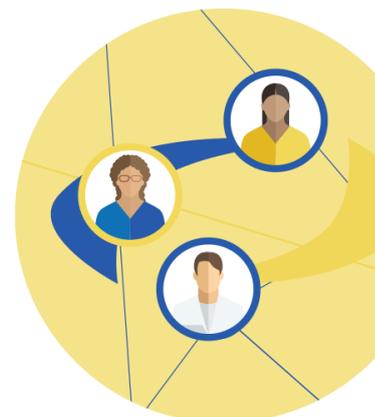


Beds & Herts LMC Ltd: Weekly Update for Practices, Monday 15th February 2021



We are recruiting! LMC Medical Director: Two part time posts available

We have an exciting opportunity for two qualified GPs to join our expanding team. We are a proactive, innovative and highly effective organisation, supporting general practice across Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire since 1911. As a Senior Director, you will be required to:

- Support the work of the Chief Executives in the delivery of the objectives of the LMC and LMC Ltd., from a clinical perspective.
- Ensure the delivery of the statutory obligations of the LMC as well as other external functions of the LMC Ltd, including pastoral care and partnership dispute resolution functions.
- Provide clinical strategic guidance to the committee Chairs, the board and directors on the statutory roles of the LMC and constitutional matters.
- Ensure the views and policies of the LMC Ltd and the committees are clinically represented appropriately.

Closing date: Friday 5th March, 5pm

Interview date: Wednesday 24th March

For more information and how to apply, please visit: [Medical Director Application Pack](#).

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Covid vaccination – next stage of programme

NHSE wrote to practices on Saturday outlining [the next stage of the vaccination programme](#). It also contains information about an additional payment of £10 on top of the IoS fee for vaccinations given to all those in residential settings, such as care homes for people with learning disabilities or mental health problems, or hostel/hotel accommodation for the homeless, where it would not be possible for these patients to attend vaccination sites.

Whilst they are encouraging PCN-led sites to focus on cohort 6, and cohort 5 (those aged 65-69) will shortly start receiving an invitation from the national booking service (NBS) to

attend a vaccination centre or community pharmacy setting, PCN sites may still vaccinate patients in this cohort and be paid for doing so should a patient request an appointment.

Covid vaccination – how vaccines are allocated

This paper outlines details of the [vaccine allocations](#) for information.

NHS Flu programme 2021/22 – vaccine reimbursement

NHSE has written to all practices regarding [flu vaccine reimbursement for the 21/22 programme](#). A summary of the letter is below.

The following JCVI-recommended vaccines will be reimbursed as part of the NHS Annual Influenza Vaccination Programme for adults in 2021/22:

- *Those aged 65 years and over* - aQIV (QIVc, where aQIV is not available)
- *At-risk adults, including pregnant women, aged 18 to less than 65 years* - QIVc (QIVe, where QIVc is not available)

JCVI considered the use of QIV-HD in those aged 65. However, because of a significantly higher list price QIV-HD is **NOT** eligible for reimbursement under the NHS Annual Influenza Vaccination programme for 2021/22.

JCVI also considered the use of QIVr in both those aged over 65 and those aged 18 to 64. However, it is **NOT** eligible for reimbursement under the NHS Annual Influenza Vaccination programme for 2021/22 **at this stage**. The notification said that further guidance may be issued on this vaccine. It is not clear if QIVr might be added to the list of reimbursable vaccines at a later stage. However, it is currently not reimbursable and if a practice orders QIVr at this stage, it is doing so at risk.

Influenza vaccines for eligible children are centrally procured by Public Health England and are supplied free of charge via ImmForm. These vaccines will NOT be reimbursed as part of the NHS Annual Influenza Vaccination Programme.

Prices and supplies of the vaccines can be found here: <https://bnf.nice.org.uk/medicinal-forms/influenza-vaccine.html>

GMS Contract Changes for 2021/22 - summary

On 21st January NHSE announced that they had agreed the contract changes for 2021/22 with the BMA in a letter entitled *Supporting General Practice in 2012/22*. The changes have been kept to a minimum but there are some changes that practices need to be aware of and we have [summarised them here](#) in what we hope is a more logical and clear way than as set out in the NHSE letter.

GPC will be holding two contract virtual roadshows/webinars on the following dates:

24th February – 19.30-20.30

25th February – 12.30-13.30

Register [here](#)

A recording of the webinar will be available on the BMA website after the event.

QOF for the remainder of 2020/21

Following some queries from practices, we thought it would be useful to clarify the situation with QOF. The majority of QOF has now been suspended for the rest of the year with income guaranteed (based on last year's achievement).

