



Weekly operational update for local general practice

Wednesday, 16 October

Welcome to Insight, Devon Local Medical Committee's weekly operational update for GPs and practice managers.

New LMC website and intranet

The LMC has launched a new website which includes information on our role and work to support general practice in the county – along with the latest job vacancies. You can view it here: www.devonlmc.co.uk

We are also carrying out a phased rollout of our new secure intranet for local GPs and practice managers and you will receive an email soon inviting you to register for access, if you haven't already.

The intranet includes new video updates from our Medical Secretaries on flu, Yellow Cards and the workings of the England LMC Conference where the views of local general practice can help shape national policy.

Final chance to register for the Devon Practice Managers Conference

The deadline for practice managers – or equivalent – to register for the LMC's Practice Managers Conference has been extended until noon on Wednesday, 23 October.

The event will be an opportunity to learn, network and be inspired and offer some 'head space' away from your hectic day to day work. It will take place on Wednesday, 30 October, 2019, at the Mercure Rougemont Hotel, in central Exeter. You can register and find out more information [here](#). The agenda is available [here](#).

LMC Recruitment and Workforce Lead role

There's a fantastic opportunity to join the LMC in a newly-created key role supporting recruitment, workforce planning and training for Devon's general practice workforce. More information is available [here](#).

Citrate tubes for RD&E samples

Please note that the standard citrate tube for coagulation tests will be changing to a 2.7mL tube (solid blue top – left hand tube below). Currently all surgeries are using the smaller 1.8mL tube with the lighter blue top (right hand tube below). The reason for this change is that the 1.8mL tube has a shorter shelf life; this makes stock management difficult and has led to a significant amount of tubes being returned to Path Stores for disposal as they are going out of date before they can be used.

The laboratory will continue to accept the smaller citrate tubes to allow surgeries to use up their stocks (as long as they are in date). Once Path Stores have depleted their stocks of 1.8mL tubes they will begin sending out the 2.7mL bottles. Surgeries should expect to see the 2.7mL citrate tubes over the next few weeks.

If you have any queries, please contact Aled Lewis, Deputy Laboratory Manager and Phlebotomy Manager at the RD&E, at aled.lewis@nhs.net





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Work experience survey

Following confirmation of funding from Health Education England (HEE), the Devon Training Hub are about to embark on a project to create a sustainable work experience model across primary care in Devon.

Practices are asked to let Devon Training Hub know:

- Do you currently accept work experience placements from schools and colleges?
- If so, how often does this take place and for how many students?
- What arrangements do you currently have in place to facilitate these work experience placements?

Please contact Andy Smallshaw, Project Manager at Devon Training Hub, via email at andy.smallshaw@nhs.net by Friday, 8 November with your responses.

BMA Annual PCN Survey

The British Medical Association (BMA) has launched an annual survey to understand how Primary Care Networks (PCNs) are operating on the ground and helping GPs and other primary care practitioners to deliver high quality and safe patient care.

It will contribute to supporting the long-term development of PCNs and support the BMA in its annual negotiations with NHS England (NHSE). The survey should be completed by PCN Clinical Directors and is available [here](#).

New CQC report on 'The state of health care and adult social care in England 2018/19'

GP practices around the country have largely sustained their quality ratings from last year despite continuing pressures from growing demand and high workload, and the quality of most urgent primary care services is good, including walk-in and urgent care centres, NHS 111 and GP out-of-hours.

Read the Care Quality Commission's (CQC) assessment of the state of general practice from page 69 of its new [The state of health care and adult social care in England 2018/19 report](#).