

17th August 2020

General Practice Appointment Updated Guidance

The BMA have published [joint guidance with NHSE/I on creating more accurate general practice appointment data](#) (GPAD), so that they can more accurately reflect the workload delivered in general practice. The guidance introduces an agreed definition of an appointment and asks general practice to start applying this now and systematically, as an important first step to improve data quality. This is to ensure all appointments are being recorded in general practice appointment systems, and to fully capture the scale of work and workload in general practice.

Further technical system specific advice and guidance will be issued to support practices with configuring appointment books and applying a set of new, standardised national categories for appointment types. Read more [here](#).

Supporting Mentors Scheme and GP Fellowship Programme

Following the 2020/21 GP contract agreement, NHSE/I has now launched the [Supporting Mentors Scheme](#) and [GP Fellowship programme](#), as part of a group of GP recruitment and retention initiatives.

The [supporting mentors scheme](#) aims to support the training of at least 450 GPs as mentors, who will then form a cohort of locally based and highly experienced doctors who can each support between 4-6 mentees. GPs on the scheme will be provided with funded training, leading to a recognised mentoring qualification. Once trained, GP mentors will be reimbursed to conduct one session of mentoring every week.

GP mentors will be able to connect with newly qualified doctors on the [GP Fellowship programme](#) and to support them into become part of the local primary care team.

NHSE/I has also published a letter this week about [Expanding the primary care workforce in 2020/21](#), which highlights the [New to Partnership Payment Scheme](#), to support practices to recruit GP partners, and highlights the inclusion of nursing associates to the Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme.

Updated Standard Operating Procedures for General Practice

NHSE/I has updated its [Standard Operating Procedures for General Practice](#), which now includes sections on cases definition of COVID-19, patients at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19, patients advised to shield, safeguarding, symptom management and end-of-life care.

Risk Assessments

Practices are reminded of the importance of undertaking workforce risk assessments on their staff. The BMA has guidance which looks at the implications of risk assessments for practices – specifically what impact the adjustments required for high risk staff could have on practices, staff and patients. It also suggests what mitigation practices could do, such as working from home or removal from areas that are considered hazardous. The guidance also lists risk assessment tools that are available to practices to use. Read the guidance [here](#)

Indemnity for Flu Vaccinations

All three Medical Defence Organisations (MDOs) have confirmed that they will provide indemnity cover, at no extra charge, for practices who vaccinate their own staff against flu this year. GPC are in discussions with NHR about the indemnity arrangements for staff vaccinations for any coronavirus vaccine that may become available.

Vaccine Supply for the 2020 to 2021 Children's Flu Programme

The Fluenz Tetra vaccine will be made available to order by all NHS providers of the 2020/21 children's flu programme on Friday 28 August. First deliveries will be made on your normal scheduled delivery day, beginning on Wednesday 2 September.

The inactivated vaccine (QIVe) for children in clinical risk groups for whom LAIV is unsuitable will be available to order from ImmForm by early September.

These timings remain subject to change and plans for vaccination sessions should be made with this in mind. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated on the [ImmForm](#) website and [PHE Vaccine Update](#).

NHS People Plan 2020/21 – BMA Summary & Commentary

The BMA has published a [summary and commentary](#) of the [NHS People Plan](#) that was published on 30 July. The document summarises the commitments made in the Plan with a focus on those most relevant to doctors, and it also provides a commentary and analysis on each section. It can be read [here](#).

New GP Practice Profiles on the NHS Website

NHS Digital has updated the GP practice profiles on the NHS website which feature improved support for mobile and tablet devices. Your practice's existing profile information will be automatically copied over to the new platform and the way you [update your profile](#) has not changed. Profiles editors should have received further information from the [NHS website service desk](#). Use the NHS website [GP practice finder](#) to find and view your new profile.

Final Pay Controls

RSM (a provider of audit, tax and consulting services) have produced a [video on final pay controls](#) for the NHS pension scheme, which explains the charge, how it is calculated and what to do to avoid it. This would be useful for both GPs and practice managers to watch.

