

**NOVEMBER
2020**

LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

LMC
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

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PHLEBOTOMY

The LMC continues to receive concerns about the volume of secondary care blood requests shifted to primary care. The phlebotomy DES, drafted pre-covid, was intended for primary care bloods-not to open the floodgates to all or any secondary care bloods.

LMC believes that a separate, adequately commissioned service is required for secondary care bloods, and we continue to discuss with the CCG.

Further pressure has been added by the shortage of Roche reagents for blood tests, so that the laboratories can only process urgent bloods. Practices may be expected to repeat work-meaning that time and money are wasted. GPC has addressed NHSE with the reasonable expectation of financial redress, which we fully endorse.

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS AND COMMUNICATION PRINCIPLES FOR WORKING ACROSS PRIMARY AND SECONDARY CARE

Winter is coming, people are tired, and inevitably the cracks start to show. The LMC exists to look after our GPs, and sometimes we need to politely decline tasks if the uncontracted or unreasonable is asked of primary care. However, we do not condone rudeness, so before you send an angry letter or email in haste, please think twice. The Royal Colleges produced some guidance for professional behaviours and communication for working across Primary and Secondary Care interfaces. You can read it [here](#).

BACK DOOR NUMBER FOR GHFT

To avoid long waits at the hospital switchboard, please use the bespoke number for GPs. It is 0300 4225800. Please make sure GHFT has your surgery back door number. It works both ways!

FLU IMMUNISATION FAQs

NHSE/I have now produced a set of FAQs relating to the influenza immunisation programme and can be found [here](#). They have also issued guidance, which is attached, on how practices

and CCGs can make use of the additional £15.4m made available to local systems and primary care providers to cover reasonable additional costs (over and above the usual fee structures) associated with this year's extended flu programme.

ADVICE FIRST

Our CCG has written an 'Advice First' proposal which fundamentally changes the meaning of making a referral. LMC welcomes the view of all our constituents about the nature and pace of this change. Please send any comments to your area LMC Representative, or direct to penelopewest@gloslmc.com if you prefer. It will be discussed at the main LMC meeting on 12 November 2020.

CQRS SYSTEM SUPPLIER CHANGE (England)

NHSE/I is overseeing a programme to ensure the CQRS system supports efficient GP incentive-based payments. As part of this work NHSE/I is working with NHS CSUs to bring the running and development of the CQRS system in-house from 1 November 2020 and to introduce a new centrally funded system (CQRS Local) to support locally commissioned schemes by April 2021. These changes aim to streamline processes and reduce the administrative errors in GP payments as called for in GPCE's [Saving General Practice](#).

A structured transition from the existing supplier is in place to ensure the continued provision of the CQRS system from November with minimal interruption for end users. How users access and use the CQRS system is not changing and no action is required from practices or commissioners.

From 1 November the new number for the CQRS service desk will be **0330 124 4039**, although the email address remains support@cqrs.co.uk

While the system itself will look and feel the same a new [CQRS welcome page](#) is now live providing direct links to the CQRS system and online training modules, guidance and news updates.

MULTIPLE SUBJECT ACCESS REQUESTS UNDER GDPR

One of our practices has had three requests for a SAR for the same patient from different solicitors and a government department. GPC's Dr Paul Cundy advises that practices in the same position should answer as follows:

"Thank you for your request. We have already recently provided under GDPR Article 12 rules a copy of the records you have requested to the Data Subject via an intermediary. Under GDPR any intermediary, agent or third party is considered to be the Data Subject themselves. Therefore, your request, being a duplication of the SAR request already actioned, falls under Article 12(3) and becomes a chargeable action. Article 12(3) allows "the controller may charge a reasonable fee based on administrative costs". Our costs in this matter will be £ [insert your fee]. Alternatively, you may wish to secure copies of the requested data that has been already disclosed from the Data Subject themselves or their representatives."

PENSIONS NEWSLETTER

The BMA's pension committee has been at the forefront of fighting to maximise your pension benefits. Please see the first quarterly newsletter [here](#). The newsletter provides an update you on what actions the committee is taking on a range of issues, and also provides access to educational resources, blogs and information on how to access BMA support regarding your pension.

SPARK GP LEAD ROLE (early career GP lead)- initially one session per week for 12 months

1. The Gloucestershire Primary Care Training hub is looking for a GP to lead on our Spark program, which supports GPs in the early stages of their career
2. This is part of the New to Practice program (also known as the GP fellowship scheme) from NHSE, with the aim to smooth the transition from trainee to qualified GP
3. The training hub seeks someone with the drive and commitment to lead the program, and to take Spark forwards with innovative ideas
4. For more details please see the full job advert, person specification and how to apply at the following link <https://glosprimarycare.co.uk/news/gp-spark-lead-early-career-gp-lead>
5. Please contact Dr Laura Halden (Clinical Chair of the training hub, and current Spark GP Lead) with further questions or to have an informal discussion about the role, on email laurahalden@nhs.net

SESSIONAL GP ISSUES

Locum education event Wednesday 2nd December 2020, 9am – 1pm

This virtual event for locums in Gloucestershire has been specifically designed for this difficult and challenging time. The event will be chaired by Jethro Hubbard from the LMC, with support from Gloucestershire Primary Care Training Hub and a range of other trainers/contributors. This exciting event will include opportunities for networking, safeguarding training, Clinical Programme Group updates, discussion opportunities and signposting to well-being and support offers. To register for the event please email glccg.pwc@nhs.net with the subject heading "Locum Event Registration" providing your name and email address. Invites to this MS Teams meeting will be sent in due course.

