

SEPT 2019 NEWSLETTER

LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

LMC

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

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Pensions

The previous newsletter contained details of the work being undertaken by the BMA on the pension issues. Last week, Paul Youngs, chair of the BMA pensions committee, had an [article published in BMJ](#) that made it clear that pension tax reform needs to be swift to tackle doctors' sense of injustice. There has also been an [editorial item in BMJ](#) calling for Government to act decisively to avert potentially catastrophic workforce losses. The article states that this problem comes at the worst possible time for the NHS, with hospital consultants, staff and associate specialists, and general practitioners all facing critical workforce shortages.

The public sector is to launch a 'mass legal battle'. Read about it [here](#).

The latest GP Pensions Bulletin from Capita is available [here](#).

Disclaimer: This information is not a substitute for specialist financial advice, and we recommend that you speak to your accountant.

Half day closures

You will have seen the recent outrageous [claims](#) from NHS England that ending half-day closures could save more than 280,000 GP appointments a year. The BMA responded promptly and publicly, stating that GP practices are working hard to deliver the best possible service with the resources available as they strive to meet the growing needs of their patients. In many cases they not only work long hours during the day but also deliver services out-of-hours, with many doctors also working evenings and weekends. Dr Vautrey of the BMA described the claims as a 'fantasy,' arguing that forcing GPs to remain open throughout the day could drive down capacity to offer appointments at evenings or weekends.

GP practices want to deliver the best for their communities but with significant workforce shortages, and a failure of NHS England to invest in much needed premises and IT infrastructure, it's left GPs under greater pressure than ever before. NHS leaders must therefore work to address the ongoing recruitment and retention crisis rather than devoting time and effort to threatening GPs with a reduction in funding that will only undermine morale further. We need long term commitment and support to bring about lasting improvement to patient care and avoid putting overworked doctors under further strain.

You can also hear GPC Exec member, Farah Jameel's, response to the issue on BBC Radio [here](#). The story was picked up by the Daily Mail, [the i](#) newspaper, [GP Online](#) and [Pulse](#).

BMA guidance on how GP practices can meet the reasonable needs of their patients remains unchanged and can be found [here](#).

Gloucestershire Primary Care Offer 2019/20

We acknowledge that it has been an unusually busy year for all with the development of the new Primary Care Networks taking up much time and energy. The PCO was received by the LMC later than usual. After an extraordinary special meeting with the CCG, and much discussion, it was RAG rated **amber/amber** by the LMC.

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](#).

The latest guidance on the new contract from the BMA can be found [here](#).
Read a PDF version of the New GP Contract ([Here](#))

2. Regional LMC Event: The South West Regional LMC meeting was on 25/07/19. Gloucestershire was represented by Drs Yerburgh, Hodges and West. Much of the discussion concerned how LMCs can best support developing Primary Care networks and their Clinical Directors. The intention is to hold a 'Beyond the Basics' meeting, on 12 November in Taunton. We will provide more information in due course.

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

LMC Business

The next Conference of English LMCs will be held in London on 22/11/2019. Gloucestershire will be represented by Drs Yerburgh, Fielding, Bounds and Lees as delegates, and Dr West as Medical Secretary/observer.

If you wish to propose subjects to be debated nationally, please submit to penelopewest@gloslmc.com by 10/09/2019. The Executive will then look for common themes to craft into motions to submit to the BMA.

A formal LMC election will be held in the Spring of 2020. Vacancies will arise on the committee due to three pending retirements. Expressions of interest are welcome.

GP Safehouse

GP Safe House (GPSH) is a virtual safe house providing a refuge and support for practitioners experiencing professional challenges. It guarantees anonymity, security and confidentiality and understands that these are essential. GPSH has five virtual rooms which offer support, information and resources. Each room corresponds to a different potential problem area. It has recently received a makeover/update from Somerset LMC who devised it.

Services available are:

- **Consulting Room** - Personal Health Information for the Gloucestershire Area
- **Burnout Recovery Suite** - Burnout and Stress
- **Professional Relationships Bureau** - Working Relationship Problems
- **Library of Solutions** - Non-clinical Aspects of Patient Care
- **Career Development Office** - Professional Development
- **Contacts for Support and Advice** - This is a link to the Gloucestershire LMC Advocate Area which offers the possibility of a personal, completely anonymous, one-to-one, online consultation with a professional advisor as well as more everyday modes of communication!

Within in the next few weeks the administration staff from the LMC will be emailing all GPs who have not previously been issued a password. This will be a word document attachment which will contain a password. If you already have a password, it should still work in the new system, though if there are problems please let us know.

If you do not receive an email from us but feel you would like to use this service please contact the office via telephone, email or the Contact Us form on our website.

Employment law resources

As part of our review of LMC office procedures, upon the kind recommendation of Somerset LMC, we took advice from Porter Dodson Solicitors LLP. We have purchased the resource of a staff handbook and office staff contracts, which we may share with practices at no cost to the practice. If you would like a clean copy of either of these documents, please contact penelopewest@gloslmc.com. Nine practices have taken this up so far. The offer is free, and not time framed!

Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework

NHS England and the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee have agreed a new community pharmacy contractual framework. This commits almost £13 billion, with a spend of £2.592 billion over the five years from 2019-2024. The deal delivers a new NHS Community Pharmacy Consultation Service (CPCS) which will see NHS 111 refer to community pharmacies for minor illness and urgent medicines supply. This new CPCS will replace the current NHS Urgent Medicine Supply Advanced Service (NUMSAS) as well as local pilots of the NHS 111 Digital Minor Illness Referral Service (DMIRS, now re-named the Community Pharmacy Consultation Service).

Read about it [here](#), or a short summary [here](#).

Falsified Medicines Directive

The GPC guidance on FMD remains the same and you can read it [here](#)

No change is likely until the UK's exit from the EU on 31st October. We would expect further guidance before then if a no deal exit is the outcome, which would mean the revocation of the requirements for FMD.

Fit for the Future

Following discussions with NHS England about the nature of the engagement process over the summer and autumn, One Gloucestershire is in a position to share information and resume conversations with staff and the public. This period of engagement on community urgent care and specialist hospital services is an open dialogue. It is an opportunity to discuss ideas and involve local people in developing potential solutions to meet future health and care needs. Through sharing information and exchanging views, the engagement period will provide a wealth of feedback to inform future planning. Staff and the public will be consulted on any significant changes proposed that follow on from this engagement programme. Under the title, 'Fit for the Future,' the NHS is continuing a conversation with staff and the public on:

- ideas to support easier, faster and more convenient ways to get urgent same day advice and care wherever people live in Gloucestershire
- what's important to local people in getting urgent (not life threatening) same day advice and care across our communities in Gloucestershire, including illness and injury services
- ideas for a Centres of Excellence vision for providing specialist services at the two large hospital sites in the county
- a range of ideas for the next few years, including A&E services and General Surgery amongst others.

You can find the engagement booklet [here](#).

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults: General Practice Reporting 2019/20

We are interested to learn that Dr David Geddes, Director of Primary Care Commissioning, has written to all CCG Accountable Officers on this subject. He states that 'The sharing of information by general practice on request from local authorities is not resourced under national NHS contracts. Statutory and professional duties apply on individual GPs to share information in a timely fashion, but GP practices are nevertheless entitled to seek payment for this local authority requested work. Such payment arrangements have always varied locally, but with increasing requests for reports due to welcome improvements in education there is a need to review how general practice is supported.' The National GMS contract expressly enables GP practices to request a fee in respect of any activity requested by a statutory body in exercise of its function. We anticipate discussions on this subject in the weeks ahead.

Safeguarding Training for General Practice

The CCG Named Dr for Safeguarding has advised that the RCGP have published a guide to the Intercollegiate Documents that set out some training advice for Primary Care staff. You can read it [here](#).

For training opportunities in Gloucestershire, please see the courses section of the newsletter.

The CCG SG Team have formulated the learning logs referred to in the training guidance and these are available on G-Care within the SG pages.

For further information, please contact Dr Katy McIntosh, Named GP for Safeguarding Adults and Children, NHS Gloucestershire CCG, Sanger House, 5220 Valiant Court, Gloucester Business Park, Brockworth, GL3 4FE katy.mcintosh1@nhs.net

The LMC would like to add that 'Nigel's surgery CQC MythBusters' is a very useful resource when considering the 'musts', 'shoulds', and aspirational activity in preparation for CQC. The link for child safeguarding is [here](#), and adults [here](#).

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. Sessional GPs are represented on the LMC by Dr Jethro Hubbard, who can be contacted at jehro.hubbard@nhs.net.

A Penny for your thoughts

Behold the apples' rounded world, in the bird-crammed, insect -hopping mellow orchard. The postman relayed, with kindly concern, that Phoebe, the Gloucester Old Spot sow, had gorged a surfeit of windfalls, and was staggering in an inebriated state. She eventually fell over, burping and fermenting, to sleep it off under a tree.

Which famous author is buried in Slad churchyard, between the church and the Woolpack Inn? There was a festival in 2014 to celebrate the centenary of his birth, and Stroud saw more gout than usual.

Apply to penelopewest@gloslmc.com. Closing date 14/09/19. 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 Charnjit Supria who won the August competition. The bowler was Jofra Archer. 4 correct entries were received.

This newsletter was prepared by Dr Penelope West and colleagues, at the LMC Office.

Job opportunities

A full list of current job adverts is at <http://www.gloslmc.com/blog-job-vacancies.asp> and available below.

