



Beds & Herts LMC Ltd

Weekly Update for Practices: Friday 7th August 2020

1) Can practices refuse entry for patients who refuse to wear face coverings?

NHSEI has issued guidance that practices cannot refuse entry to patients who refuse to wear face coverings. The LMC (and GPC) strongly disagree with this position and we believe that it is not consistent with the Government's advice about secondary care premises or about other enclosed spaces, e.g. shops and public transport. Face coverings are intended to protect clinicians and staff from potential COVID-19 infection. There is no evidence that wearing a face covering can cause physical harm to patients, even those with respiratory or cardiovascular disease.

Practices should educate patients regarding the importance of wearing a face covering and should protect their staff from patients who do not wear them. Staff, including clinicians, are at risk of infection if they are within two metres of a person not wearing a face covering. Thus, clinicians are at risk if they examine or treat patients who are not wearing a face covering.

It is for practices to decide how to deliver services to their patients. It is also a practice's responsibility for them to protect their staff and patients, many of whom may be vulnerable to the most severe effects of COVID-19, from unnecessary risk. Therefore, if a patient refuses to wear a face covering inside a practice, without good reason, the practice can choose to provide services to that patient by means other than face-to-face consultation within the practice.

Practices should inform patients, in advance of their attendance, that a face covering will be required to protect other patients, clinicians and other staff who they will inevitably come into proximity with inside the building. If a patient has a legitimate reason for not wearing a face covering the practice will need to consider this on an individual basis.

The LMC believes that a practice can have a policy of not allowing patients into the practice without a face covering and can still deliver services to its patients in line with its NHS contract while having such a policy.

(with acknowledgement to Lincs LMC)

2) ****NEW DATES FOR NEW PROGRAMMES IN BLMK & H&WE****

Beds & Herts LMC Business Fundamentals Programme: Sustainability in General Practice

The Business Fundamentals Programme for GPs has been remodelled into interactive webinar format. This modular programme is aimed at GPs who want to understand general practice at operational and strategic level. The course provides practical tools to help tackle the ever-increasing challenges and build a strong, sustainable future in primary care.

For full information and how to apply please visit our website [here](#).

3) FREE LMC Education Webinars: Save the Date!

Please find below dates for the webinars below – themes to be confirmed. These are free for Hertfordshire GPs, Nurses and other healthcare professionals in primary care. More information and how to register coming soon. Organiser contact: Helen Bean, Education and Workforce Manager, Beds & Herts LMC, helenbean@bhlmc.co.uk, 01438 880010.

SAVE THE DATE – Themes TBC	
1. Mental Health Updates Hosted by Beds & Herts LMC in partnership with HPFT. Three themes covered, you will be able to register for one, two or all three.	Friday 25th September, 1.00 – 5.00pm
2. Level 3 Children and Adult Safeguarding In Partnership with East & North Herts CCG & Herts Valleys CCG. Two themes covered per session (one adult and one child topic at each), delivered twice so you will be able to register for one and/or two dates out of the four listed.	Thursday 15th October, 2.00 – 4.30pm Wednesday 11th November, 2.00 – 4.30pm Thursday 26th November, 2.00 – 4.30pm Tuesday 15th December, 2.00 – 4.30pm
3. Domestic Abuse (Adult Safeguarding) In Partnership with East & North Herts CCG & Herts Valleys CCG. Delivered twice, so you only need to register for one.	Thursday 22nd October, 2.00 – 4.30pm Wednesday 18th November, 2.00 – 4.30pm

BHLMC Job Board Advertise your practice vacancies with us on our Job Board on the website [here](#). If you are interested in posting an advert please contact lmcadmin@bhlmc.co.uk for more information.

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](#).

Contact Us:
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