

To All GPs and GP Practices

Welcome to our September 2025 newsletter.

FINAL REMINDER-GPs and Practice Managers' Meeting/LMC AGM

Our annual GPs and Practice Managers' meeting, along with the LMC's AGM, will take place at 7pm on Wednesday, 17th September at the auditorium at Hampden Park, Glasgow. In addition to our service, IT and Q&A sections, the Chair of SGPC, Dr Iain Morrison, will provide a national update. GPs and practice managers wishing to attend the meeting should confirm attendance by emailing elaine.mclaren@glasgow-lmc.co.uk.

New Lead Chief Officer for Primary Care

We would like to welcome Billy McClean, the new Lead Chief Officer for Primary Care (as Chief Officer for Renfrewshire HSCP). The medical directors have met Mr McClean and look forward to working collaboratively in supporting general practice in GGC to deliver sustainable high quality patient care.

Frailty DES

Practices will have received documentation from the board regarding the new Frailty DES, as well as an email from the LMC office on 4th September regarding this.

As with all enhanced services, we encourage practices to consider the Business Guidance published by BMA Scotland, in particular the section on enhanced services-https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/gp-practices/funding-and-contracts/business-guidance-for-gps-in-scotland. This highlights the need for practices to take a critical approach when assessing the funding attached to an enhanced service, and the time commitment and human and other resources required to meet the terms of the enhanced service.

In regards to the Frailty DES, we hope that practices will fully consider all details of the DES, both in terms of funding and the specification. The LMC secretariat has noted the requirement of appointing a practice Frailty lead clinician and making this individual known to the local frailty teams. It is not clear what the local frailty teams' expectations will be as a result of this. However, this DES in 2025/26 does not resource any increased workload resulting from the identification of this practice lead to external services. It is possible that for 2026/2027 additional funding would be put to an enhanced Frailty DES which would support general practice contributing to this area of work but this has not been negotiated to date.

Any practice that is intending to sign up but is yet to do so must notify the board by midday on Monday, 15th September.

£15million Funding

The Scottish Government announced £15million of additional funding for general practice last month. Further details are awaited around its distribution and when the funding will reach practices. The LMC is clear that whilst this additional money is welcome, this does not go anywhere near addressing the funding shortfall that practices in Scotland are experiencing.

Read more in this <u>Pulse</u> article, in which our Medical Director, Dr Patricia Moultrie, is quoted.

GP IT Reprovisioning

Following the administration of In Practice Systems Limited (InPS) in late 2024, a contracted GP IT provider to NHS Scotland, OneAdvanced has acquired the company and assumed responsibility for the NHS Scotland GP IT contract. EMIS PCS will be supported until all GP practices in Scotland have changed over to Vision 3. The GP IT Reprovisioning Programme Board in GGC continues to meet and there will be updates to practices about the migration process and timelines in due course.

Fit to Fly Letters

We have been contacted by a number of practices regarding midwives advising patients that they are no longer issuing fit to fly letters. We have raised this with the board's Deputy Medical Director for Primary Care-any change in arrangements regarding this should not result in a workload shift to general practice.

Practices will wish to bear in mind that the provision of these certificates is non GMS and the practice will need to decide whether or not to provide this service privately. There is guidance available on this from various sources including the BMA, NHS and MDOs:

- Guidance on medico-legal aspects of providing certificates
- Fit to fly
- Travelling in pregnancy NHS

Meeting with MSPs

The medical directors earlier this week met with four of the MSPs whose constituencies/regions cover GGC. A number of topics were covered including GMS funding; the GP Workforce Survey; GP underemployment/unemployment; the Audit Scotland report on the 2018 GMS Contract; digital prescribing; PCIP implementation; care navigation; premises.

If a practice wishes to raise any issues with their MSPs or if you wish to direct patients to MSPs regarding the inadequate funding coming to general practice in Scotland, you can find the details of the constituency and seven regional MSPs for your area <u>here</u>.

Practices are reminded that if they require assistance responding to general points regarding general practice in GGC in reply to enquiries from MSPs/MPs, they can contact the LMC office.

SGPC Roadshow

SGPC has held a number of roadshows, including in Glasgow and online, regarding its campaign for Full Funding Restoration and its formal dispute with the Scottish Government. We await to hear from SGPC information on the Scottish Government's response to SGPC's notification of the formal dispute.

We highlight the blogs from SGPC in our monthly newsletters. However, GPs can also keep up to date with SGPC's activities by keeping an eye on the BMA Scotland's blog site-https://bmascotland.home.blog/ or on social media:

- https://x.com/BMAScotland
- https://x.com/DrIMChairSGPC
- https://www.facebook.com/bmascotland.

Especially given the challenges currently facing general practice at this time, GPs will wish their voice to be heard. GPs may wish to consider joining the BMA in order to ensure that they can participate in any future ballots for collective action. BMA members are advised to ensure that their personal and work details held by the BMA are up to date.

GP Workforce Survey

NHS Education for Scotland recently published the <u>GP Workforce Survey results</u>. Whilst there has been a small rise nationally in GP numbers, the pace of increase is far from enough to meet the requirements of general practice in Scotland. The picture in GGC shows very little change. The response from the Chair of SGPC can be read <u>here</u>.

LMC Website

Our <u>website</u> has had a refresh. For GPs and practices, the main difference will be easier use on tablets/mobile phones.

GP Email Mailing List/Social Media

As well as our newsletters, we communicate directly with GPs and practices with important updates. We are particularly keen to ensure that these reach as many GPs working in GGC as possible at this difficult time. To receive our communications direct to your own inbox, please go to the following links:

- Partner/Salaried GPs- https://uk.surveymonkey.com/r/8R8HH3M.
- Locum GPs- https://uk.surveymonkey.com/r/FJH6W67.

You can also follow us on social media at https://www.facebook.com/GlasgowLMC and https://x.com/GlasgowLMC.

LMC's GP Practice Situation Survey

We would like to thank practice managers for their ongoing support with our practice situation survey. We are receiving responses from around half of the practices in GGC each week. Especially ahead of the upcoming pressures associated with winter, we believe the survey will continue to be a useful barometer of how practices are feeling in terms of pressures, and are finding it a good tool for sharing with the health board the picture of general practice in GGC. We have asked the board to have greater focus on supporting general practice in its winter planning.

Wellbeing Resources

The cumulative stress of the practice workload, financial pressures and patient demand is undoubtedly affecting people's mental health. We know that practice leadership, and a supportive and valuing culture in general practices is vital in maintaining the wellbeing of the practice team. These are some of the wellbeing resources available to GPs, PMs and practice staff-

National Wellbeing Hub- https://wellbeinghub.scot/

NHS GGC Occupational Health Service-

Occupational Health - NHSGGC

The Workforce Specialist Service-

The Workforce Specialist Service (WSS) - National Wellbeing Hub

BMA Wellbeing Resource-

https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/your-wellbeing/wellbeing-support-services/sources-of-support-for-your-wellbeing

Working Health Services Scotland

Working Health Services Scotland (WHSS) - Health and Well-being (nhsinform.scot)

The Cameron Fund

The Cameron Fund | The GPs' Own Charity

Royal Medical Benevolent Fund

Royal Medical Benevolent Fund - Help for Doctors in Need (rmbf.org)

Yours sincerely,

Dr Mark FawcettDr John IpDr Patricia MoultrieChairMedical DirectorMedical Director

Marco Florence Elaine McLaren

Policy Officer Administration Officer

Contact Glasgow LMC via https://www.glasgowlmc.co.uk/contact-us/.