

CLMC Bulletin 400 – 01.10.19

Primary Care Network Package launch

GPC have launched a [PCN package of support](#), based on what GPC, LMC and PCN colleagues advised they need. It is flexible and wide-ranging and allows different PCNs and Clinical Directors to pick and choose the guidance, support and assistance they need. This includes access to a PCN community App, a forthcoming PCN Conference on 8 February 2020, a package of learning & development services and support for legal, HR and insurance issues. Read the blog about it by Krishna Kasaraneni, GPC England Executive team member [here](#)

Capita - Incorrectly Archived Records

GPC recently released a statement regarding the PCSE incident whereby thousands of patient medical records were incorrectly archived instead of being sent to the subsequent GP practices. These records have now been sent back to practices, and NHS England is expecting those practices to undertake an assessment of harm for each patient affected. Practices affected will have received a list of NHS Numbers of the patients whose record was delayed.

GPC England was in discussions with NHS England to highlight the impact this would have on practices and their patients. GPC were clear that practices should receive the necessary support to cover the additional costs of dealing with a problem for which they are not to blame to ensure that GPs and other practice staff are not taken away from direct patient facing provision. Unfortunately, NHS England was not prepared to provide the amount of funding that GPC believe is necessary to cover GP and practice staff time required to do this assessment properly, and GPC England was not prepared to agree to a settlement which we believed would not fully compensate practices for the problems created by Capita.

As a result, GPC are looking for practices (only those who have received incorrectly archived records!) to join potential legal action. Practices will need to complete this [pro forma](#) and send it to the BMA via info.gpc@bma.org.uk in order to sign up to the case. GPC will then collate the necessary information to take forward a legal action. Please advise CLMC (Jackie.jameson@nhs.net) if you choose to follow this action.

New regulations on notifications of death

For the first time, the Government has introduced [regulations](#) that place a duty on registered medical practitioners to notify the coroner of certain deaths, and what information should be provided. They apply to England and Wales, and become law on 1 October 2019. [Read the Ministry of Justice's guidance on complying with the regulations >](#)

Firearms guidance and flowchart

The GPC joint response to the Home Office consultation on statutory guidance to police on firearms licensing and a flowchart to guide GPs and police through the licensing process are now available on the [BMA website](#).

Statement from regulators on online primary care services

The General Pharmaceutical Council, the GMC and other UK regulators of healthcare services, medicines and health professionals have put out a joint statement on online primary care services and ensuring medicines are prescribed and dispensed safely and appropriately online. This cross regulatory forum are working to address regulatory gaps and to help improve the quality and safety of services, and develop an understanding of the benefits and risks of primary care services delivered online. The aims of the group, and links to existing guidance, is available [here](#).

Equality matters

This week, the BMA launched *Equality matters*, which is designed to promote equality for all medical students and doctors working in our health service and also within the BMA. On the programme's [web hub](#) you can find training resources, and:

- Find information on BMA lobbying and policy work supporting this agenda
- Hear from BMA members talking about why these principles are so important to them
- Read [a blog](#) from our chair of the Representative Body Helena McKeown on the BMA's work on championing equality, diversity and inclusion.

Read a blog by Chaand Nagpaul, BMA Chair of Council, [here](#), where he outlines why this programme is fundamental in the BMA's call to change the culture within the NHS and the BMA. Please send any feedback on how GPC can further the aims of this important programme to equalitymatters@bma.org.uk

Benefits for mixed aged pensioner couples

Following a DWP policy change certain pensioners in mixed age couples will have begun claiming working age benefits rather than pension age benefits. New [DWP guidance for GPs](#) issuing fit notes for these pensioners has been published.

Updated DWP guidance for GPs

The DWP have also recently updated their [Short guide to the benefit system for GPs](#) and their [guidance on factual medical reports](#)

New online procurement tool

NHS England and NHS Improvement are launching a new online procurement tool which will include a list of pre-approved GP providers that local commissioners can invite to deliver their local GP service needs, including caretaker services. This approach, known as Pseudo Dynamic Purchasing System (PDPS), is planned to be live from January 2020. A series of national engagement events are being held for local commissioners and GP providers. Find out more [here](#).

GP Retention Scheme

Read the [step-by-step guide for the GP retention scheme](#). The scheme offers support for GPs who are considering leaving the profession if they have no other options to reduce their hours. You can also view the NHS England video and guidance [here](#). If you have any difficulties, please get in touch by emailing sessionalGps@bma.org.uk

Forensic and secure environments committee elections

The FSEC (forensic and secure environments committee) is holding an online election, which can be accessed via BMA's [elections page](#). The position for one doctor providing primary healthcare within forensic psychiatric hospitals in the UK remains vacant. If you are interested in this position, please email elections@bma.org.uk for more details.

GPC Newsletter

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

GPC Sessional GP Newsletter

Read the latest Sessional GPs newsletter [here](#)