



## A monthly newsletter for North Yorkshire & Bradford & Airedale practices



YORLMC represents all GPs and their practices in:

- [Bradford, Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven](#)
- [North Yorkshire and the City of York](#)

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- ◆ [YORLMC News](#)
- ◆ [YORLMC Buying Group](#)
- ◆ [Regular updates](#)

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## Message from Dougy Moederle-Lumb, Chief Executive, YORLMC Ltd



It is not long now until YORLMC Annual Conference on Thursday 18 October 2018 at the Pavilions of Harrogate, Great Yorkshire Show Ground.



There is a great programme which will deliver a informative, inspirational, interactive and entertaining day—please see the programme at [Appendix 1](#).

The feedback from attendees on last year's conference was very positive and we have secured great speakers for this year's event, including a range of local and national figures as well as welcoming back Andy Cope from the Art of Brilliance.

Please do book your place via <https://www.yorlmcld.co.uk/events/6617>



## DDRB survey results

As reported, the government has decided not to implement the majority of the DDRB's recommended uplift for Doctors' pay in England. The BMA therefore surveyed their members in England, who are either directly (GPs and hospital doctors) or indirectly affected by this offer.

Following the government's action, the pay award will result in an overall uplift of 2% for GPs and their practice staff, back dated to April 2018, and which takes in to account the 1% payment already secured through direct negotiations. There is also a commitment of an additional 1% in April 2019, dependent on the outcome of forthcoming contract negotiations. In addition, GP appraisal and trainers grants will be increased by 3%. The DDRB had recommended a 4% increase for GPs this year, in recognition of the particular pressures general practice faced.

BMA council chair Chaand Nagpaul said: 'The survey findings of doctors in England should be a wake-up call for the Government that they have seriously misjudged the mood of the profession with what is another sub-inflationary pay award.'

## Technical fault with PCSE online queries form

PCSE has asked YORLMC to let practices know that due to a technical fault, queries submitted via their online form from 17 July until the end of August have not been getting through to their system and cannot be retrieved. The issue has now been resolved, however, if a practice or GP submitted a query in July or August and have not received a response, please resubmit your query using the form in [this link](#). Note that the technical issue **did not** apply to the follow enquiry types: CET claims, GP payments, GP pensions, Pre-visit notifications

## Alvesco inhalers- supply issue

The Department of Health and Social Care has been alerted by AstraZeneca to a supply issue with Alvesco inhalers across all strengths. Depending on the strength, resupply is not anticipated until mid-September 2018 (Alvesco 160) and mid-October (Alvesco 80). Astra-Zeneca has sent out the attached ([Appendix 2](#)) letter to customers.

## 2018 GP patient survey results

The 2018 GP patient survey results have been published—The key findings were:

- confidence and trust in GPs and healthcare professionals remains extremely high at 95.6%
- 93.5% of patients felt involved in decisions about their care and treatment
- 94.8% felt the healthcare professional met their needs.
- 83.8% described their overall experience of their GP practice as very or fairly good.
- The majority of patients (68.6%) rated overall experience of making an appointment as good
- Overall 61.6% of patients got an appointment at a time they wanted or sooner and 66.1% of patients who wanted a same day appointment got one

The full report can be found [here](#)

In response to this, Dr Richard Vautrey commented that "These results show that the overwhelming majority of the public are happy with the care they receive from their GP and the healthcare professionals at their local surgeries. They are further testament to the hard work of dedicated family doctors and their teams who continue to provide an excellent standard of care despite the huge and growing pressures they face." Read the BMA press release in full [here](#).

## Update on Diamorphine supply issue- August 2018

The Department of Health and Social Care is continuing to work with the suppliers of diamorphine injection and can provide the following update on the Diamorphine supply issue:

### Diamorphine 5mg and 10mg Injection

**Accord:** are still out of stock of diamorphine 5mg/10mg injection, but have advised that new stock of both strengths will be available during the w/c 27<sup>th</sup> August. There are further deliveries scheduled for both strengths through September, October and the coming months.

**Wockhardt:** still have supplies available, but as previously advised they cannot support the full demand for primary and secondary care. The supply issue should hopefully be resolved by early September.

Until this time therefore please continue with the **management plan** as previously stated:

Primary care and drug misuse centres will be able to continue to order diamorphine in line with historical demand.

- Secondary care will have access to limited supplies of diamorphine

### Recommended Local Action- Primary care and drug misuse centres

- Although practices will be able to access diamorphine as per historical demand, the DHSC would encourage prescribers to be aware of the supply issues and reduce prescribing where appropriate
- Please order responsibly during this time, in line with historical demand and do not stock pile to avoid lengthening the stock out period.