NHS mail for sessional GPs has been rolled out, recognising the important contribution of locum GPs to the workforce. GP locums can apply [here](#).

Doctors who move from partnership/salaried roles to locum sometimes have difficulty transferring their NHS e mail address to locum status. If you are stuck with this, contact helpdesk@nhs.net and locumadmin@nhs.net who will help you sort it out.

The NHS pension scheme as a sessional GP Dr Krishan Aggarwal, a GPC England and Sessional GPs Committee member, and deputy chair of the BMA Pensions Committee, has written a webpage for sessional and locum GPs on the NHS pension scheme, which replaces his previous blogs on this issue. The webpage is going to be a live document and if there is anything you would like to be covered please email the BMA at Sessionalgps.gpc@bma.org.uk. The guidance sets out which pension tier to use, submitting the right forms, annualisation, the total rewards statement (TRS), the upcoming PCSE portal and how to escalate complaints to PCSE. The webpage is [here](#)

SAFE HOUSE

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! If you have misplaced or never received a password and would like one, please contact the office. The LMC pastoral care support continues. An advocate can be chosen via the Safe House or contact the office.

If any GP would like LMC support, but would prefer to ask someone other than their area Rep, please contact the office.

Also, please find below a link to the 'Supporting GPs Mental Health and Well-Being' page on the Training Hub Primary Care Workforce Centre website which has been set up to provide GPs with information and links to the resources currently available to provide support. Read it [here](#). Dr Ansell Consultant Psychiatrist recommends the [covid resilience hub](#).

OTHER COVID 19 RESOURCES

[BMJ – news and resources](#)

[RCGP COVID-19 information](#)

[NHSE/I daily primary care bulletins on COVID-19](#)

[COVID-19 Google Drive resource](#)

[NICE resources on COVID-19](#)

A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

Although I do not recall the event, they tell me that I was born on 2nd November 1960. This was also the date of a landmark literary legal judgement. Regina v Penguin books Ltd was a public prosecution under the Obscene Publications Act 1959. There was much discussion over what constitutes a pornographic book. 'A book you wouldn't let your wife or servants read' was one suggestion. The presiding judge in the case asked his wife to read the offending volume, and mark any objectionable passages. It appears she wasn't too troubled, and Penguin won the case.

My mother was busy discussing this with the medical student assigned to her at Guy's Hospital whilst I was delivered. Thus, the permissive society and I were ushered in on the same day. It went to forceps.

Name the book and author. I have a first edition in a brown paper bag no less! It originally sold at three shillings and sixpence. Answers please to penelopewest@gloslmc.com by 20th November 2020.

Congratulations to Diane Piatek of Hilary cottage Surgery, winner of the October competition. 5 correct entries were received. 'The Hunt for Red October' was by Tom Clancy, and the 1990 film starred Sean Connery. A £10 donation was made to the Prospect Hospice.

Our fun competition will continue. The prize will be a £10 donation to a charity chosen by the winner, who will retain the bragging rights.

The LMC will continue to run with a mixture of office and home working. Some of our meetings will be by skype, Zoom or telephone. My mobile number is 07415290140 if that is useful.

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

Acknowledgements to resources kindly shared by GPC, and partner LMCs, especially Wessex, Somerset, Cambridgeshire and BBO. When in doubt, seek legal or financial advice as necessary.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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

GLOUCESTERSHIRE			Date posted	Closing Date
Drybrook Surgery	Forest of Dean	Salaried GP	10 June 20	Open
Aspen Medical Practice	Gloucestershire	Salaried Doctor/GP Partner	29 June 20	Open
Locking Hill Surgery	Stroud	Salaried Doctor	07 Aug 20	Open
Royal Crescent Surgery	Cheltenham	Salaried GP/Partner	13 Aug 20	Open
St Catherine's Surgery	Cheltenham	Locum Salaried GP	28 Aug 20	Open
Sixways Clinic	Cheltenham	Salaried GP/Partner	04 Sept 20	Open
Stoke Road Surgery	Cheltenham	Salaried GP for 1 year	10 Sept 20	Open
Partners in Health	Gloucester	12 Salaried GP Partner with view to extend	30 Sept 20	Open
St Catherine's Surgery	Cheltenham	Salaried GP	16 Oct 20	Open
Rowcroft Medical Center	Stroud	Locum Salaried GP Maternity Cover	29 Oct 20	Open
ELSEWHERE				

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