

# JULY 2019 NEWSLETTER

LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

# LMC

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

**Our website:** <http://www.gloslmc.com>

Dr Tom Yerburgh – LMC Chairman  
[tom.yerburgh1@nhs.net](mailto:tom.yerburgh1@nhs.net)

**Twitter:** @Glos LMC

Dr Penelope West – Medical Secretary  
[penelopewest@gloslmc.com](mailto:penelopewest@gloslmc.com)

Mrs Elizabeth Barstow- Office  
Administrator

[Elizabeth@gloslmc.com](mailto:Elizabeth@gloslmc.com)

Mrs Lesley Mansfield-Office  
Administrator

[Lesley@gloslmc.com](mailto:Lesley@gloslmc.com)

**Tel: 01452 310706**

**Fax: 01452 386503**

---

## Primary Care Networks

**1. Clinical Directors:** The BMA held a conference for Clinical Directors on 5/6/19. It was streamed live, and well received. If you missed it and would like to watch, catch up [here](#).

**2. VAT:** NHS England has published some advice, mostly of interest to Clinical Directors, regarding the Network Contract DES and VAT.

NHS England anticipates that most 'supplies' to support the delivery of the Primary Care Network Contract DES (e.g. between members of a network or to a network from another organisation) will be of healthcare services. These supplies will generally be VAT exempt, meaning no VAT needs to be charged.

The position will be more complicated, and VAT is likely to be chargeable when, for example, one network provides services to another and the services being provided are not considered to qualify as health services. If an organisation is not VAT-registered, because (broadly) their total VAT-able supplies do not exceed £85,000 in the prior twelve months (the current threshold), then they do not need to charge VAT. Read the advice on how VAT applies to supplies of health services and staff, from NHS England, [here](#).

The latest guidance on the new contract from the BMA can be found [here](#).

Read a PDF version of the New GP Contract ([Here](#))

**3. Private patients:** Some practices have a small number of private patients registered, and have asked whether this is acceptable under the new contract. The contract states that practices may not advertise or host a private service. Advice from the BMA is conflicted. It is understood that there are a number of high net worth individuals (especially in the Home Counties) who receive a private service and will wish to continue to do so. We await further formal guidance.

**4. Access to patient records:** NHS England and GPC England have agreed eight specific improvements, backed by agreed contract changes, in areas where it is realistic to make early progress, given available functionality: i) all patients will have the right to online and video consultation by April 2021; ii) all patients will have online access to their full record,

including the ability to add their own information, as the default position from April 2020, with new registrants having full online access to prospective data from April 2019, subject to existing safeguards for vulnerable groups and third party confidentiality and system functionality; all practices will be giving all patients access online to correspondence by April 2020, as the system moves to digital by default (with patients required to opt-out rather than in). However, as yet, there have been no change to the contractual regulations and we have not seen any draft new regulations. We don't know when they will appear, and can't say for certain when they will be laid before Parliament. Therefore, **nothing has changed in respect of contractual obligations and won't until the new regulations are in force.**

*Disclaimer: Note that this information is not a substitute for specialist financial or legal advice.*

## **Office Staff changes**

We are delighted to welcome our new our office staff. Both are part time, so there will be some overlap of roles. Lizzie Barstow has experience of the Civil Service and Ministry of Defence. She will be updating our contacts list. If you have personnel changes, please let her know. Lizzie may contact surgeries if details we hold appear outdated. We are keen to be an inclusive organisation, representative of all the County's GPs, and to work for the medico-political best interests of all. If any locum GP feels they are not receiving our newsletters, then they should be encouraged to make contact – it costs them nothing. Lesley Mansfield has experience of small business working and customer relations, and will deal mainly with business queries.

## **Patients with eating disorders**

Our Chairman wishes to reiterate that General Practice gave 3 months' notice, which expired on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2019, from requesting blood tests and ECGs for these high-risk young patients who are under specialist care. The responsibility for requesting tests, and interpreting the results, should rest with the specialist. The activity and risk will no longer be borne by general practice. 2gether Trust have made progress on finding another provider to take over from 8<sup>th</sup> August, and are likely to request, but not demand, the help of practices during the transition period.

Concerns remain regarding patients in private units far from home who register with a nearby GP practice. Negotiation is underway to reach an understanding regarding what is, and is not, a core GP service for these patients.

## **Children and Young People Service Practitioner helpline**

At a recent meeting with 2gether Trust, we received the annual report of the CYPS practitioner advice line. It appeared to show high levels of satisfaction with calls handled. The Cheltenham practices seem to use the service most. This may be due to higher awareness of the service, or pilot projects which engaged with some Cheltenham schools. Surprisingly few referrals were related to substance misuse, and we were reminded GPs should ask about this when considering a referral. The telephone number for the service is 01452 894272. You can access the website [here](#).

