

YORLMC News

For practices in North Yorkshire & York and Bradford & Airedale

Message from Dr Brian McGregor



Dear colleagues

GP contract – latest news

Two new pieces of information have just come out about the 2022-23 GP contract:

1. A request will be made to parliament to remove the pay transparency requirements - GPs need do nothing at present. There's more information [here](#).
2. The final NHSE guidance related to the contract. Including the guidance on Enhanced Access from 1 October has been published [here](#).

Patients access to records

Patient access to records has not been launched on 1 April, as was originally planned. Discussions continue between the GPC and NHSE/X teams to about the launch of this programme later in the year. Dr Amir Hannan, Chair of the Association of Greater Manchester LMCs and of West Pennine LMC has put together [a webinar](#) which colleagues may find of interest.

Changes to performers list applications

More information [here](#) - as mentioned in my recent update, essentially there will no longer be a second check and practices will be responsible for checking all those (including locums) who work in the practice are compliant with performers list regulations. It would be sensible to consider reviewing all staff (including partners) if they have not recently been checked to ensure they still comply. A suggestion has been made that CQC will be monitoring this in inspections this year.

With best wishes

Brian

Dr Brian McGregor, YORLMC Medical Secretary

GP contract changes guidance

Following the [announcement of the GP contract changes](#) for 2022/23, which will come into effect from 1 April, the BMA has now published an [explainer video](#) explaining what this will mean for practices. Read also BMA [guidance about the contract changes](#) to support practices in their decision making and next steps.

Safe working guidance

General practice is in under increasing pressure, and the BMA has recently published a [safe working guide](#) to enable practices to prioritise safe patient care, within the present bounds of the GMS contract. Videos have been added to the resources section directing practices to the safest way to continue deliver patient care, including one on [redirecting patients to the safest part of the system](#).

The BMA has updated its [Safe working guidance](#) to correct some data extrapolated from figures in [At Your Service](#) (published by the Policy Exchange) to clarify that is 37 patients per day that GPs are seeing on average.

BMA council elections

Over 200 doctors are standing for election to the BMA council. BMA members will receive ballots through the post and the deadline for votes to be returned is 19 April. There is more information on the BMA website [here](#) and [here](#).

Rebuild GP campaign launch

5 April 2022

Key features in this issue

Page 1

[Message from Dr Brian McGregor](#)

[GP contract - latest news](#)

[Patient access to records](#)

[Changes to performers list applications](#)

[GP contract changes guidance](#)

[Safe working guidance](#)

[BMA council elections](#)

Page 2

[Rebuild GP campaign launch](#)

Page 3

[Help for Ukraine](#)

[MCCD and death certification](#)

[Infection Prevention Control in healthcare settings](#)

[Future of general practice - Health Select](#)

[Committee evidence](#)

[Flu orders](#)

Page 4

[Fit notes](#)

[Friends and Family test](#)

[GP to patient ratio](#)

[Emergency GMC registration to end in September](#)

Page 5

[The Cameron Fund](#)

[Q&A with Dr Brian McGregor 28 April 7pm](#)

[Job vacancy](#)

[Health foundation report on access to general practice](#)

[GP Forum study session 11 May 2022](#)

[RCGP Yorkshire faculty –](#)

[Celebrating General Practice event 6 May](#)

Page 6

[YORLMC services](#)

[Contact details](#)

© YORLMC Ltd 2022



GPs and their teams faced an extremely challenging time during the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time, general practice in England continues to face a worsening workforce crisis. BMA research published last year showed that the NHS has lost nearly 2,000 full-time equivalent GPs in England since 2015.

In response, working in partnership, the BMA and GPDF have launched the [Rebuild General Practice](#) campaign. To launch the campaign, Dr Kieran Sharrock, GPC England Deputy Chair, gave a [keynote speech](#) the King's Fund on 21 March, where he was joined by Jeremy Hunt MP and YORLMC Medical Secretary Dr Brian McGregor to outline the impact on patients that the workforce crisis is having. You can read more about the launch event on the [BMA website](#)

To coincide with the launch, the campaign [released the findings](#) of a survey of GPs in England, Wales, and Scotland, which showed that:

- nearly nine in 10 GPs fear patients aren't always safe at their surgeries
- 7 out of 10 GPs feel the risk to 'patient safety' is increasing
- staff shortages and too little time for appointments were main factors putting patients at risk
- 86% of GPs stated they didn't have enough time with patients
- 77% of GPs said GP shortages were putting patient safety at risk.

