



## Beds & Herts LMC Ltd Weekly Update for Practices: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2020

### 1) COVID-19 – reporting cases to the Health Protection Team

COVID-19 is a notifiable disease and therefore suspected cases should be reported on the usual form to the local Health Protection Team (HPT). As stated in [the guidance](#), there is no requirement to wait for a confirmed test result. Confirmed cases will be notified by the laboratories, but if a clinician is made aware of confirmed cases in high-risk or complex settings (such as those described in the [guidance on investigation and management of possible cases](#)), then HPT has said that they would appreciate it if GPs would report those as well so that HPT can follow up. There is no requirement to report cases retrospectively if you are aware that you haven't notified them of a suspected case (though HPT has said it would be helpful if you do).

### 2) Antibody testing

We have had several queries about antibody testing for general practice staff. We understand that testing will be available in Bedfordshire and Luton next week. We are not sure of the arrangements in Hertfordshire, but we think this is not available yet for GP staff due to lab capacity. Antibody testing will confirm if someone has had COVID-19 but it will not confirm whether or not someone is immune and therefore staff with a positive antibody test will still have to follow social distancing rules and self-isolate if they are a close contact of someone who tests positive for coronavirus. We are concerned that in some parts of the country NHSE and CCGs seem to be expecting practices to test their own staff, registering them as temporary residents in order to be able to do so. This is a clear breach of the GMS regulations as your staff will not meet the criteria for a temporary resident, and concerns have been raised about NHSE sanctioning a breach of contract regulations when it suits them. Antibody testing for patients is not available yet, and we would remind you that this is not a GMS service and practices have no obligation to carry out blood tests for patients who request it. If Public Health wishes practices to do this work in the future for research purposes it should be appropriately commissioned.

### 3) LMC Law updates

LMC Law regularly updates its documents relating to GDPR and PCNs, and has other useful information including a template for updating the partnership agreement when a partner joins or leaves. Practices in Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire can register to access these updates at no cost as this comes under the retainer arrangements we have with LMC Law. To register for access to the updates, please go to the [LMC Law website](#) and click on "Account".

### 4) Be a Nurse Mentor in BLMK

We are currently recruiting for Nurse Mentors. We are looking for experienced nurses working in Bedfordshire, Luton or Milton Keynes (BLMK) to support newly qualified nurses with six hours of mentoring across a year. Please note, this is an additional role therefore mentoring sessions should be arranged outside the requirements of your main role in practice. The programme is managed and delivered by Beds & Herts LMC, in partnership with BLMK ICS Training Hub. [View here for more information](#).

## 5) Primary Care Direct: Virtual Practice Manager's Huddle, Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June, 3.30 - 5.00pm

What does the new normal look like for PMs? There are big questions to ask. This is a national webinar led by practice managers and an opportunity to hear from other PMs across the country about what it's like working in general practice at the moment. [More information and how to book.](#)

## 6) RCGP Free Webinars

(RCGP members only. Please select link for more information and terms of registration)

- [COVID-19: Reflections from Intensive Care](#), 16<sup>th</sup> June 2020
- [Thinking about Testing](#), 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020
- ["The NHS - Then and Now"](#), 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2020
- [Mindfulness: Put your oxygen mask on first](#), 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020
- [RCGPTogether LIVE: Future of General Practice](#), 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020
- [Wellbeing: Thriving in uncertain times](#), 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

## 7) BLMK Education Webinars

- **BLMK 'Attracting and Growing Talent' Webinar**  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June, 12.30-3pm. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/attracting-and-growing-talent-tickets-107680198372>

## 8) H&WE Education Webinars

- **Bringbaby GP Update: 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020, 10.00am – 1.30pm**  
Relaxed education event, open to all GPs with or without babies. Ideal for GPs on maternity leave, career break, induction & refresher scheme or new to area. [For more info and how to book click here.](#)
- **Bringbaby Practice Nurse, ANPs and AHP Update: 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020, 10.00am – 1.00pm**  
Relaxed education event, includes certified Basic Life Support. Ideal for those currently on parental leave, career break or recently returned to work. [For more info and how to book click here.](#)

## 9) LMC Pensions Update Webinar

Date: Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

Time: 18:30 - 19:30

Charge: £10

Format: Webinar covering the following:

- 1995/2008/2015 Schemes and peripheral benefits
- Annual Allowance / Tapered Annual Allowance – impact of the recent changes, options available, deadlines for Scheme Pays
- Lifetime Allowance – implications of exceeding, protection, options available
- 24 Hour Retirement – the requirements outlining the recent suspension of 16hour limits, why, when and how
- The impact of reduced income for some, the mortgage payment holiday and the deferral of income tax.

[Register here](#)

**Please note:**

*Places are limited. Registering does not guarantee your place.*

If you have missed any of our regular bulletins for practices, please visit the [Weekly Updates](#) section of our website.

If you are a Locum and would like to receive mailings and updates from Beds & Herts LMC Ltd please click here to complete the [online form](#) with your details and we can add you to our database.

Wellbeing for GPs: [Visit our webpage.](#)

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