## **GP Wellbeing Services**

**1. GP wellbeing course:** Following successful GP wellbeing courses in 2017 and 2018, Let's Talk have agreed to run regular courses throughout the year. The plan is for the course to be held in different locations, with the first course starting in Gloucester in July 2019. The feedback from both previous courses was excellent.

This psycho-educational course is led by an experienced wellbeing practitioner from Let's Talk, Gloucestershire's Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) service, and is designed specifically for GPs. It will run for four consecutive weeks and each session will last 90 minutes. Each course will have space for approximately 25 GPs. As there is an

educational component to the course, the time involved could count towards CPD/appraisal portfolio.

The course can help attendees to:

- feel more in control of their life
- learn some strategies to improve work life balance
- learn about CBT
- combining some CPD hours with self-care

Book [here](#). [This letter from GP Champion Dr Ann-Marie Cox](#) provides more information.

**2. The LMC 'Safe House'** system offers useful resources and links to advocates if wanted. It is available free to all GPs. If you have not signed up and would like to, please contact the office.

**3. The GP (mental) health service** is a confidential NHS mental health service led by GPs for GPs and GP vocational trainees. Access to the service is by self-referral by email to [gp.health@nhs.net](mailto:gp.health@nhs.net) or by calling 0300 0303 300. The service is available 8am – 8pm Monday to Friday, and 8am – 2pm Saturday. The GP Health Service can help with issues relating to burnout, anxiety, depression and stress, particularly where these might be affecting work. They also treat drug and alcohol addiction and have access to confidential specialist inpatient detox. The GP Health service is not a service for doctors with mental health problems that require specialist psychiatric input, though they can help provide additional support. GP Health is not commissioned to be an emergency or crisis service.

The GP Health Service is provided by doctors who have additional expertise in addressing the issues concerning doctors. These clinicians are available in various locations across England and doctors accessing the service may choose which clinician to consult. Confidentiality is assured. Read an information leaflet [here](#). The local lead is Dr Andrea J Gibson and she can be contacted by email: [andrea.gibson4@nhs.net](mailto:andrea.gibson4@nhs.net)

#### **4. BMA counselling - members and non-members**

The BMA also offer a counselling service which is open to members and non-members and medical students

BMA counselling service Tel: 0330 123 1245 - available 24/7. Read about it [here](#).

The BMA also provide support to doctors undergoing GMC processes and investigations.

#### **5. The Practitioner Health Programme for doctors other than GPs**

As a GP, you may have doctors presenting to you on your generalist GP caseload struggling with mental health symptoms (such as burnout, anxiety, depression, stress, addiction) and these issues may be impacting on work.

It may be possible to refer these doctors to the Practitioner Health Programme as long as they don't need specialist psychiatric input. PHP and GPH are unable to see doctors or trainees living with eating disorders - these doctors need to self-refer or be referred to the local eating disorders team.

To access PHP, doctors require a referral from their GP. Referring GPs may telephone 020 3049 4505 or email at [england.phpadmin@nhs.net](mailto:england.phpadmin@nhs.net) to enquire whether the Practitioner Health Programme can assist. Further information is available on the [PHP website](#).

#### **6. Occupational Health**

The GP Health Service and The Practitioner Health Programme are not commissioned to provide occupational health services. Read about it [here](#).

NHS England locally have commissioned Heales Medical for GPs and Dentists on the Performer's List in Gloucestershire. Read about it [here](#).

## **Maggots**

We received an enquiry as to whether maggot therapy for wound debridement is core GP work. Read NICE guidance on the use of maggots [here](#). It is sometimes used by the tissue viability team, who have, apparently, offered to train practice nurses. Dressings are said to take 30-45 minutes. The LMC suggests that maggot therapy is out with the competence of generalists, and for practical reasons such dressings might be better done in the patient's home by the specialist team.

## **Sessional GP issues**

The Sessional GPs Magazine is free to all and can be accessed [here](#). The GPC has published a formal locum/practice agreement which should not only define the work that the locum is expected to provide but will also confirm that the locum GP is not an employee for tax purposes. You can access it [here](#). Note that, as it stands, there is no clause imposing liability on practices if they cancel a session, though there is the other way about.

## **Obituary**

The GP community was saddened to hear of the untimely cardiac death in service of Dr Imran Rafi. Dr Rafi was a popular, well respected GP in Gloucester, and will be missed by his colleagues and patients. Our thoughts are with his family.

## **Courses**

We have been asked to post details of the following:

1. "How to" day for newly established primary care networks: National Association of Primary Care event on 10 July 2019, see [napc@napc.co.uk](mailto:napc@napc.co.uk), or telephone 02076367228.
2. Diabetes UK South West Conference in October 2019. For agenda and booking information go to: [Diabetes UK South West Professional Conference 2019](#).