It is vital that we build as much support for the campaign as possible. You can find more information on the [campaign website](#) > You can also follow and share content, news and updates on the campaign [Twitter account](#) > and on [YORLMC's Twitter](#).

REBUILD

GENERAL

PRACTICE

Patient safety is at risk.

Nearly 9 in 10 GPs fear patients aren't always safe at their surgeries.

7 out of 10 GPs feel the risk to 'patient safety' is increasing.

(source: survey of GPs, March 2022)

Help for Ukraine

The [Academy of Medical Royal Colleges](#) have advised that sponsorship of individuals or families should remain a route for those with specific links either personal or professional. While a large amount of donations of food and clothing are being sent, these are challenging to organise and distribute with needs changing rapidly.

If your practice or you as an individual wish to support those suffering as a result of the war, please donate to the [Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal](#) or to the [Disasters Emergency Committees Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal](#)

MCCD and death certification

A number of queries have been raised nationally around seeing a body, including about having 'seen' or 'attended' a body for the issuance of an MCCD.

Please note, to complete an MCCD there is no legal requirement to have "seen" a deceased patient in the 28 days before or any time after death, however, if a deceased patient has not been seen in the 28 days before or any time after death, the registrar will automatically refer this to the coroner.

Infection Prevention Control in healthcare settings

Although the COVID restrictions have been lifted in England, the [Infection Prevention Control](#) (IPC) guidance for healthcare workers remain in place and still advises that face masks should continue be worn by staff and patients in health care settings.

Read also the BMA's briefing in response to the Government's '[Living with COVID-19' strategy](#) which sets out the plans for managing COVID-19 going forward.

Download the BMA's updated [poster about using face coverings in practices](#).

Future of general practice - Health Select Committee evidence

Dr Kieran Sharrock gave oral evidence on the [future of general practice to the Health and Social Care Committee](#), where he told of the ongoing criticism and general negativity about GPs and general practice must end if the NHS wants to retain the doctors we have and recruit more.

He said: "One in five GPs has been the butt of abuse as a result of the recent campaign against general practice. Dialling down the rhetoric against general practice is really important if you want to retain and recruit GPs.

"We have to be honest with the public about what general practice is delivering now, not what it should be delivering - clearly a 10 or 20-year plan is needed for that, including a workforce plan – but at the moment we can't provide the care to the level we want to. We need the Government to support us and say, 'This is what your GP can do at the moment because of the rise in demand, the huge backlog and the loss of staff.'"

Read the [BMA press statement](#) and get a snapshot of the session on the [BMA's GP twitter account](#)

Flu orders

Following the recent publication of the [guidance for the 2022/23 flu programme](#), the BMA is aware that some practices may have based their orders on last year's expanded cohorts and be experiencing difficulties in amending them. The BMA has raised this with NHS England who have provided assurance that they have received commitments from manufacturers to being flexible if the reimbursement letter impacted existing orders. If manufacturers are refusing to provide this flexibility, practices should contact the NHS England flu inbox (phco.fluops@nhs.net) with the specifics and they will assist.



Fit notes

In July 2021, the Government outlined plans to deliver fit note improvements including:

- removing the requirement to sign fit notes in ink (from April 2022) and allowing a wider range of eligible professionals to sign fit notes in (planned for summer 2022).
- embedding electronic fit notes in hospital systems are planned from spring 2022 and encouraging hospital doctors to issue fit notes to patients in their care will also further reduce the burden on GPs.

The BMA is expecting further detail of these changes from the DWP over the coming weeks to enable awareness of and preparation for them and will update accordingly.

Friends and family test

The requirement to submit Friends and Family Test (FFT) data was temporarily suspended in March 2020 to allow resources to be freed up for prioritisation during the pandemic.