PPE Portal

Practices are reminded that you can register and place orders for PPE via the [PPE portal](#), which can be delivered within 48 hours, to ensure regular supplies of PPE in advance of the winter and flu campaign. More information is available on the [DHSC PPE portal guidance page](#) and the portal customer service team can be reached on Tel. 0800 876 6802 for enquiries or registration support.

Less Than Full Time (LTFT) Conference

The BMA will be hosting a virtual conference for Less Than Full Time (LTFT) doctors from all branches of practice on Friday, *13 November*. The conference will be a good opportunity for LTFT doctors from across the UK to network and learn through some tailored workshops. Please mark the date in your calendar, and further information and registration details will be announced nearer the time.

Mentor Support

Please find a flyer highlighting how you can access peer support during this time [here](#). More information about [wellbeing](#) support can be found on the LMC website.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

The BMA continue to offer [wellbeing services](#) and confidential 24/7 counselling and peer support for all doctors and medical students, as well as their partners and dependents, on 0330 123 1245.

LMC Website

The following guidance has been added to the LMC website www.worcslmc.co.uk this week:

[NHS Fellowship Programme](#)

[NHS Support Mentors Scheme](#)

Other COVID 19 Resources

[BMJ – news and resources](#)

[RCGP COVID-19 information](#)

[NHSE/I primary care bulletins](#)

[NICE resources](#)

WORCESTERSHIRE AND HEREFORDSHIRE LMC LTD

**Registered office: St Stephens Surgery, Adelaide Street, Redditch, Worcs B97 4AL
Tel. 01527 65082**

All topical issues relating to local general practice are discussed at the monthly LMC meetings and those minutes can be read on the LMC [Website](#). Should you require further information on any issues raised at the LMC meetings please do not hesitate to contact the LMC representative for your area or practice.

MEMBERS OF THE WORCESTERSHIRE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: Dr Shaun Pike
Elgar House Surgery, Church Road, Redditch, Worcs. B97 4AB
Tel: 01527 69261 Email: spike@worcslmc.co.uk

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Dr David Herold
Riverside Surgery, Waterside, Evesham, Worcs. WR11 1JP
Tel: 01386 444400 Email: d.herold@nhs.net

SECRETARY: Dr Gillian Farmer
St Stephens Surgery, (address and contact details as above)
Email: gfarmer@worcslmc.co.uk

EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Lisa Siembab
St Stephens Surgery, (address and contact details as above)
Email: lsiembab@worcslmc.co.uk

Representatives:

BROMSGROVE: Dr D Pryke
Dr K Hollier

REDDITCH: Dr I Haines
Dr S Pike

WYRE FOREST: Dr M Davis
Dr S Morton
Dr J Rayner

WYCHAVON: Dr D Herold
Dr J Rankin
Dr R Kinsman

MALVERN: Dr P Bunyan
Dr B Fisher

WORCESTER: Dr F Martin
Dr C Whyte
Dr R Benney

Co-opted Representatives:

Out of Hours: Dr E Penny
Dispensing: Dr J Rankin
Registrars Rep: Vacant (North)
Vacant (South)
First5 Rep: Dr M Venables

Practice Manager Representatives:

Helen Garfield, Representative WF PM
Lisa Luke, Representative R&B PM
Meryl Foster, Representative SW PM

IT Rep: Dr R Williams
Non Principals: Dr W Safdar
Clinical Directors: Vacant

MEMBERS OF THE HEREFORDSHIRE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: Dr Nigel Fraser
Wargrave House Surgery, 23 St Owen Street, Hereford, HR1 2JB
Tel: (01432) 272285 Email: nigel.fraser@nhs.net

SECRETARY: Dr Richard Dales
Mortimer Medical Practice, Croase Orchard Surgery,
Kingsland, Leominster HR6 9QL
Tel. 01568 708214 Email: herefordlmc@btinternet.com

EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Lisa Siembab
St Stephens Surgery, (address and contact details as above)
Email: lsiembab@worcslmc.co.uk

Representatives:

All 20 practices are represented at Committee Meetings

Worcestershire and Herefordshire GPC Representative: Dr S Parkinson

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRODUCED FROM THE LMC OFFICE AT
ST STEPHENS SURGERY**

The next LMC meetings will be:

Worcestershire – 10th September 2020
Herefordshire – 9th September 2020