



LINCOLNSHIRE LMC NEWSLETTER

BY LINCOLNSHIRE LMC SECRETARIAT

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FEATURED: GPAS – HAVE YOU GOT TWO MINUTES TO HELP US?

Each week the LMC sends out a General Practice Alert State (GPAS) to practices. We understand everyone is really busy and it is another job to add to your ever-growing to do list. However, it would really help us an LMC to have information from as many practices as possible. A few points below that may help clarify how the data is collected/used.

- It really does only take two minutes to complete the return
- The data is sent directly to the LMC not the ICB
- All data is anonymised and collated on a PCN footprint before being shared with the ICB & other stakeholders, so there is no fear of the ICB/CQC descending on you if you report red or black
- It doesn't need to be completed by a Manager, an admin/data person within the practice can complete the return each week they can also nominate a deputy for when they are away

Why should I bother to fill it in it makes no difference?

- The GPAS data is used to show the system how much pressure general practice is under. Without the data we can tell the system repeatedly how much pressure general practice is under but without the data it goes unrecognised
- The LMC is currently working with the ICB to create a system response for struggling practices, however the system response would only be triggered at practice request

If you've not received your GPAS request or need some more help, please email info@linclmc.co.uk.

So please can your practice spare two minutes to complete the return each week.



Article written by Kate Pilton, Chief Operating officer, Lincolnshire LMC.

PERFORMANCE MATTERS TREATING FRIENDS AND FAMILY

The LMC is regularly involved in representing and supporting doctors who have been identified as having “performance” issues. The LMC has identified a number of themes which recur, and this regular feature will highlight these, so that our members can avoid these pitfalls.

Can I provide advice or prescribe medication to family and friends?

As clinicians, we want to help. We want our friends and family to remain healthy. Sometimes, we may be asked to advise, prescribe, or access results for family members or friends. While we want to support our family and friends, we should encourage them to contact their GP for advice which will also support their future appropriate access and understanding of the system. GMC guidance Good Medical Practice, states: “Wherever possible avoid providing medical care to yourself or anyone with whom you have a close personal relationship.”

We should not use our professional access to view and or disclose the results of tests and investigations on behalf of friends or family even though you may feel you are being helpful.

Prescribing

While the law still allows prescribing for friends and family, GMC guidance warns against this for the following reason:

If a doctor prescribes for someone they are in a close personal relationship with, the lack of independent assessment may lead to them being pressured by the person, or by the situation, to prescribe inappropriately and can mean that treating doctors don’t have access to information necessary for the patient’s ongoing treatment.

The lack of full medical record may also mean that you are unaware of potential serious past drug reactions or current drug interactions which may put your friend or family at risk of further harm.

The above does not mean that you cannot provide an acute prescription when all other routes are unavailable. However, you should ensure that you follow the guidance (i) are ready to justify your decision if challenged and can show that your actions were in the patient’s best interests.

GMC guidance states that if you do prescribe for someone close to you – which would include a member of staff – you must tell their GP (and others treating the patient, where relevant) what you have prescribed and any other information necessary for continuing care. You must have also the patient’s consent to share that information (ii)

GMC state that a serious or persistent failure to follow the guidance in Good medical practice and the explanatory guidance, and where patients are – or confidence in doctors is – put at risk, will call into question a doctor’s fitness to practise.

(i) <https://www.gmc-uk.org/ethical-guidance/ethical-guidance-for-doctors/good-practice-in-prescribing-and-managing-medicines-and-devices/controlled-drugs-and-other-medicines-where-additional-safeguards-are-needed#paragraph-67>

(ii) <https://www.gmc-uk.org/ethical-guidance/ethical-guidance-for-doctors/good-medical-practice/domain-1---knowledge-skills-and-performance>

