

CLMC Bulletin 370 – 04.12.18

Contract Guidance for GPs Working in Non-Standard Roles

Increasingly GPs step beyond the conventional boundaries of general practice to forge diverse careers that suit their interests, expertise and skills. It is important for GPs engaging in these roles, in which they might not be protected by nationally agreed TCS, to be aware of their rights and check that the employment offer and their working arrangements are fit for purpose. With this guidance the BMA attempts to help ensure that all GPs receive appropriate employment terms and conditions regardless of their employer. Read the guidance [here](#).

Bricanyl Turbohaler Supply

The department of Health and Social Care has forwarded the following update on Bricanyl Turbohaler (terbutaline 500microgram turbohaler)

- Astra Zeneca have informed DHSC about a supply issue affecting Bricanyl Turbohaler
- There will be interim deliveries expected in late November and in December but normal supply will not resume until end of January 2019
- Astra Zeneca have provided a Dear HCP letter which is attached (see attachment)
- UKMi have produced a memo which details clinical management strategies, this can be viewed on the following link: <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/shortage-of-bricanyl-turbohaler-terbutaline/>
- Salbutamol products are available from a range of suppliers if patients are required to be switched during this period of short supply. Patients will require retraining if they are required to be switched to a different device



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Data Quality Check

Practices should ensure that their lists only include registered patients for whom the practice continues to be responsible for providing primary medical services. As they are required to do, PCSE have now commenced a list verification programme. Initially they will contact practices to verify the registration details of patients aged over 100. Before checks on each patient group start, further details will be sent on how to proceed. The letter below has been sent to practices.



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Flu Vaccine Supply

NHS England has now sent out a [letter to practices outlining the preliminary information on the recommended vaccines for the 2019/20 seasonal flu vaccination programme](#). Both of the vaccines that were recommended for the 2018/19 season will continue to be recommended for next year:

- the quadrivalent inactivated vaccine (QIV) is recommended for 18 to 64 year olds in clinical at-risk groups and other eligible groups, including frontline health and social care workers.
- the adjuvanted trivalent inactivated vaccine (aTIV) is recommended for individuals aged 65 years and over.

Practices can therefore start ordering the licensed vaccines now to avoid this year's problems with phased deliveries.

Pensions Update

GPC have published an update on the key areas currently affecting GPs with regards to their pension, including the annual allowance, scheme valuations, death in service benefits for locum GPs, annualising of GP contributions and related PCSE issues. Read the update [here](#).

Indemnity Scheme FAQs

The Department of Health and Social Care has published [FAQs on State Backed Indemnity for General Practice](#). Understandable concerns have been expressed about the answer in the FAQ relating to funding arrangements. This was reflected in comments at the English LMC conference today and led to an emergency motion which was passed unanimously. This stated:

That conference is outraged and deeply concerned at the statement of 22 November 2018 from the Department of Health and Social Care that the newly state backed indemnity scheme may be funded from “existing resources allocated for general practice” and instructs GPC England to work with the government in ensuring that:

1. *the scheme is supported by new funding*
2. *no GP is financially disadvantaged by a change to a state backed scheme*
3. *all GPs and practices are protected from any future increases in the cost of the state backed scheme.*

Falsified Medicines Directive Guidance

The Falsified Medicines Directive will become effective on 9 February 2019. The Directive introduces tougher rules to ensure medicines are safe and that the trade in medicines is rigorously controlled. This will have an impact on all practices and therefore, they should be preparing for implementation in order to demonstrate compliance with the Directive. Please go to the GPC [website](#) for guidance and read Krishna Kasaraneni's, GPC England Executive Team, blog on Brexit and the Falsified Medicines Directive [here](#).

Hep C Guidance for GPs and Patients

NHS England has published resources about Hepatitis C, including guidance for GPs and patients, available [here](#).

DWP Guidance on Completing Medical Reports

The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) has [published guidance for doctors who are involved with the benefit system](#). There is also more specific [guidance](#) which has been designed to offer support to GPs when asked to provide information on behalf of their patients and help clarify the various different benefits and processes involved. GPC continue to liaise with the DWP and meet regularly to seek improvements where possible.

Reducing Alcohol Related Harm

In light of the forthcoming alcohol strategy in England, the BMA has published a short document setting out the full range of policy measures they believe are needed. Read [the paper here](#).

Evidence Based Intervention: Guidance for CCGs

NHS England has issued new guidance on 17 interventions which evidence suggests are of little or no value to patients. Four of the interventions, such as surgery to prevent snoring, will now only be offered in exceptional circumstances, while a longer list of thirteen interventions such as, breast reduction surgery or the removal of benign skin lesions will be offered when specific clinical criteria are met. The guidance and supporting information can be found [here](#).

Prescribing Gluten-Free Foods in Primary Care: Guidance for CCGs

NHS England has developed guidance for CCGs, to communicate changes in regulations, and to support local development of gluten-free food prescribing policies. The new guidance follows consultation by the Department of Health and Social Care and a change in the law which comes into force on 4 December 2018. This will mean that only bread and gluten free 'mixes' will remain available via NHS prescription. Commissioning guidance and associated resources can be found [here](#).

Update from BMA/BMJ Brexit Conference

The BMA and BMJ joint conference – *Navigating Brexit: what next for the NHS?* looked at the impact of Brexit on health services across the UK – from workforce and regulation to reciprocal healthcare and medical research. The conference webcast is available [here](#) To coincide with the event the BMA also launched the results of the [latest survey of EU doctors](#).

England LMC Conference

Below is the Conference of England LMCs newsletter



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Read the latest GPC UK newsletter [here](#)