

BUMPER EDITION!

LINCOLNSHIRE LMC NEWSLETTER

BY LINCOLNSHIRE LMC SECRETARIAT

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FEATURED ARTICLE: PERFORMANCE MATTERS: SELF PRESCRIBING

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..

A case recently involved a GP colleague being reported to NHSE for self-prescribing medication.

There may be circumstances where colleagues have considered prescribing for themselves or have been asked to prescribe for a family member or friend. While, if following otherwise safe prescribing guidelines, this may seem reasonable, it should be avoided unless absolutely necessary as outlined below.

The MDU report that Benzodiazepines, antibiotics and opiates are among the most common medications prescribed in episodes of self-prescribing.

Self-prescribing or prescribing for those close to you.

In GMC guidance on Good practice in prescribing and managing medications it states:

Wherever possible, you must avoid prescribing for yourself or anyone you have a close personal relationship with.

It goes further to state:

If you prescribe any medicine for yourself or someone close to you, you must: make a clear record at the same time or as soon as possible afterwards; the record should include your relationship to the patient, where relevant, and the reason it was necessary for you to prescribe

You must not prescribe controlled drugs for yourself or someone close to you unless:

a.) no other person with the legal right to prescribe is available to assess and prescribe without a delay

b.) emergency treatment is immediately necessary to avoid serious deterioration in health or serious harm.

While colleagues may feel that their experience and access to prescribing helps themselves or an individual or relieves demand on the registered GP practice, it is crucial to protect yourself from performance review and to support independent and safe treatment by avoiding prescribing for yourself or those close to you wherever possible.

All Performance Matters articles can be viewed on the [LMC website](#)

Article written by Dr Reid Baker, Medical Director, Lincolnshire LMC



GPCE STATEMENT

GPC England have received the details of the 24/25 GMS contract. While much of the detail remains to be seen, the deeply concerning and economically unviable 1.9% GMS core uplift headline has understandably landed extremely poorly with the profession.

At a time when practice costs soar and workload continues to rise, general practice needed a significant and inspiring new contract to support sustainable and safe services for our patients while valuing our profession. This proposed uplift does neither.

Please watch this video from GPC England for further information on their thoughts and plans for ongoing discussions and what the profession needs to consider.

General practice needs each and every one of us to fight for it

Article written by Dr Reid Baker, Medical Director, Lincolnshire LMC

OLIVER MCGOWAN TRAINING IS NOT MANDATORY

"You may have received many emails from various organisations entitled Oliver McGowan 'Mandatory' Training. Oliver McGowan training is not mandatory, alternative training may be provided for your staff

A requirement exists under the Health and Social Care Act 2020 (181, (2), 5Za), "that requires service providers to ensure that each person working for the purpose of the regulated activities carried on by them receives training on learning disability and autism which is appropriate to the person's role". There is no requirement for this training to be the Oliver McGowan training. To satisfy the requirements of the act the practices must ensure staff have training on learning disability and autism appropriate to their role.

CQC response to training requirement

CQC have confirmed this approach on their website, GP mythbuster 53: Care of people with a learning disability in GP practices, "We do not tell you specifically how to meet your legal requirements in relation to training. You are responsible for ensuring your staff are appropriately trained to meet the requirements of the regulations".

Code of guidance

As set out in the Health and Care Act 2022, the government is also required to publish a Code of Practice to provide guidance about how to meet this new legal requirement for training on learning disability and autism. The government has now closed the consultation on the draft Oliver McGowan Code of Practice. The consultation feedback is now being analysed. We await the code being published.

Oliver McGowan Training Tiers

Some practices may still wish to use the Oliver McGowan training but should be aware of the different tiers that apply to staff groups.