VACCINATION SCHEDULE FOR OVERSEAS PATIENTS

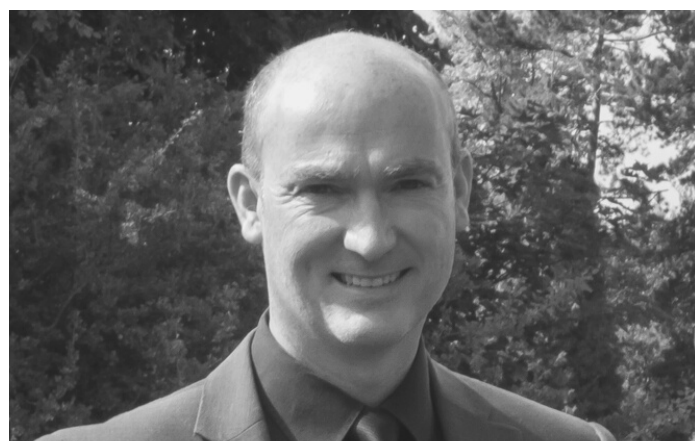


Where a patient has been vaccinated overseas in accordance with the UK National Vaccination Schedule – i.e. the schedule of the overseas country conforms to the UK schedule – practices can record delivery of the vaccination in their clinical system to ensure that the vaccination counts towards QOF achievement.

When a patient or their representative reports that a vaccination has been delivered overseas or in another setting, individual clinicians should exercise their judgement to determine that a vaccination has been delivered and to record it in the patient record.

The 'Vaccination Schedule for Overseas Patients' article on the LMC guidance page details the steps that as Practice can take to code these patients appropriately.

See the full article here: [Lincolnshire LMC: Vaccination Schedule for Overseas Patients \(lincolnshirelmc.co.uk\)](http://lincolnshirelmc.co.uk/Vaccination-Schedule-for-Overseas-Patients)



Article by Nick Turner, Practice Support Officer, Lincolnshire LMC.

FACE COVERINGS AND FACE MASKS IN GP PRACTICES

At a time when there are high levels of circulating respiratory infections, practices may be reviewing their face mask policy and may wish to consider the following:

The NHS in Lincolnshire currently recommends the wearing of face coverings or masks in healthcare settings. At other times whether patients, visitors and staff wear face coverings or masks is determined by your practice's own risk assessment.

The LMC and a Lincolnshire practice convened a meeting with NHS England to discuss complaints management relating to two patients who declined to wear masks at a time when Infection Prevention and Control guidance stated universal masking should be in place.

We agreed the following:

- If a patient or visitor declines to wear a mask and national or practice policy is that all patients and visitors should wear masks, you should seek to determine then document their reason.
- If a patient declines to wear a mask, a clinician should review their GP medical record to determine whether they might have a relevant health condition, then document whether this has a bearing on the practice's subsequent decision.
- The GP practice should consider and document reliable alternative steps it could take (eg consulting in a minor operations suite with an air scrubber) that might mitigate the risk to the staff member and other patients.
- If the practice declines to provide care to an unmasked patient, they should be signposted to an alternative provider who might make a different risk assessment. (For example, they might have a higher standard of PPE or better ventilation.) This again should be clearly documented.

If a complaint is subsequently received by NHSE and the practice can evidence the above steps, NHSE indicated it would be disposed to support the practice's response to the complainant.

When a practice receives a complex complaint through NHSE, we recommend a telephone conversation or Teams meeting with the NHSE Complaints Manager to discuss the detail and agree a response.



Article written by Dr Stephen Savory (GP & Lincs Local Medical Committee Chair) & Dr Reid Baker (Medical Director, Lincs LMC)

NHS PHARMACY CONTRACEPTION SERVICE PILOT – ACCESS TO ORAL CONTRACEPTION – TIER 1 RESUPPLY

The aim of this pilot is to create additional capacity in primary care and sexual health clinics and provide improved access for patients. This service is for people who are already taking the oral contraceptive pill and require an ongoing supply.

It is really important that to make this service a success for everyone, GP practices work closely with their local pharmacy branch or branches that are part of the pilot.

The pilot is running up until 31st March 2023, having launched on 6th February. The government has announced that from Spring 2023 a national Tier 1 service will be launched and it is hoped that additional pharmacies will sign up to offer the service at that point. The LPC will keep key primary care partners including the LMC and ICS updated when we know more about the national service launch date.

There are 16 Lincolnshire Coop pharmacies in and around the Lincoln area across Apex, IMP, South Lincoln Healthcare and Lincoln Health Partnership PCNs that are offering the Tier 1 service as listed in the [full article](#)

General Practices are able to refer their patients into the pharmacy to have a consultation for resupply of oral contraceptives. For the purposes of this tier 1 service, **a referral includes active signposting to attend the pharmacy to receive the service.** It would be useful for general practices close to the pilot pharmacies above to make contact with their locally pharmacy to discuss how they can work together on this pilot.