JOB VACANCIES

| GLOUCESTERSHIRE | | | Date posted | Closing Date |
|---|------------------|---|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Bartongate Surgery | Gloucester | Salaried GP | 30 Apr 19 | Open |
| Newnham and Westbury Surgery | Newnham | Salaried GP | 10 May 19 | Open |
| The White House | Moreton-In Marsh | Salaried GP | 10 May 19 | Open |
| Corinthian Surgery | Cheltenham | Partner or Salaried GP | 15 May 19 | Open |
| Kingsway Health Centre | Gloucester | GPs | 15 May 19 | Open |
| Crescent Bakery | Cheltenham | Salaried GP | 15 May 19 | Open |
| Marybrook Medical Centre | Berkeley | Salaried GP | 15 May 19 | Open |
| Upper Thames Medical Group | Cirencester | GP | 29 May 19 | Open |
| Partners in Health, Pavilion Family Doctors | Gloucester | GPs | 12 June 19 | Open |
| Newent Doctors Practice | Gloucester | GP | 14 June 19 | 13 th Sept 19 |
| Yorkleigh Surgery | Cheltenham | Partner or Salaried GP | 12 July 19 | Open |
| Mann Cottage | Moreton in Marsh | Maternity Leave GP (potential for permanent role) | 17 July 19 | Open |
| Portland Practice | Cheltenham | GP Partner/Salaried GP | 19 July 19 | Open |
| Stoke Road Surgery | Cheltenham | Salaried GP | 24 July 19 | Open |
| Chipping Campden Surgery | Chipping Campden | GP | 26 July 19 | Open |
| Frithwood Surgery | Gloucester | GP (Option | 07 Aug 19 | Open |
| Dockham Road Surgery | Gloucester | Partner or Salaried GP | 14 Aug 19 | Open |
| Acorn Practice | Dursley | GP | 23 Aug 19 | Open |
| ELSEWHERE | | | | |
| Chipping Norton Health Centre | Oxford | Trainee GP | 29 May 19 | Open |
| Chipping Norton Health Centre | Oxford | GP | 29 May 19 | Open |
| Chipping Norton Health Centre | Oxford | GP Retainer | 29 May 19 | Open |
| Chipping Norton Health Centre | Oxford | Maternity Locum – 6 Sessions | 15 Aug 19 | Open |
| Air Balloon Surgery | Bristol | Associate Salaried GP | 23 Aug 19 | 19 Sept 19 |

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

COURSES

- ❖ Diabetes UK South West Conference in October 2019. For agenda and booking information go to: [Diabetes UK South West Professional Conference 2019](#).
- ❖ Business events for Healthcare professionals. For more information and booking details please go to, <http://www.managementinpractice-events.co.uk/>

London – 26th September 2019
Birmingham - 3rd December 2019

- ❖ Primary Care Learning Event – Tuesday 10 September 2019, 10-12.45, Taunton Campus, Bridgwater and Taunton College, Wellington Road, Taunton, TA1 5AX. For more details please see, <http://bit.ly/primarycareevent>
- ❖ Gloucestershire Locum Education events, **Thursday 10 October 2019**

Hatherley Manor,
Down Hatherley Lane,
Gloucester
GL2 9QA

[Please find a registration link here.](#)

The day will include Basic Life Support refresher training (including AED and paediatric) and a Safeguarding update.

The timings for the day are 9.30am (for registration/refreshments) to 5pm (lunch is provided); an agenda and further information will be provided nearer to the date.

- ❖ NHSE funded National GP Career Development & Leadership Programme known as the Phoenix GP Programme. Applications have just opened for our first programme which begins in October, based just off the M4 near Swindon, targeting GPs in Wiltshire, Gloucestershire & Oxfordshire. The Programme is fully funded and free to attend. It is aiming to re-engage, inspire and develop mid-career GPs and any GP able to attend the events is eligible to apply. It involves six evening sessions over six months incorporating inspirational speakers and skills development workshops. Further details are on the website at www.phoenixgp.co.uk or within the attached flyer. [Flyer](#)
- ❖ Gloucestershire Primary Care Training Opportunities. Please see link on our website for dates and courses or click link ([Courses](#))
- ❖ Quality Service Improvement and Redesign: Practitioner and Fundamentals Programmes, please see attached link. ([Link](#))
- ❖ Dermatology training day: Looking to the Future, 10 October 2019, 9.00am - 4.00pm, Sheridan Suite, Holiday Inn, Crest Way, Barnwood, Gloucester, GL4 3RX. Refreshments and lunch included. Trainer: Dr Chin Whybrew, GP

This training day offers an opportunity to learn how to identify skin lesions, use a dermatoscope to take high quality images with a smartphone and access rapid specialist advice from dermatology colleagues at GHNHSFT.

To book contact: Nicola Ryan, Assistant Commissioning Manager (Planned Care) at nicola.ryan7@nhs.net.

- ❖ Avoiding Cardiovascular Events in Primary Care - Current Dilemmas and Future Directions with Professor Michael Norton and Dr Jim Moore in Bristol. Please see link [\(Link\)](#).