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GDPR - DPO and GP Practices, updated BMA guidance

The BMA has recently published new guidance on the role of the DPO in GP practices.

Key Consultations - QoF and Digital Services

NHS England discussed the review of QOF and a consultation on digital-first primary care providers at its board meeting this week. They are now inviting feedback on these two reports and we encourage practices to do this. Please also send a copy of your feedback to Jackie.jameson@nhs.net so we can collate responses.. Both documents and more information on how to send feedback can be found here.

GPC have worked with NHS England, RCGP and others to review QOF and expect the report to stimulate further discussion. The intention is that any changes to QOF must provide stability for practices and better enable them to better respond to the needs of their patients. The review document and the feedback received will inform, but not determine the outcome of negotiations which will begin shortly.

While we recognise the many advantages that technology and innovation can provide for general practice, GPC have serious concerns about the model used by providers, such as GP at Hand, that unfairly exploits the out of area registration arrangement, cherry picking largely health young adults who often only want brief episodes of care, and which risks destabilising other practices and the funding they receive to treat patients in their local community. However the suggestions made by NHS England to reduce the funding such providers receive have wider implications and, therefore, GPC England will carefully consider them as part of the response to the consultation.

Novichok Incident

As you will be aware, another incident involving the dangerous chemical nerve agent Novichok has been reported, this time in Amesbury. Once news broke, and before the identity of the chemical had yet been confirmed, members of the GPC executive immediately contacted Public Health England to begin a process for issuing guidance to GPs regarding how to handle and advise patients who may or may not have come into contact with the nerve agent...Jackie did circulate information on this last week but for those who may have missed that email please do review this interim clinical advice circulate by the BMA.

Criminal Finances Act

GPDF and ICAS have kindly provided this <u>article</u> published by Justine Riccomini, Head of Taxation at ICAS (The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland) which should be of interest to practices as employers.

GPC UK Newsletter

Read the latest GP UK newsletter here (special ARM edition)