In the case that diamorphine cannot be accessed, please refer to the clinical guidance issued by UKMI which provides more information on suggested alternatives to diamorphine: [www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-diamorphine-5mg-10mg/](http://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-diamorphine-5mg-10mg/). The first-choice is morphine which is given in detail in this link. If you require clinical guidance locally – please liaise with secondary care prescribing partners in substance misuse services or pain specialist services

Further information which you may wish to review include the Patient Safety Alert on high dose morphine and diamorphine [www.nrls.npsa.nhs.uk/resources/?entryid45=59803](http://www.nrls.npsa.nhs.uk/resources/?entryid45=59803)

### Distribution Arrangements

- Diamorphine 5mg and 10mg will only be available to order from Alliance. No minimum surcharges will be levied
- Morphine 10mg injection (Martindale) available to order from AAH only.
- Diamorphine 30mg injection (Wockhardt), diamorphine 100mg (Accord) and diamorphine 500mg (Accord and Wockhardt) – usual wholesalers.

For further information on ordering processes please contact:

**Alliance** 0330 1000 448; [customerservice@alliance-healthcare.co.uk](mailto:customerservice@alliance-healthcare.co.uk) **AAH** 0344 561 8899

Please also see the attached patient information leaflet ([appendix 3](#)) which has been developed by NHS England to support this medicine supply issue

## Sessional GPs e-newsletter - UK

The August edition of the Sessional GP e-newsletter is [available here](#) and includes a blog from GPOC Member Mary McCarthy on general practice in Europe.



## Phased flu vaccine delivery

As you may be aware, NHS England has advised the use of adjuvanted trivalent flu vaccine (aTIV) for those aged 65 years and over in the coming flu season. As the only licensed aTIV in the UK is manufactured by Seqirus (Fluad®), to manage supply of the vaccine, and to help ensure that there is equal access for patients and that all vaccination providers are treated fairly, GPs and community pharmacies will all receive 40% of their aTIV order in September, 20% in October and 40% in November. Any evidence of this being deviated from should be flagged up immediately.

Please contact YORLMC on [info@yorlmcld.co.uk](mailto:info@yorlmcld.co.uk) and we will raise this with GPC and NHS England.

Guidance, along with a [letter](#) detailing further information, has previously been sent to practices.

The guidance is available [here](#).

The staged deliveries are for aTIV only and will not affect supplies of the quadrivalent and live attenuated influenza vaccines.

## Medicine supply issue update for primary care

Attached as [Appendix 4](#) is a medicine supply issue update for primary care for August 2018 from the department of Health and Social Care.

BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP, Registered Charity No. 261993



**The Cameron Fund**

BMA House,  
Tavistock Square,  
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Registered Charity  
No. 261993The

*The GPs' own charity*

Cameron Fund is the medical benevolent charity that provides support solely to GPs in the UK. It provides grants and loans to assist doctors and their families experiencing financial difficulties due to short or long-term illness, relationship breakdown or hardship following the actions of regulatory bodies or former partners. An increasing number of requests are being received for assistance from GPs during re-training. Interest-free loans may be available towards the expenses encountered during a return to professional work. Anyone who knows of someone experiencing hardship is urged to draw attention to the Cameron Fund's existence. 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 <http://www.cameronfund.org.uk/sites/default/files/MembershipApplicationForm.pdf> and returned by email to [in-fo@cameronfund.org.uk](mailto:info@cameronfund.org.uk) General contact details are: Phone: 020 7388 0796 Email: [enquiries@cameronfund.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@cameronfund.org.uk) Web: <http://www.cameronfund.org.uk/content/link-us>

## Exercise on prescription

YORLMC reminds practices that frequently an exercise package that a GP may be requested to prescribe will be a commercial promotion. In the event that the patient suffers some harm as a result of the package, the organisation may argue that the patient was undertaking the course of exercise on the recommendation of the GP.

GPs are advised regularly (and indeed it is part of the GMC good medical practice) that they should not prescribe, recommend or promote treatments in which they are not trained and experienced. GPs who are not trained in sports medicine, or some similar discipline, cannot be considered professionally trained and experienced to pronounce a person fit to participate in any specific physical activity outside the realm of their ordinary daily living. A GP is professionally trained and experienced to advise a patient that, due to an illness or disability, the patient is NOT fit to undertake a particular physical activity, work or pleasure, but the converse does not follow.

