

**OCTOBER
2019**

LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

LMC
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

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LMC ELECTIONS 2020

All LMC members are due to face election early next year for a period of 4 years. All of the Executive Officers similarly face re-election, but for a period of 2 years. Many will doubtless wish to continue on the committee and/or the Executive Committee for another term. It is only fair to publicise to all GPs in the county that they have the chance to join the LMC, if necessary, by competitive election. The election will be held on Thursday 6th February 2020. The procedure and timetable will be:

- By Friday 13th December 2019 we will send out the first communication requesting the return of signed nomination forms (countersigned by the nominee that they are willing to serve as a representative for that locality if elected) by no later than 12:00 noon on Friday 24th January 2020.
- Friday 24th January 2020: Consider the nominations. Send out voting papers if necessary, and request the return of votes by 12:00 noon on Thursday 6th February 2020, or inform candidates electronically that no election will be required since the number of candidates for that locality does not exceed the number of places available
- Noon Thursday 6th February: Receive all the voting papers back, count the votes and announce the election results.

OPIOD PRESCRIPTIONS

Public Health England has published a [review on prescribed medicines](#). The findings show that 5m people in Britain have been prescribed opioids every year, or one in eight of the adult population. Commenting, Andrew Green, BMA Council member and previous GPC prescribing lead, said: "To reduce prescription levels, we need significant investment in support services; this will enable patients and GPs to manage dependencies in the community. GPs will often be the sole clinicians who are often managing a patient's

withdrawal, and there is a real need for better clinical guidance in this respect. We are glad that NICE is in the process of developing these. While there remains a place for prescribing these drugs, we need many more alternatives to medication, such as pain clinics, improved access to mental health services, and physiotherapy – the universal provision of which are all lacking.” Read the full statement [here](#). A link to the review is [here](#), and a blog about it [here](#).

Our Chairman, Dr Tom Yerburgh, who is also deputy lead for GPC’s clinical and prescribing policy group, was interviewed on [BBC You and Yours radio](#) (about 23 mins in). It was also reported in the [Times](#), the [Telegraph](#), [iNews](#), [Mail](#), [Metro](#), [BMJ](#), [Pulse](#), [OnMedica](#) and [Nursing Times](#).

NO DEAL BREXIT WARNINGS

The BMA published a [briefing highlighting the dangers of a no deal Brexit](#) and a member-focused resource, [information for doctors if there is a no deal Brexit](#), which includes information on how to prepare for medicine shortages. The government has now published the [‘Operation yellowhammer’ document](#), which confirms our warnings on a ‘no deal’ Brexit. In response to this, Chaand Nagpaul, BMA Chair of Council, said “This alarming document reinforces the BMA’s stark warnings about the devastating impact a ‘no deal’ Brexit could have, and vindicates those doctors who have had the courage to speak out on the risks that crashing out of the EU without a deal poses to the NHS, patients and the wider health of the UK.” Read the full statement [here](#).

Dr Vautrey of the BMA was interviewed on a number of regional radio stations about the Yellowhammer report, including BBC Three Counties and Heart Yorkshire, where he said the BMA had ‘acute concerns’ over medicine supplies in the event of a no deal and called on the Government to offer reassurances that access to essential medicines will not be disrupted. Listen to the interview [here](#) (from the 25-minute mark). The BMA’s response was covered by [BBC News](#), the [Guardian](#), the Daily Mirror (print), the [Evening Standard](#), and in news bulletins across dozens of regional and national commercial radio stations.

MEDICINES SHORTAGES

The Daily Mail reported about drug shortages, suggesting that Brexit is not to blame. In response to this story, Farah Jameel, GPC England Executive team member commented “I’ve definitely noticed an increase in the number of drugs that we’re short of. Some, but not all, patients can be switched from one drug to another that works in an equivalent way. But this requires time and resources, placing extra demand on doctors and pharmacists.” Read the full article [here](#).