Article written by Kate Pilton, Chief Operating Officer, Lincolnshire LMC

SECONDARY TO PRIMARY CARE WORKLOAD SHIFT



Help us as your LMC, help you, your practice and your patients by supporting this crucial and potentially transformative workstream by:

- Telling your colleagues about this work to raise awareness.
- Attend one of our upcoming “Meet the Consultants” sessions.
- Submit the Ardens template letters to help us evidence the need for change.

One of the challenges we have faced for years in our daily work in general practice is the non-contractual workload shift from secondary care. The requests of colleagues in practices across Lincolnshire to undertake work that should be performed by colleagues in secondary care is estimated to use up to 20% of general practice capacity to address.

This excess burden on non-contractual work not only adds pressure to capacity in practices already managing increasing patient demand but can cause frustration for general practice colleagues as it affects patient journeys, affects GP-patient relationships, and can make colleagues feel undervalued in the system.

Historically, some colleagues, while knowing undertaking this non-contractual work may impact their capacity to address direct general practice generated workload, have done so to avoid patient harm, maintain patient relationships,

and to not expend more precious time requesting secondary care colleagues undertake the remedial actions themselves.

The NHSE document Recovering Access to Primary Care from May 2023 seeks to “Reduce Bureaucracy” by addressing this workload shift and improving the primary-secondary care interface.

Lincolnshire LMC and key partner organisations including ULHT, LCHS, LPFT and Lincolnshire ICB have formed an “Interface Operational Group” to address the Interface.

The main aim of this interface work from an LMC perspective is to create a framework for ongoing and sustained resolution in the workload shift you see from secondary care in your practice.

This will:

- Reduce the pressure on your capacity and time.
- Release capacity for you and your team to focus on only general practice work.
- Reduce the utilisation of precious general practice resources to undertake secondary care work.
- Improve patient experience and outcomes.
- Improve your sense of value within the Lincolnshire NHS system.

[Continue reading...](#)

VACANCIES IN LINCOLNSHIRE GENERAL PRACTICE



[CLICK HERE FOR ALL LINCOLNSHIRE PRACTICE VACANCIES](#)

If you would like your job listing advertised on our website, please send the advert to info@lincsllmc.co.uk

Your advert should preferably be sent to us as a word document.

Additional attachments to be sent as PDFs.

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 & how to apply
- Link to your practice's website
- Closing date of job listing

TAKE-30 SERVICE

Take-30 Service

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.

Have a friendly, confidential conversation with a trained mentor, contact us:

@ info@lincsllmc.co.uk

📞 01522 576659



REBUILD GENERAL PRACTICE: TEMPLATE LETTER TO MPS

Rebuild General Practice is asking GPs to use its template letter to write to your local MP asking them to prioritise rebuilding general practice in their election roadmaps. Party manifestos are being written this spring, and we can make a difference by speaking as one unified voice and profession, to engage MPs, and local press.

We must ensure that all major parties are motivated to prioritise the crisis in general practice and are committed to developing plans to do so following the election.

Find all the materials you need to take part in this action [here](#)

1. Write to your MP

2. Share the social media thread:

<https://twitter.com/RebuildGP/status/1750131367575204082>

3. Write to your local newspaper editor to inform them of this action.

Encourage your colleagues to do the same by sharing your post and the materials with them.



INVITATION – ICB EXECUTIVE SESSION WITH GENERAL PRACTICE

The ICB would like to invite their GP colleagues to the first in a series of sessions with executives from the ICB. The sessions aim to cover a range of important topics, such as current issues, the establishment of the ICB's clinical directorate and our ambitions for the future. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions during the session. A recording of the session will be shared by the ICB afterwards. If you have not received an invitation and would like to attend please mail kevin.gibson1@nhs.net

