

Beds & Herts LMC Ltd: Weekly Update for Practices, Friday 11th December 2020



1. COVID-19 vaccination: Collaboration Agreement templates

All practices that have signed up to the COVID-19 vaccination enhanced service must sign a Collaboration Agreement with the other practices in their PCN grouping before any vaccines are administered. The purpose of the Collaboration Agreement is to set out the individual and collective responsibilities of the practices that are working together and the arrangements for finance, governance, staffing and data sharing.

To save each PCN grouping from having to start from scratch with their Collaboration Agreement, a number of templates are available for PCN groupings to use:

- The [national Collaboration Agreement](#) template produced by NHS England
- [LMC Law Collaboration Agreement](#) templates and guidance which they have developed after requests from several LMCs around the country
- [DR Solicitors Collaboration Agreement](#) which is closely aligned to the NHS England template but with recommended amendments and guidance
- In Herts and West Essex, the CCGs asked Capsticks to produce Collaboration Agreements which have been sent directly to the Clinical Directors in HWE

It is important to note that no template will be perfect, and PCN groupings will have to populate the appendices to meet their particular circumstances and arrangements for delivery. With agreement between all parties, they can be amended and added to later if necessary. See this [article from DR Solicitors](#).

2. COVID-19 vaccination: Pressure to sign agreements

We have been made aware that some practices feel they are being put under undue pressure to sign a Collaboration Agreement in order to fit in with the proposed timelines of waves 1, 2 and 3.

We think it is important that practices remember that the Collaboration Agreement is a legal document and should not be signed until all parties are comfortable doing so. The enhanced service specification states that PCN Groupings cannot begin to vaccinate until all parties have signed a Collaboration Agreement, and we believe clinicians should not accept delivery of any vaccines until an agreement is in place.

If you are concerned that you will not be able to agree a Collaboration Agreement in time for your designated wave, we suggest you make your local CCG aware of this as a matter of urgency.

3. COVID-19 vaccination: Staff indemnity

NHS Resolution has produced these useful [FAQs around staff indemnity for covid vaccination](#). This confirms that the Clinical Negligence Scheme for GPs will cover you

- regardless of where the vaccine is being delivered
- for vaccinating patients who aren't registered with you
- for vaccinating your staff

4. COVID-19 vaccination: Documents and letters from NHS England

There have been several new documents and letters from NHS England about the COVID-19 vaccination programme over the last week or so. All these documents can be found on NHS England's [primary care guidance page](#). As well as the enhanced service specification and template Collaboration Agreement, this page also includes:

- the Standard Operating Procedure for COVID-19 vaccination in community settings (including PCN designated sites)
- Letter from Keith Ridge, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer, about governance and vaccine handling
- 2 letters from Nikki Kanani and Ed Waller about wave 1 sites

5. A Guide to Services at the Herts SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre), January 26th 2021, 12.30 - 1.30pm

Information for Professionals – Please join this MS Teams webinar where Mandi Ince, Forensic Nurse Examiner will provide Primary Care professionals with an overview of the Hertfordshire Sexual Assault Referral Centre and referral process along Case Studies and Q and A opportunities. To join simply click on the link below on the day: [Join Teams Meeting](#)

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.

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