the same terms as the grant for the previous session year.



Both the BMA and GPDF are committed to work together to explore a longer term funding agreement.”

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## Brexit – Contracts Awarded for Urgent Medicines Delivery in the Event of No Deal

Three companies have been awarded contracts for the Department of Health and Social Care’s Express Freight Service to deliver medicines and medical products to the UK within 24 to 48 hours.

The service provides access to specialised express logistics networks that can move the wide range of medicines, medical devices and products. NHS have access to:

- next-day delivery on small consignments, including temperature-controlled or hazardous products
- 48-hour delivery for larger loads
- specialist services, including hand-delivered courier services if needed

Find out more on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk).

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## BMA Primary Care Network Package Launch

The BMA has launched a [PCN package of support](#), based on requests from GPC, LMC and PCN colleagues as to what help they needed. It allows different PCNs and Clinical Directors to pick and choose the guidance, support and assistance they need. This includes access to a PCN community App, a forthcoming PCN Conference on 8 February 2020, a package of learning & development services and support for legal, HR and insurance issues. Read the blog about it by Krishna Kasaraneni, GPC England Executive team member [here](#).

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## Transfer of Clinical Pharmacists to the PCN DES

NHS England has extended the deadline for clinical pharmacists employed under the *Clinical Pharmacist in General Practice Scheme* to transfer to working under PCN DES until the **30th November 2019**. This is to allow people more time to finalise the arrangements where a transition has been or was in the process of being agreed. After this date, any clinical pharmacists who have not transitioned to work as part of the PCN workforce delivering the duties outlined in the Network Contract DES will no longer be

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eligible to do so, and will be counted in the PCN staff baseline.

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