The requirement that practices report to commissioners about the FFT returns will now be reintroduced into the GP Contract from 1 April 2022. To allow practices time to get fully up to speed, practices will only be required to submit data from Q2 in 22/23 onwards and commissioners will be made aware of this.

Practices will need to implement the new [FFT guidance](#), and the key requirements for practices are:

- make the FFT available for people who want to use it to give feedback
- use the standard FFT question (Overall, how was your experience of our service?)
- include at least one free text question, decided by the practices
- submit monthly data to NHSE using CQRS.



GP to patient ratio

Recent [NHS Digital data](#) has shown that patient ratios vary widely across England, from 41,000 patients per GP at a practice in Coventry and Warwickshire, to just 96 at a Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin surgery.

This data shows worryingly large disparities in GP to patient ratios across the country and it is wholly unacceptable that patients should have to experience such variations in access to care.

The Government has failed to address the longstanding recruitment and retention issues in general practice and we now have a unsafe situation where fewer GPs are being tasked with the responsibility of caring for significantly more patients.

The Government should therefore provide urgent and substantial support to enable high quality care.

Emergency GMC registration to end in September

The UK government [has announced](#) that the temporary emergency GMC registration they introduced to support the pandemic response, will close on 30 September 2022.

The GMC will shortly be in contact with doctors who still hold this type of registration to outline their options and to thank them for holding this type of registration during such a challenging period.

The options are likely to include retaining temporary emergency registration until the 30 September deadline, asking the GMC to remove it, or applying to restore their routine registration and licence to practise.

Read more about temporary registration on the [GMC website](#)

The Cameron Fund

The [Cameron Fund](#) is the medical benevolent charity that provides support solely to GPs in the UK. This includes GP Trainees, working GPs, retired GPs, as well as dependants of GPs. The Fund helps GPs and their families who are suffering financial hardship, whether through physical or mental ill-health, disability, bereavement or loss of employment.

Financial help is tailored to best support an individual's return to work. As well as grants and loans, the Fund can help with money advice assessments and career coaching for those who may no longer be able to continue to work as a GP.

You do not need to be a member of the [Cameron Fund](#) to benefit from this charity but please consider becoming a member – it is free to join and the membership form can be downloaded [here](#) and returned by email to info@cameronfund.org.uk

In addition, it is now possible to donate to the Cameron Fund when buying from Amazon via the [Amazon Smile website](#).

The Cameron Fund's Spring newsletter is available at [Appendix 1](#) and their Annual Review for 2021 is at [Appendix 2](#).

Also available is the latest [Cameron Fund video](#).

Q&A with Dr Brian McGregor 28 April 7pm

All GPs and practice staff across the YORLMC area are invited to join a Q&A session on Thursday 28 April 7pm-8pm, held on Zoom. The session is hosted by YORLMC Medical Secretary Dr Brian McGregor. Brian serves on the national GPC as the representative for North Yorkshire & York and Bradford & Airedale. The session provides an opportunity for constituent GPs and PMs to meet and discuss issues with Brian. This is an interactive event so please bring any questions you would like to put to Brian.

You can book your place [here](#).



Health foundation report on access to general practice

The Health Foundation and NHSE/ I have published an [analysis on access to patient preferences when accessing GP services](#), which suggests that while not suitable for everyone or all conditions, in many cases patients themselves will often prefer and indeed request a remote consultation.

Despite the fact that General Practice continued to provide high quality care throughout the pandemic and in line with national guidance in place to keep patients and staff safe, leading to a rise in remote consultations, this evolution in how we provide care attracted significant criticism.

Going forward it's crucial that patient choice, clinical need, and staff and practice capacity are at the centre of decisions around how people can interact with their surgery, rather than pressure from politicians or the press. Read the full BMA statement [here](#)

GP Forum study session, 11 May 2022

GP Forum is holding a study session on 11 May on the subject of Women's Health at The Mercure Leeds Parkway Hotel, Otley Road, Leeds.

Full details are available at [Appendix 3](#) and registration is to be done via info@qpforum.com.

RCGP Yorkshire faculty – Celebrating General Practice event 6 May

The Yorkshire faculty of the RCGP is organising an event at the Royal Hall in Harrogate on 6 May at 7pm to celebrate General Practice. There's more information [here](#).