If you are a General Practice located in one of the four Lincoln PCNs where the pilot is active, your PCN will be contacted by a community pharmacy representative soon to assist in maximising the benefits of this service for patients and general practice, taking pressure off appointment time and provided increased flexibility for patients. Some hard copies of the leaflets and A4 posters are available for your practice and will be shared with you soon.

More information about the Tier 1 service can be found in the [full article](#) and more details about current and future plans for contraceptive supply in community pharmacy can be found [here](#).

If you have any queries about the pilot in Lincolnshire, please email the LPC, Community Pharmacy Lincolnshire, at info@pharmacylincolnshire.org.



Article by Tracey Latham-Green, Chief Officer at Community Pharmacy Lincolnshire

HEE - GP PLACEMENT EVENTS: MEDICAL STUDENTS.

Health Education England is running a series of events to promote GP placements for Medical Students, Foundation Student and GP trainees.

Each event is a lunch followed by a chance to meet the various Schools and find out more. I would be very grateful if you could disseminate this through your networks and indeed come yourselves!

We have recently approved a PCN in Chesterfield as an approved learning environment

Booking for the March events closes in 2 weeks. The venues are:

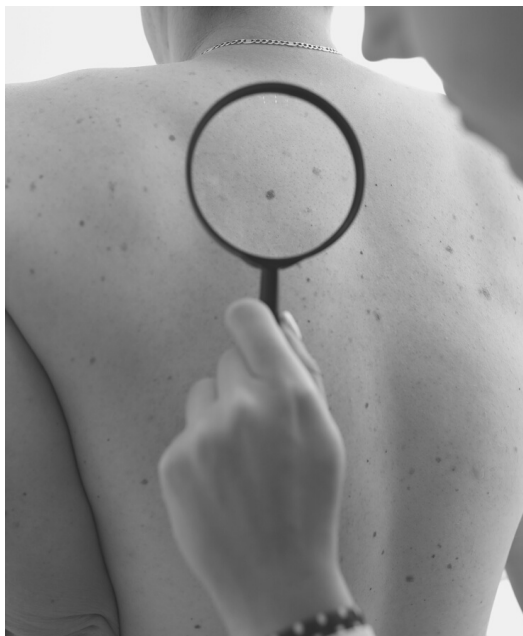
- 08 March East Derbyshire/Nottinghamshire 13:00-16:30 (Holiday Inn, S Normanton DE55 2RH)
- 30 March Leicestershire/Northamptonshire 13:00-16:30 (Holiday Inn, Wigston, Leicester)
- 17 May Lincolnshire 1pm-4.30 pm (venue tbc)

You can book through the following link:
<https://forms.office.com/e/c131hRzHuN>

Practice Managers are welcome too!



EXTERNAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY: LINCOLN SKIN CLUB



Lincoln Skin Club | DoubleTree by Hilton, Lincoln
23rd March 2023 | 6PM - 8:30PM

Speaker: Dr Nada Ahmed, Specialty Doctor in Dermatology

Topics:

Eczema and Psoriasis review of management:
The use of A&G and when to refer

Seborrheic Keratosis, and Bowen's disease: Dermoscopic features and when to refer

Book here:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2avh5MfqcuqrUtpcmYqnuke6S4XTpQtIptP1_P1lZRxUNDdQNVVRUEVRUKZDSFVTWUdaRFRCNDREQy4u&origin=QRCode

LINCOLNSHIRE GENERAL PRACTICE APPOINTMENT INFOGRAPHICS

Appointments in Lincolnshire General Practice January 2023



In January 2023 Lincolnshire's
GP surgeries completed:

438K
appointments

71% were face-to-face
appointments:

313K

55% of appointments were
offered within 24 hours

241K

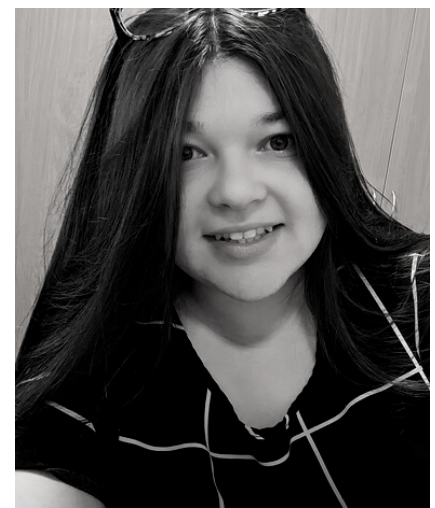
Using the information provided by NHS digital we have created infographics detailing how many appointments were made each month by Lincolnshire General Practices, how many were face-to-face and how many were within 24 hours of contact.