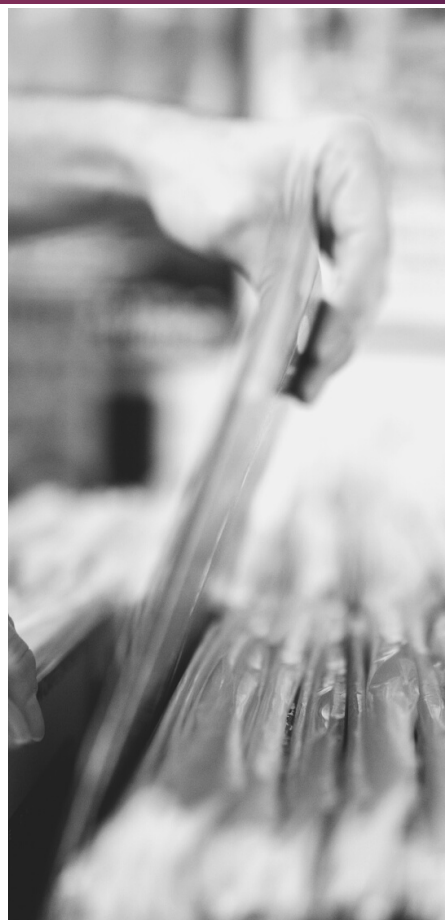
If you would like to submit a question beforehand, please email it to licb.primarycarelincs@nhs.net.

ACCESS TO RECORDS

ICO RESPONSE TO DPIAS

Over recent weeks, a number of Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIAs) have been submitted by GP Practices. The subject of the DPIAs is the implementation of the Accelerated Access to GP Records (AAGPR) program developed by NHS England as a method for individuals to obtain their medical records from GPs. As the DPIAs submitted are largely similar in style and content, the ICO has chosen to make the contents of the response publicly available so GPs affected are aware of the ICO's views on the matter. [Read the advice here](#)

The ICO is content that 'potential data protection risks have been identified, and that sufficient mitigations are in place.' Practices that haven't completed a [DPIA](#) are encouraged to do so and make their commissioners aware. If practices identify particular data protection risks associated with providing online access, which they do not consider to be mitigated, they should consult and engage with the [ICO](#) and their commissioner to find a way forward.



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

BUYING GROUP RECRUITMENT SUPPORT

The LMC Buying Group understand that recruitment is often an expensive and time-consuming business, so they created an eye-catching, easy to use recruitment page where any registered member can post their clinical and non-clinical vacancies at no cost. They also offer practices the opportunity to feature their vacancies with a featured package which comes at a small fee.

What they offer

As well as posting the job on their website, they also highlight any new job posting at least once across their social media platforms. This is a free service to any member practice interested in expanding their vacancy reach beyond their region.

They have also introduced a 'Featured Job' option for those members that want to draw more attention to their advert. The featured role will appear at the top of the Jobs page in a bright colour and be highlighted on their social media channels each week for a month. This service only costs £50+VAT.

To place an advert, visit the Jobs page and upload your vacancy using the application form template [here](#). If you choose the Featured Advert option, they will send you an invoice once the advert has been posted online.



GET READY FOR CQC'S NEW PROVIDER PORTAL

CQC's new provider portal will be available for everyone soon

Between now and March 2024 CQC are making changes to the way providers interact with them. They're introducing a range of new and improved digital services to give providers a faster, easier and streamlined way to share information with us, including a new provider portal.

The new portal will offer a better experience when submitting statutory notifications and completing some registration actions.

They've started inviting users of our existing portal to join the new portal and will invite all existing users by the end of February 2024. If you've received an invite to join the new portal, sign up now without delay.

At the moment, only those who have been invited can join the new portal. But from the start of March 2024 any provider can register on the new portal and set up their account.

Here's what to do to get ready for these changes:

- Make sure all the [contact details](#) we hold for your organisation are correct (you'll need to sign up to the new portal using an email address we have on record)
- Watch the [introduction to our new provider portal](#)
- As soon as you receive an invite, sign up to our new portal

If you don't receive an invite to the new portal, sign up as soon as you can from the start of March 2024

Find out more [here](#).

