

CLMC Bulletin 414 – 11.02.20

GPC England Contract Negotiations

Subsequent to the further contract negotiations, GPC England has voted on and agreed to accept the changes to the GP contract for 2020-21, including funding to attract more doctors to take up partnership roles and expand the practice team seeing patients in surgeries. The main changes are:

- The new value of Global Sum from 1st April will be £93.46.
- The new value of a QOF point will be £194.83.
- Within the PCN DES:
 - PCN service specifications significantly reduced and improved.
 - Investment and Impact Fund introduced worth £40.5m in 2020/21.
 - More roles added to the Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme.
 - Between 2020/21 and 2023/24, the scheme will expand to 26,000 additional roles.
 - All roles to be reimbursed at 100%, freeing up the existing £1.50/head to contribute to management support for PCNs.
 - Funding entitlements increase from £257m to £430m next year and, in 2023/24, from £891m to £1,412m.
- Extra investment will fund new GP training, recruitment and retention measures with £20,000 plus training support for every new partner.
- Payment arrangements for vaccinations and immunisations to be reformed with an item of service fee for childhood vaccinations, beginning with MMR in 2020/21.
- QOF to be updated.
- Taken together, more funding available at practice level.

CCGs will be expected to provide LMCs with an annual report to enable them to monitor local investment in general practice. There is also reference to the important role of LMCs throughout the agreement document.

Read more about the contract agreement on the [BMA website](#). There will be a GPCE roadshow to outline the agreement held within the North East (highly likely Newcastle) the week commencing 24 February. We will advise as soon as the date and location are agreed. We strongly recommend practices attend this meeting.

Following the announcement, Richard Vautrey said "After months of challenging and tough negotiations we're pleased to have secured this package of changes that have the potential to make a real difference to GPs, the practices they work in and the patients they treat. The significant investment in and focus on recruitment and retention, including payments to incentivise doctors to take up partnership roles and work in under-doctored areas, is a vote of confidence in the partnership model and a much-needed first step if we are to reverse the worrying trend of falling GP numbers that we have seen in recent years." Read the full statement [here](#). Read NHS England's press release [here](#).

There will now be a special conference of English LMCs to discuss the outcome of negotiations and the contract agreement. The date will be confirmed shortly.

NHSEI Operational Guidance 2020/21

The annual [NHSEI operation guidance](#) has now been published. There's a helpful mention of "funding invested by CCGs during 2019/20 in local service provision which will be duplicated through delivery of the new service requirements in the Primary Care Network Contract DES in 2020/21 should be reinvested within primary medical care."

Coronavirus Guidance – please keep up to date by viewing information from NHSE/I, NHSPH and CCGs as well as any update on the BMA website and those sent via CLMC. This is a rapidly moving picture so the information contained in this bulletin may be out of date before it reaches you!

The BMA has published a [web page](#) highlighting key information and links to official guidance from government agencies on coronavirus, including how to handle queries from patients and how to manage patients who contact or attend GP practices.

Some GP practices in England are being contacted by their CCGs, on behalf of NHSEI requesting information regarding practice preparation for coronavirus. GPC advice remains that while there is no obligation to provide this information, unless the Secretary of State issues a direction, they would encourage practices to respond so that NHSEI and Public Health England are aware the national picture for preparations.

GPC remain in close contact with NHSEI and other stakeholder to ensure that any measures they put in place are supportive and do not place any overly onerous burden on GPs and their patients. Practices should continue to review business continuity plans, infection prevention and control measures in addition to any national guidance issued by UK health or public health agencies.

MDDUS Member Vote on Arrangements for Historic Liabilities

In September 2019, MDDUS entered into a transaction with DHSC in relation to its GP liabilities in England. It is important that arrangements for the management of existing liabilities remain clear – this was recognised during the contractual negotiations which set up the clinical negligence scheme for GPs (CNSGP). There is, therefore, acknowledgement from GPC England that such arrangements are necessary as responsibilities for existing liabilities transfer. Information for MDDUS members is available [here](#)

Physician-Assisted Dying

The BMA has launched a survey of *members* on physician-assisted dying, following a vote at last year's ARM to do so. Members will be asked whether they believe the BMA should support, oppose, or take a neutral stance on a change in the law to permit doctors to prescribe drugs for eligible patients to end their own life. They will also be asked about a stance to a change in the law to permit doctors to administer drugs with the intention of ending an eligible patient's life. All BMA members will receive an email (BMASurvey@kantar.com) from Kantar, the independent research agency, with a link to participate. Find out more at www.bma.org.uk/pad and read the BMA statement [here](#).

COMAR 2020

The BMA's annual conference for medical academics will be held at BMA House on Friday 15 May 2020. The main theme will be doctors' well-being. Save the date, express your interest in attending to confunit@bma.org.uk and look out for further information on the BMA website.

BMA's Public Health Medicine Committee (PHMC) - Sandy Macara Memorial Lecture & Conference

The BMA's Public Health Medicine Committee (PHMC) has held a memorial address to honour the life and work of the former BMA Council Chair Sir Alexander Macara. In the commemoration address in 2013, the PHMC noted that 'Sir Alexander was an absolutely extraordinary person' who was deeply committed to the BMA and to Public Health. The event was hosted by Professor Kevin Fenton, PHMC chair, and there were also speeches from the CMO for Wales, Dr Frank Atherton and Professor Ronan Lyons from the Department of Public Health at Swansea University.

The forthcoming [Public Health Medicine Conference](#) on 26 February will focus on climate change and inequalities. For further information email info.phmc@bma.org.uk

GPC GP Bulletin

See the last GPC bulletin [here](#)