These can be shared via your practice's social media.
All of our general practice infographics can be found here:
www.lincslmc.co.uk/generalpracticeinfographics

In addition to the Appointments infographics, we also create useful infographics with information to help your patients care for themselves at home and inform patients of key services.

Do you have an idea for a useful infographic?

If you would like us to create an infographic that will be helpful for Lincolnshire general practices to share with their patients, please email us at laura.dexter1@nhs.net or info@lincslmc.co.uk



"You're the expert at what you do, be the best you can be, this service enables you to do exactly that. I would not be where I am today nor able to deal with the challenges I have faced had it not been for this service."

An excellent and timely service which helped me to keep working at a point when I felt I could cope any longer. A year later I am still a fully functional partner in my practice."

"A really useful resource focussed on YOU and YOUR needs, give it a go, you have nothing to lose and everything to gain."

Our trained mentors can support you to make positive steps forward in your career and personal life. Mentoring sessions can take place at a time & place to suit you.

This service is available free of charge for Lincolnshire GPs, Nurses & Practice Managers

Contact us:

Tel: 01522 576659

Email: info@lincslmc.co.uk

Visit: www.lincslmc.co.uk/impactlincs

Mentoring & Coaching Can Benefit You And Your Organisation In Many Ways

- Help to make improvements to your work life balance
- Allow you to manage transitions positively
- Create a positive focus on achieving your aspirations
- Improve your motivation
- Develop & enhance your leadership skills
- Improve your resilience
- Build your confidence



USEFUL LINKS

Training resources:

- [Lincolnshire Training Hub](#)
- [E-Learning for Health \(e-LfH\) Programmes](#)
- [NB Medical Education](#)
- [GP Forum CPD Opportunities](#)

Resources:

- [We are with you](#)

Networking:

- [Lincoln Medical Society](#)

Newsletters:

- [Sessional GPs e-newsletter](#)
- [GP Weekly Bulletin \(England\)](#)
- [GP Trainee Newsletter](#)
- [Practice Manager Association News](#)
- [The Cameron Fund newsletter Autumn 22](#)

Buying Group:

- [Latest LMC Buying Group Update](#)



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VACANCIES IN LINCOLNSHIRE GENERAL PRACTICE



To view each listing please click on the vacancy titles.

[General Practitioner – Merton Lodge Surgery](#)

[Lead Nurse – Abbeyview Surgery](#)

[Practice Nurse – St John's Medical Centre](#)

[Reception Manager – Abbeyview Surgery](#)

[Practice Nurse – Gosberton Medical Centre](#)

[Salaried GP – The Welby Group – Coningsby](#)

If you would like your job listing advertised on our website, please send the advert to laura.dexter1@nhs.net.

Your advert should only be one A4 page and should include:

- Job title
- Location
- Practice logo or image
- Short overview of the role or the practice.
- Salary and any benefits
- Contact information & link to your practice's website
- Closing date of job listing

Your advert should preferably be sent to us as a PDF format.

Alternatively, you can submit your job listing here: [Create Listing](#)

Note: this will have to be approved by a Lincolnshire LMC administrator

All vacancies on the Lincolnshire LMC website can be found at: www.lincsllmc.co.uk/jobs

Thinking of becoming a partner in a practice?

www.lincslmc.co.uk/events | **Book now**

TAKE-30 SERVICE

Feeling Frazzled?



www.lincslmc.co.uk/wellbeing

Our Take-30 phone support service is available for all Lincolnshire practice staff between 10am and 4pm, weekdays.

This is a great opportunity to talk through daily challenges with someone that understands what it is like working in a practice.

Don't bottle things up, offload! Take-30 and let's talk things through in a safe, supportive environment.



info@lincslmc.co.uk



01522 576659

take-30
AND LET'S TALK