FLU VACCINATIONS IN GP PRACTICES-MDU POSITION ON INDEMNITY

Following concerns raised about indemnity cover provided for the provision of flu immunisations to practice staff we have been in discussion with NHS England, Public Health England and the MDOs. The Medical Defence Union have provided the following statement about indemnity for flu vaccination of staff in GP practices:

“Our current position on flu vaccinations is that we understand some practices may find it easier to provide flu vaccinations for staff themselves and want to help them to do that. We make no extra charge for indemnity for members whose practices provide flu vaccinations to staff as this is already within the benefits of membership for GP members. We encourage members who want to administer flu vaccinations to staff to contact us and advise the following: We advise members administering flu vaccinations to staff to follow their normal procedures for dealing with unregistered patients and to ensure they make a full assessment of each staff member’s suitability for the vaccine, for example, ruling out contraindications. Consent should be obtained in the usual way as for registered patients. Notes should be kept and, assuming the staff member agrees, their normal registered GP should be advised that they have had the vaccination.”

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE INVESTIGATION INTO NHSPS

Following publication of the [NAO report into NHSPS](#) in June, the PAC- a powerful committee of MPs scrutinising public spending- heard from senior officials at NHSPS, NHSE and the DHSC who answered questions on how the Service is managed and what action can be taken to improve how it manages its tenants. The BMA submitted [written evidence](#) to the committee highlighting the significant increases to service charges to GP practices without their agreement and the impact this is having on the profession. The BMA was concerned by comments made by NHSPS during the hearing in relation to the BMA's position on GP leases. NHSPS stated that a template lease was agreed with the BMA which the BMA shared, but subsequently 'retracted' support for. This is not the case. The BMA did and continues to support the principle of lease agreements between NHSPS and practices, and continue to host the [lease template letter on their website](#) . The BMA has written to the committee to highlight this inaccuracy. The session is available to [view online](#). Practices should be mindful that the BMA are proceeding with legal action to address historical charges. Practices should ensure that in reaching any agreement independently of this they do not put themselves at risk of any future liability or compromise their future position.

EMIS ISSUES

Following reports of problems with EMIS, the EMIS team has advised that there have been several issues during September within the BT network affecting access to various suppliers' clinical systems – including, but not limited to, EMIS. There have been no availability issues from the EMIS Web data centre during this period. NHS Digital has been working with BT to address and prevent these issues occurring in the future.

PRIMARY CARE NETWORKS

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

PCN premises requirements for additional workforce: A number of queries have highlighted the issue of practices requiring additional space for Primary Care Network activities. As a Direct Enhanced Service of the GMS contract, Primary Care Networks are an extension of GP practices. The same rules should apply for PCN staff and premises requirements as for GMS. Any space utilised to provide PCN services should be treated as GMS space and treated similarly for rent reimbursements. If you have any further queries on this issue please contact info.lmcqueries@bma.org.uk

Regional LMC Event: The South West Regional LMC meeting was on 25/07/19. Gloucestershire was represented by Drs Yerburch, 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.

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 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. 16 practices have taken this up so far. The offer is free, and not time framed!



MATERNITY WORKSHOP FOR GPs

The LMC is delighted to announce our first maternity workshop, aimed at supporting GPs who have recently had, or are about to have, maternity leave, in returning to the workforce. It will be at Gloucester Farmer's club on Wednesday 22 January 2020, 09:30-14:30. The five-hour event will include life coaching, practicalities, and a hot lunch. Thanks to support from the training hub, the event is **free** to delegates. Places are limited to 20. You are welcome to bring a baby/toddler under your own supervision. Enquiries/booking to penelopewest@gloslmc.com

DEATH CERTIFICATION, CREMATION FORMS AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH UNDERTAKERS

The LMC understands that issues have arisen, often due to pressure of work and time spent travelling to view bodies to complete paperwork. It is felt that we all have a responsibility to educate relatives and Nurses about the process. Suitable nurses can *confirm* death, but not *certify death* or do cremation forms. Relatives need to have this explained to avoid false expectations. We all agree that bodies should be viewed at a suitably dignified place (patient's residence, undertakers' premises, or, by mutual consent, the treatment room of a GP surgery.) Viewing in a car park is considered inappropriate.