Buying Group

Members of the LMC Buying Group can access discounts with any of the suppliers on the attached list at [Appendix 4](#). To access these discounts, you can either login to the Buying Group website and request a quote or if you contact the supplier directly, you need to make sure you mention your practice is a member of the LMC Buying Group or state the discount code from the suppliers page of the Buying Group website. The latest update from the Buying Group is available [here](#).

If you were using an approved supplier before you became a Buying Group member or have been using a supplier for a long time and aren't sure if you are receiving the correct rates, you can email to check: info@lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk. For further information on LMC Buying Group member benefits or to speak to a member of the team, you can live chat via their website: <https://www.lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk/> or give them a call on: 0115 979 6910.

Jobs page

YORLMC has a job page on our website at <https://www.yorlmcld.co.uk/jobs>. Please visit this page to view current vacancies and details of GPs seeking work. NHS Practices in the YORLMC area seeking to fill GP and staff vacancies and GPs seeking work in the YORLMC area can place adverts on the job page free of charge. To place an advert please email info@yorlmcld.co.uk

YORLMC job vacancy

As a result of expanding workload YOR Local Medical Committee Ltd (YORLMC) has a vacancy for an Executive Officer and invites applications to join its friendly, highly motivated professional team. The successful candidate will work in an attractive environment with excellent opportunity for personal and professional development.

Full details can be found on the [YORLMC website](#). The closing date for applications is 19 April.

Any information or guidance YORLMC Limited provides is only for internal use by those GPs and practices it is provided to and is not to be reproduced or repeated to patients or other agencies. Should a patient question arise from any information or guidance YORLMC Limited has provided, YORLMC Limited will be happy to discuss the matter with the GP or practice but will not engage with any GP patient.

YORLMC Ltd Disclaimer

YORLMC Limited does not provide legal or financial advice and thereby excludes all liability howsoever arising in circumstances where any individual, person or entity has suffered any loss or damage arising from the use of information provided by YORLMC Limited in circumstances where professional legal or financial advice ought reasonably to have been obtained. YORLMC Limited provides representation, guidance and support to GPs and practices in the North Yorkshire and Bradford and Airedale areas. YORLMC Limited strongly advises individuals or practices to obtain independent legal/financial advice. Articles and adverts included in this newsletter must not be assumed to be endorsed by YORLMC Ltd.

YOR Local Medical Committee Limited (YORLMC Ltd)

Registered office: First Floor, 87-89 Leeds Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG2 8BE
t. 01423 879922 f. 01423 870013 e. info@yorlmcld.co.uk w. www.yorlmcld.co.uk
Registered as a Company limited by Guarantee. Registered in England No. 6349731.

This document has been created by YORLMC Ltd and is not permitted to be distributed or reproduced without the written consent of YORLMC Ltd.

Angela Foulston

Chief Executive

angela.foulston@yorlmcld.co.uk

Dr Brian McGregor

Medical Secretary

info@yorlmcld.co.uk

Dr Dougy Moederle-Lumb

Board Chair

info@yorlmcld.co.uk

Belinda Smith

Director of Finance

belinda.smith@yorlmcld.co.uk

Antony Radley

Assistant Director of Finance

antony.radley@yorlmcld.co.uk

Stacey Fielding

Director of Liaison

stacey.fielding@yorlmcld.co.uk

Simon Berriman

Executive Officer - Bradford & Airedale and North Yorkshire & York

simon.berriman@yorlmcld.co.uk

Jack Burgess

Executive Officer -

North Yorkshire & York

Jack.burgess@yorlmcld.co.uk

Ariana Frankis

Executive Officer -

North Yorkshire & York

ariana.frankis@yorlmcld.co.uk

Sandra Warriner

Executive Officer -

North Yorkshire & York

sandra.warriner@yorlmcld.co.uk

Kate Mackenzie

Executive Officer -

Bradford & Airedale

kate.mackenzie@yorlmcld.co.uk

Nicola Brownlow

Business Support Officer

Nicola.brownlow@yorlmcld.co.uk