

Monday 20 November 2017

Issue 4

Content – Section headings indicate whether UK or England interest

‘Give the give of 5 minutes’ campaign	2
Dates for your diary	2
Extension of the seasonal flu programme to include social care workers – England	2
GP at Scale National Conference – UK.....	3
GPC England meeting.....	1
GPC England Executive and GPC policy leads confidential update	1
LMC access to the BMA website – UK.....	3
LMCs – change of details – UK.....	3
LMC observers at GPC meetings – UK.....	3
New BMA guidance for GP trainees and practices – England	2
Sessional GPs e-newsletter – UK.....	2

GPC England meeting

GPC England held its meeting on Thursday 16 November. At that meeting GPC England:

- Received an update from policy leads and the GPC England Executive
- Received an update on the GMS contract negotiations
- Following the results of the survey of GP practices in England on collective list closure and the decision to increase lobbying activity, the GPC launched a major publication entitled ‘Saving General Practice’ (SGP), which outlines the critical issues that must be addressed by government in order to rescue general practice from the crisis it currently faces. GPC England received an update on the strategy to increase pressure on government and deliver the actions within SGP.
- Discussed the BMA’s response to the consultation regarding proposed changes to the regulations of the Accountable care models contract
- Received an update on the Scottish GPC contract
- Received and discussed a proposal to appoint a Speaker to chair GPC England meetings, similar in style to that of the House of Commons
- Received resolutions from the Conference of England LMCs
- Received an update on NHS England’s urgent care review
- Received an update on the NHS e-referral Service
- Received an update on the Delayed Transmission of Hospital Letters

The next meeting of GPC UK will take place on Thursday 15 March 2018 and the next GPC England will take place on Thursday 18 January 2018.

GPC England Executive and GPC policy leads confidential update

Please see the attached (appendix 1) which is an update that summarises developments since the last meeting of GPC. These updates are produced on behalf of the GPC Executive and the GPC Policy Leads.



New BMA guidance for GP trainees and practices - England

The BMA have recently published additional guidance on the BMA website to support GP trainees and GP practices with understanding the new 2016 junior doctor contract, which can be [found on the BMA website](#).

In addition to previous guidance, we've uploaded an example work template that incorporates OOH working, a practice FAQ and a document comparing the new 2016 contract with the previous 2002 one.

Please can I encourage you to share this through your networks, as we are aware of trainees and practices who are struggling to understand and introduce the new contract and all of its safeguards correctly, to the detriment of both parties.

Sessional GPs e-newsletter - UK

[Please find a link to the most recent](#) sessional GP newsletter which includes a blog and guidance on sessional GPs working under new models of care and the launch of the new sessional GP hub webpage.

Dates for your diary

Please note the dates of forthcoming event:

GP Workforce Conference - Friday 24th November 2017 (BMA House, London)

Hosted by GPC and the GPDF, the event will allow LMC representatives to discuss their local experiences of the implementation of workforce initiatives and to influence national policy and decision making in England. Senior representatives from both NHS England and Health Education England will be directly participating in both plenary and workshop discussions with key note speeches from Dr Arvind Madan, NHS England Director of Primary Care, and Professor Ian Cumming, Health Education England Chief Executive.

[Using this link](#), LMCs can nominate up to two representatives to attend the event with expenses to be reimbursed by the GPDF. Please contact Christopher Scott (cscott@bma.org.uk) if you have any queries.

LMC Conference – UK – 9 March 2018 (Liverpool)

Information and application form have been sent to LMCs and will be available on the BMA website in due course.

'Give the gift of 5 minutes' campaign

As you may have heard, the BMA are running a campaign aimed at encouraging doctors to take 5 minutes during their day, to focus on their mental health. Phase one of the campaign is called ['give the gift of 5 minutes'](#) and runs through to the end of December. Phase two – 'take 5' will then run until the end of January. To support doctors in taking 5 minutes to unwind and focus on their mental health, we're giving two months' free trial of Headspace – the mindfulness and meditation app.