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.

We believe that the solutions chosen should not impact adversely on practices, or involve unnecessary extra work for the ambulance service.

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

EATING DISORDER SERVICE

The LMC wishes to thank our colleagues at 2 2GETHER Trust on developing a sustainable service going forwards. GDoc will be providing 2 sessions/week, on a Monday and a Friday. Bloods will be taken at CGH in the name of the GDoc doctor. The referral form on G-Care is to be reviewed and made easier to find.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S AUTISM STRATEGY

"Think Autism", the National strategy places an expectation on local councils and health services to develop plans to ensure that people with ASCs who live in their area get the help that they need. **Gloucestershire's Autism Strategy** responds to that expectation. The LMC wish to thank the Mental Health Team for their work in developing Gloucestershire's autism strategy for 2018-21. You can read all about it [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 locum education event is planned on 10/10/2019.

A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS



Berkeley Castle infamously witnessed one of the most horrific deaths in history. Following months of imprisonment in the castle dungeons, a deposed King was ordered to death by Queen Isabella – with a red-hot poker said to be the murder weapon. It is said that his agonising screams can be heard throughout the castle on the anniversary of his death, with the room in which this gruesome royal murder was carried out still visited by the public today. Name the king. Reply to penelopewest@gloslmc.com. Closing date 14/10/2019.



Congratulations to Dr Julian Tallon, winner of the September competition. The answer was Laurie Lee. Nine 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
Corinthian Surgery	Cheltenham	Partner or Salaried GP	15 May 19	Open
Partners in Health, Pavilion Family Doctors	Gloucester	GPs	12 June 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
Chipping Campden Surgery	Chipping Campden	GP	26 July 19	Open
Frithwood Surgery	Gloucester	GP	07 Aug 19	Open
Dockham Road Surgery	Gloucester	Partner or Salaried GP	14 Aug 19	Open
Acorn Practice	Dursley	GP	23 Aug 19	Open
Cleevelands Medical Practice	Bishop's Cleeve	Salaried GP with a view to Partnership	11 Sept 19	Open
Crescent Street Bakery	Cheltenham	Salaried GP	18 Sept 19	Open
Upper Thames Medical Group	Cirencester	GP	25 Sept 19	Open
Kingsway Health Centre	Gloucester	GPs	25 Sept 19	Open
Marybrook Medical Centre	Berkeley	Salaried GP	25 Sept 19	Open
Newnham and Westbury Surgery	Newnham	Salaried GP	25 Sept 19	Open
The White House	Moreton-In Marsh	Salaried GP	25 Sept 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
St Mary Street Surgery	Thornbury, Bristol	GP Partner	11 Sept 19	Open
Severn View Family Practice	Thornbury, Bristol	GP/Partner	11 Sept 19	Open
Air Balloon Surgery	Bristol	Partner or Associate GP	18 Sept 19	17 Oct 19
Southmead and Henbury Family Practice	Bristol	GP	25 Sept 19	Open

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/>

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 their 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 [\(Link\)](#).

❖ **Mental Health First Aid and ASIST – free courses**

Eastgate House, Eastgate Street, Gloucester

MHFA Lite

18 October 18 2019, 9-1pm

11 December 2019, 9-1pm

13 February 2020, 1-5pm

MHFA - 2 Day course

6 & 7 November 2019

5 & 6 December 2019

21 & 22 January 2020

11 & 12 March 2020

ASIST - 2 Day course

4 & 5 Feb 2020

To book, contact: emma.holloway@hlsqglos.org