



Beds & Herts LMC Ltd: Weekly Update for Practices, Friday 29th January 2021

1. New to Partnership Scheme

We have received several queries from GPs and practices about the New to Partnership Scheme that was launched last year, because of the very long delays in their applications being processed. We have received the following update from GPC. We hope this means that these applications will now be finalised, and the payments made.

The New to Partnership Scheme was launched in England in July 2020 (backdated to April 2020). So far about 400 applications have been approved.

NHSE/I has now finalised the S96 contract for GMS practices, which forms the agreement between the practice, the new partner and NHSE/I. This contract has been agreed with the BMA.

Contracts are now being sent out to applicants from GMS practices to sign and seek their partner's signatures, within four weeks. The funding will then be released to the practice to pass onto the new partner.

Thank you for bearing with us while we get this right – we hope this development will now speed up the process and encourage even more new partners to apply for the scheme.

*Read our guide to applying for the **GP partnership scheme**, which will help you navigate what can be a complicated application process.*

2. Payments during suspension - SoS Determination

GPC is aware of a case where a GP has been asked to refund to the NHS a significant sum of money, that had allegedly been wrongly paid during a period of suspension. The payment was made under the [Secretary of State's Determination: Payments to Medical Practitioners suspended from the Performers List](#) and there is nothing to suggest the interpretation of the Determination by NHSE/I was anything other than correct. However, the original payment was mistakenly made on the GP's profits and not their drawings. The Determination sets out that entitlement is based on an individual's normal monthly payments where they practise as an individual and in the case of partnerships, 90% of the normal monthly drawings from the partnership account. NHSE/I were correct in the re-interpretation of the Determination, payment is based on drawings not profit, often a much lower sum, but not the one on which tax is payable.

It has been suggested this amounts to discrimination against contractors when compared to other GPs and hospital doctors. The purpose of this update is to ensure GP partners are aware of the consequences of this interpretation and the impact it might have on them if they receive payments when suspended.

3. Ballot of the profession about the PCN DES – update from GPC

As you know, in November the LMC England conference passed the following resolution for GPCE to ballot the profession regarding the mandate to continue to negotiate the PCN DES: Conference notes that the BMA GPC (GP committee) England has never secured a robust democratic mandate for the PCN DES and so again asks the GPC England to secure a firm mandate from the entire profession by means of ballot before negotiating any extension or changes to the PCN DES for the year 2021 / 2022

The ballot was held in early January with the following question: Prior to any further negotiations, extension or changes for 2021/22, do you give GPC England a mandate for the PCN directed enhanced service?

Voting has closed and the results have been validated and verified.

Total votes: 4,534

Outcome: Yes: 80% (3,619)

No: 20% (915)

This outcome provides a clear mandate from the profession for the PCN DES, and GPC England will therefore continue to negotiate on this, seeking improvements and further developing it, as part of the whole GP contract, for the benefit of practices and our patients.

4. Wellbeing Matters Portal

We at Beds & Herts LMC are delighted to announce through its approved broker MIAB access to their 'WellbeingMatters' portal, free of charge to all practice members. This offer also extends to include all staff within the practice as well as family members.

The portal provides content designed to support **Physical, Social & Mental Wellbeing**. When you first log in to the site you are encouraged to complete both the metrics and the insight questions as this will drive your own personal plan.

- **Physical Wellbeing** – The Fitness and Nutritional plans create the right balance in exercise and eating to help you achieve your goals
- **Mental Wellbeing** – These pages focus on assisting you with things like dealing with Stress, Anxiety and maybe working in Isolation.
- **Social Wellbeing** – This provides helpful tips around your sleeping patterns, self-compassion, increased happiness or improving your performance.

Every piece of activity you undertake to support your General Wellbeing generates wellness points giving you access to more discounted Wellbeing Products & Services.

You will also have access to their "Benefit Hub" which is designed to save you money on everyday expenditure including shopping, clothing, electronics, gifts and much more.

Finally, the portal provides access under the 'my future wellbeing' to further insurance products and services that may assist you or your staff further with their health and wellbeing.

To register on the platform, please click on the link below.

<https://lloydwhyte.spectrum.life/login?org=KAQ3KkbH>

5. Cambridgeshire Virtual Primary Care Allergy Update, Friday 19th March, 08:50 – 15:00

This online update is open to all HCPs and is free to attend, registration required. Certificates provided. Attendees are encouraged to bring cases for discussion.

[GP Allergy Day Agenda](#)

Please use Google Chrome to register: Registration Link:
<https://my.demio.com/ref/MmkonzkgvK89IwZe>

Course Organisers: Paediatric and Adult Allergy Dept, Addenbrookes Hospital. Registration Queries: Shelina.kherry@thermofisher.com

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 register via the [online form](#) and we can add you to our database.

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

Contact Us:
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