## **Job opportunities**

A full list of current job adverts is at <http://www.gloslmc.com/blog-job-vacancies.asp> and links to them are also at Annex A for ease of reference.

## **A Penny for your thoughts**

I hope you are all planning a holiday. We Five, including Darcy the Labrador, piled into the Morris Minor, and made it all the way to Dorset before the safety pin fell out! We tucked into a picnic of potted meat sandwiches, Battenberg cake, and ginger beer, lashings of it! We agreed it was ripping as we brushed the crumbs from our pullovers.

Near Corfe Castle, which looked awfully mysterious in the mist, we discovered a queer little museum, full of language and toys that were scarcely fit for the twenty first century. I was overcome by a bout of aesthetic anaemia, and had to ask the Colonel to pass my smelling salts!! He is such a brick.

A small prize for spotting the author alluded to here. I'm anticipating a spiffing response, so shall set a closing date of 4<sup>th</sup> July, and pick the winner from a hat. Apply to [penelopewest@gloslmc.com](mailto:penelopewest@gloslmc.com). If the winner is in Gloucestershire, I'll deliver in person and chat to your practice about the work of the LMC if you wish.

Congratulations to Dr Olivia Munn who won the June competition. The answer was 'Carousel' by Rodgers & Hammerstein. 13 correct entries were received.

## **JOB VACANCIES**

The full list of current vacancies is at: <http://www.gloslmc.com/blog-job-vacancies.asp>.

<b>GLOUCESTERSHIRE</b>			<b>Date posted</b>	<b>Closing Date</b>
<a href="#">West Cheltenham Medical</a>	Cheltenham	Salaried GP	13 Mar 19	Open
<a href="#">Dockham Road Surgery</a>	Cinderford, Dean Forest	GP Partner	13 Mar 19	Open
<a href="#">Gloucester Health Access Centre and Matson Lane Surgery</a>	Gloucester and Matson	Salaried GPs sought	14 Mar 19	Open
<a href="#">Bartongate Surgery</a>	Gloucester	Salaried GP	30 Apr 19	Open
<a href="#">Newnham and Westbury Surgery</a>	Newnham	Salaried GP	10 May 19	Open
<a href="#">The White House</a>	Moreton-In Marsh	Salaried GP	10 May 19	Open
<a href="#">Newent Doctors Practice</a>	Gloucester	Salaried GP	10 May 19	28 June 19
<a href="#">Corinthian Surgery</a>	Cheltenham	Partner or Salaried GP	15 May 19	Open
<a href="#">Newent Doctors Practice</a>	Gloucester	GP Maternity Leave Cover	15 May 19	Open
<a href="#">Kingsway Health Centre</a>	Gloucester	GPs	15 May 19	Open
<a href="#">Crescent Bakery</a>	Cheltenham	Salaried GP	15 May 19	Open
<a href="#">Yorkleigh and Bream Health Centre</a>	Gloucester	Part Time Treatment Room Nurse	24 May 19	Open
<a href="#">Leckhampton Surgery</a>	Cheltenham	Salaried GP	24 May 19	Open
<a href="#">Upper Thames Medical Group</a>	Cirencester	GP	29 May 19	Open
<a href="#">Church Street Medical</a>	Tewksbury	GP Partner	31 May 19	15 July 19
<a href="#">Partners in Health, Pavilion Family Doctors</a>	Gloucester	GPs	12 June 19	Open
<a href="#">Chipping Camden Surgery</a>	Cotswolds	GP	12 June 19	05 July 19
<a href="#">Newent Doctors Practice</a>	Gloucester	GP	14 June 19	28 June 19
<a href="#">Overton Park Surgery</a>	Cheltenham	GP Retainer	19 June 19	Open
<b>ELSEWHERE</b>				
<a href="#">Vine Street Surgery Partnership</a>	Somerset	Partnership or Associate GP	27 April 19	Open
<a href="#">Saltash Medical Centre</a>	Plymouth	Locum	14 May 19	30 June 19
<a href="#">Marybrook Medical Centre</a>	Berkeley	Salaried GP	15 May 19	Open
<a href="#">Air Balloon Surgery</a>	Bristol	GP Partner/Associate	24 May 19	27 June 19
<a href="#">Air Balloon Surgery</a>	Bristol	Associate GPs	31 May 19	27 June 19
<a href="#">Chipping Norton Health Centre</a>	Oxford	Trainee GP	29 May 19	Open
<a href="#">Chipping Norton Health Centre</a>	Oxford	GP	29 May 19	Open
<a href="#">Chipping Norton Health Centre</a>	Oxford	GP Retainer	29 May 19	Open

**REMINDER:** If you are advertising with us and fill the vacancy please let us know so we can take the advert down.