To support the campaign, we are also running a twitter competition. We're calling for members to post photos of how they look after their well-being, using the hashtag #thegiftof5 and @thebma. The winners will receive a hamper for their practice or hospital team – we're doing 10 hamper giveaways each week. [You can see some of the great entries we've had so far](#).

Please do help spread the word by making sure a poster is up in an appropriate space in your practice, retweeting the BMA and taking part in the social media competition. If you would like to request a poster, please email campaigns@bma.org.uk (please ignore the auto-response).

Extension of the seasonal flu programme to include social care workers - England

NHS England has announced that for the 2017/18 flu season, the delivery of flu immunisation will be extended to include social care workers that offer direct patient care.

The [influenza vaccine PGD template](#) has been amended to include the vaccination of health and social care staff, employed by a registered residential care/nursing home or registered domiciliary care provider, who are directly involved in the care of

vulnerable patients/clients who are at increased risk from exposure to influenza, meaning those patients/clients in a clinical risk group (see [Appendix A](#)) or aged 65 years and over.

Note that the previous version (v04.00) is not being formally withdrawn in order to ensure continuity of service and may still be used this season (until 31 March 2018). However, this new version of the PGD will be needed to vaccinate health and social care staff in line with the NHS commissioned service when it is commenced.

A GP enhanced service specification has been published on the [NHS England website](#).

Care workers can also access the flu vaccine via their community pharmacy, further information is also available on the [NHS England website](#).

The GPC's [vaccinations and immunisations page](#) will be updated with links to the PGD and enhanced service.

GP at Scale National Conference - UK

This year's national event will collate the work and themes of the programme over the last 12 months to celebrate the incredible work of at scale primary care teams. We will hear from a variety of different at scale models and their priorities when collaborating. There will be an opportunity to hear from system leaders and to ask them questions in a Q&A panel discussion.

Learn more and [attend this free event](#)

Suggested tweet: Join [@rcgp](#) in London on 6 Dec to learn about different at scale models and collaboration priorities. Register <http://bit.ly/2kMhtzt> #GPatScale

LMC access to the BMA website - UK

It has been drawn to our attention that some LMCs may be having difficulty accessing the BMA website. All LMCs do have access, but need to use the login details registered for submitting conference motions. This may, however, be an individual's email address, registered to input conference motions only.

If you wish to create an office account, using the office email address as part of your login and a password that everyone can use, or if you are unsure of your current login details and password, please email Karen Day at kday@bma.org.uk and she will email you your relevant information.

LMC observers at GPC meetings - UK

LMC observers are welcome to attend GPC UK meetings. If your LMC would be interested in sending an observer, please contact Kathryn Reece (kreece@bma.org.uk). A maximum of three LMC observers may attend any one meeting.

The dates for the 2017/18 session for GPC UK meetings are below. Meetings will commence at 10:00am and will usually finish at 5:00pm (never later than 6:00pm). Meetings are held at BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP.

Thursday 15 March 2018 GPC UK

Please note that all travel and other expenses for LMC observers should be met by the relevant LMC.

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LMCs – change of details - UK

If there are any changes to LMC personnel, addresses and other contact details, please can you email Karen Day with the changes at kday@bma.org.uk.

GPC England next meets on 18 January 2018. LMCs are invited to submit items for discussion. You may like to review these, beforehand, with the representatives in your area who serve on the GPC. The closing date for items for the GPC England meeting is 8 January 2018. It would be helpful if items could be emailed to Kathryn Reece at kreece@bma.org.uk. You may also like to use the GPC's listservers to exchange views and ideas.

GPC News

LMCs are reminded that their regional representatives can provide more detailed information about the issues covered in GPC News, and other matters. Other members of the GPC would also be pleased to accept invitations to LMC meetings wherever possible. The secretariat can also provide a written background brief if required, but it would be helpful to have such requests well in advance of your meetings.

Finally, if LMCs require assistance on local issues, they can also contact the BMA's local offices. Their details are available on the BMA website.

This newsletter has been sent to:

Secretaries of LMCs and LMC offices
Members of the GPC
Members of the GP trainees subcommittee
Members of the sessional GPs subcommittee