The only parts that are not protected (i.e. where payment will be based on your achievement in 20/21) are:

- Disease registers (81 points)
- Immunisation & screening indicators (58 points – this was doubled from the original 20/21 agreement)

The parts that are now protected (i.e. you will be paid regardless of your achievement) are:

- The QI domain (74 points)
- 8 prescribing indicators (44 points)
- All the remaining disease/condition related points (310 points)

These changes were set out in two stages:

- The first changes were announced in September and are detailed in [this guidance document](#) - this first lot of changes reprioritised the QI indicators, doubled the points for immunisation & screening, and protected payment for the 310 points. The disease registers and prescribing indicators remained as usual. Practices were required to agree a QOF prioritisation plan with the CCG as part of this agreement.
- Then on 7th January [this letter](#) announced further changes – these further changes means that QI and the prescribing indicators are also protected along with the 310.

We have raised this with CQC so they are aware and should not use 20/21 data in future assessments. We will continually remind them of this as we know how short memories are in the NHS.

Covid Vaccination – updates from GPC Friday 12th February

We received these updates on Friday afternoon – you may already have received this information via other routes but we are including it here in case you have missed it.

- Vaccination of frontline health and social care workers:
Protecting frontline health and social care workers from COVID-19 remains a priority, something that the BMA has been lobbying on, and NHSE/I has [written to commissioners](#) this week asking for reassurance that the offer of a vaccination frontline health and social care workers, as priority cohorts, has been fulfilled. Practices are encouraged to liaise with local system partners to ensure that any staff who have not yet been offered a vaccine are offered one, including any locum GPs they are in regular contact with, as soon as practically possible.

[Social care workers](#) are now able to, for a limited period until 28 February, to self-book a vaccination at a vaccination centre or community pharmacy led local vaccination service [online](#)

- Transport of Astra Zeneca vaccine to GP practices within the PCN Grouping
The NHSE/I has confirmed that the [SPS SOP](#) (Standard Operating Procedure) has been updated to make clear that the Astra Zeneca COVID-19 vaccine does not need to be used immediately after being transported within the PCN grouping. The SOP states:

1.1.2. The vaccine should be used as soon as it is received or immediately put in a refrigerator to be administered as soon as possible thereafter. *This has been defined as meaning within 24 hours or over the following days.*

- Freeing up practices to support COVID-19 vaccination
NHSE/I has written to practices and commissioners providing further measures [on freeing up practices to support COVID-19 vaccinations](#), following their [letter of 7 January 2021](#). The letter sets out the arrangements for additional funding for PCN clinical directors, and income protection arrangements for the Minor Surgery DES and QOF (Quality and Outcomes Framework).
- Vaccine hesitancy
Surveys have shown stark differences by ethnic group in attitudes to COVID vaccines, and a quarter of younger women fear it would affect fertility. The BMA has published [guidance and resources](#) on how to communicate with different groups about the vaccine.

The British Fertility Society and Association of Reproductive and Clinical Scientists has also published some [COVID-19 Vaccines FAQs](#) to help address some of the vaccine hesitancy relating to fertility.

Government White Paper on NHS reform and Integrated Care Systems

The Government has now published ['Integration and Innovation: working together to improve health and social care for all'](#) – its white paper on new plans to reform the NHS, including proposals to make ICSs statutory and make major changes to way services are procured.

Chaand Nagpaul, Chair of BMA council, has released a [strong statement on the white paper](#), stressing the need for clinicians to be at the heart of any changes. The BMA will be producing a summary of the white paper for members shortly. In January, the [BMA submitted a comprehensive response](#) to NHS England's legislative proposals, on which the Government's plans have been based, highlighting the importance of ensuring proper clinical, GP, and LMC representation.

Herts & West Essex ICS: Introduction to Coaching Workshop for Senior GPs Saturday 13th March 2021, 10.30am – 11.30am

Herts & West Essex Training Hub has commissioned FREE coaching sessions for senior GPs, provided by the AKESO coaching network. This workshop will introduce you to the principles and benefits available through coaching. [View more information here.](#)



RCGP Learning

The RCGP organise regular primary healthcare education webinars and events. Visit their webpage for more information, how to book, and terms of registration (some events are just for members, may incur charges and book up quickly!)

Visit: [RCGP Learning](#)

**Contraception Learning Resources,
Sexual Health, Public Health, Hertfordshire County Council**

Contraception learning resources from Public Health to help increase professionals knowledge on contraception. [View here.](#)

Cameron Fund – vacancy on the Council of Management

The Cameron Fund’s AGM is being held on 6th May 2021 by videoconference and there will be a vacancy for a member of the Council of Management who jointly represents Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex.

If you are interested in standing, please see the [link](#) which gives more details on the process.

For more information of the Cameron Fund visit their [website](#).

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 lmadmin@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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Email: lmadmin@bhlmc.co.uk
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