A GP, as an ordinary member of the population exercising common sense, may reasonably say that taking some form of exercise would be good for a person, likewise as a physician it is reasonable for a GP to advise that gradually increasing the exercise a patient takes would benefit that patient's health, but to advise a specific course of exercise is to venture outside the medical expertise of the majority of GPs.

YORLMC does however support a GP to complete a referral form for a patient to attend a local authority or private leisure company to be assessed for suitability to undertake an exercise programme

## Clinical Pharmacists & Indemnity

Practices will be aware of the clinical pharmacist programme within the GP Forward View which looks to integrate clinical pharmacists within the GP Practice team. NHSE Y&H is aware that a number of practices within Yorkshire & Humber have independently secured a pharmacist to support their skill mix and delivery of their practice service. In response to this, NHSE has developed the attached guidance ([Appendix 5](#)). It is intended to support **all** practices employing clinical pharmacists to ensure that they have appropriately considered their professional and service indemnity.

YORLMC considers this useful advice.

## Recognition of GPs as specialists

The BMA has written a joint letter with the RCGP to the GMC to reiterate their continued support for the recognition of GPs as specialists. This follows on from their [joint statements](#) outlining the clear case for change. The BMA welcomed the GMC's statement in January 2017 which accepted that a single advanced register would be more helpful and informative for the millions of patients, employers and doctors who use it. In addition to providing confirmation that this view still stands, the BMA have asked the GMC to actively encourage the four UK health departments to bring forward proposals to update the Medical Act to recognise GPs as specialists, granting them parity of esteem with senior doctors in other branches of medical practice. GPs are expert medical generalists who must be valued as such and given the recognition they deserve. This is also linked to the [partnership review](#) being led by Nigel Watson.

## Decline in GP numbers

An [NHS Digital report](#) has shown a further decline in the number of full-time GPs, which are down 523 since March. Responding to these figures, Dr Richard Vautrey commented, "The continued fall in the number of GPs is causing major problems around the country as practices find it harder and harder to meet the growing needs of their patients. It leaves patients waiting too long for appointments and GPs and their practice team members under increasing stress as they do their best to cope. The new secretary of state for health and social care in England made workforce his top priority, and these figures show that its work to recruit and retain GPs that must be addressed urgently."

## Interim Seniority Factors 2018-19

The Interim Seniority Factors 2018-19 for England and Northern Ireland have now been published on [NHS Digital's website](#).

## Data Protection Officers in GP practices

The BMA has published guidance on the requirement for Data Protection Officers in GP practices under GDPR. In particular, please refer to the details of the recently published [Addendum to the GP IT Operating Model, Securing Excellence in GP IT Services](#). The guidance is available on the GDPR [page](#), in the FAQs about the role of the DPO section.

## GPs experiencing mental health problems

Mental health charity Mind found in their recent survey that 40% of family doctors are experiencing symptoms of depression, anxiety or post-traumatic stress disorder and feel unable to turn to their colleagues for support. This was covered by [iNews](#) highlighting that the vast majority (86 per cent) of GPs affected said that they were much more likely to look for help from family and friends or their own doctor. 48% said they would seek help from a colleague just a third said they would turn to their practice manager. Dr Krishna Kasaraneni, GPC England Executive Team Member, was quoted as saying, "This report is extremely concerning and highlights the need for better support for GPs and their teams. The BMA is calling for a properly-funded universal occupational health service, so that GPs and the wider practice staff are able to access the support they need, and in turn are better equipped to care for their patients. After all, no one wants to be treated by a sick doctor, and strains on clinicians' mental health will only lead to more turning away from the profession."

## YORLMC Buying Group

The LMC Buying Groups Federation offers free membership to practices in the YORLMC area.

Membership gives practices access to an extensive range of products and services on which the Buying Group has negotiated discounts with their approved suppliers. A full list of suppliers is available on the Buying Group's website: <https://lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk/suppliers>.

The LMC Buying Group has recently added a recruitment page to their website giving all member practices a free, national platform to advertise practice vacancies: <https://lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk/job-vacancies/gp-practice/uk>. They will also be adding new content to the website over the summer to help practices get the most out of their membership.

If you are already a Buying Group member but didn't re-register your details before the GDPR deadline on 25 May, please complete this form: <https://form.jotformeu.com/73232425890355> to access the new recruitment platform, request quotes from suppliers and receive membership updates including the annual flu vaccine offers.

For further information get in touch with the LMC Buying Group on 0115 979 6910, send them an email to [info@lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk](mailto:info@lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk) or Live Chat via their website.



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