CQC's existing portal is moving to read-only

At the end of February 2024, CQC's [existing provider portal](#) will become read-only. That means you won't be able to use the portal to make changes or send us new information. You will still be able to access and download your saved data until the end of March 2024.

Action required for users of our existing provider portal

Please note that existing accounts on our current portal will not be automatically transferred to the new provider portal. This means action is required on your part:

- Register for our new portal as soon as you are invited
- Check your inbox for invites. Invitations to join the new portal are being sent out and all existing users will be invited by the end of February 2024
- If you have not yet received your invite yet, don't worry, just make sure your [contact details are up-to-date](#) to receive your direct invite
- Once you're signed up to our new portal, remember to log in to the existing portal and download your saved data before the end of March 2024

Visit the [existing](#) provider portal to download your saved data.

MEASLES RESOURCES FOR PRIMARY CARE

You will likely have seen media coverage on an increase in cases of Measles, mainly concentrated in the West Midlands.

Resources have been created and are attached to inform your staff and patients of what to look out for and what to do if cases are suspected.

Posters are also included to display in practices and on practice website.

The increase in cases is also a potentially opportunity to contact any patients eligible who do not have complete MMR vaccination history.

We would encourage practices to be aware of this information and to update their staff of this as well.



COMMUNITY MEDICAL EXAMINER ROLL OUT APRIL 2024

GPC England have sent updated information regarding the statutory rollout of the Community Medical Examiner programme...

[Read article...](#)

PHARMACY FIRST THE SEVEN CLINICAL PATHWAYS (REFERRAL AND WALK-IN)

Pharmacy First, due to launch on 31st January 2024, comprises the existing CPCS service which includes referrals for minor acuity conditions (from 111 and General Practice) and for emergency medicine supply (from 111 only).

It also includes a new element, which will allow assessment and treatment for seven core conditions; these clinical pathways will be available both by referral and as a walk-in service for patients. For general practice, the mechanisms of triaging and referring patients into pharmacies should continue, although we anticipate that the IT solutions may change slightly.

Further Information: Community Pharmacy England have produced a briefing for Local Medical Committees and General Practice that can be accessed [here](#). Links to a Poster and a social media graphic are available for download.

[Continue reading...](#)

GP END OF YEAR FORMS: SUBMISSION DEADLINE EXTENDED TO 31 MARCH

All Type 1 and Type 2 practitioners must complete the relevant certificate or form and submit to Primary Care Support England (PCSE) for work in England.

The release of both the Type 1 and Type 2 forms was delayed this year, and as a result the deadline for submitting these has been extended to 31 March 2024.

NHSE GP FELLOWSHIP SCHEME CESSATION

NHSE has announced that the NHSE GP Fellowships and Mentor schemes will end on 31 March 2024.

We would like to remind and encourage those GPs who are within 24 months of having CT's on 31 March, and who have not yet taken advantage of the NHS GP Fellowship Scheme, to sign up for the programme in advance of the 31 March deadline.

Those successful in securing a place ahead of the deadline will have funding secured for two years. Please get in touch with your local Training Hubs for details regarding how to register.

TREATMENT ROOM ENHANCED SERVICE UPLIFT STILL A LOSS FOR PRACTICES

Due to it being financially unviable, a large number of practices gave notice on the Treatment Room Enhanced Service, the ICB have now reviewed the tariff and an uplift of 20% based on capitation will be made to practices from Q3 of this financial year.

Although we welcome an uplift we ask practices to consider the financial viability of this service, even with a 20% capitation increase practices will still be making a significant loss. Points to consider:

- Have you calculated the loss you make on providing treatment room services?
- Why are you still providing an underfunded treatment room service?
- Why is your practice absorbing this financial loss?
- Is it because "it's good for patients" receiving the service or is it to the detriment of your whole practice population, when other sources of patient funding are needed to be used to prop up this service?

LINCOLNSHIRE LMC DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

GP Society special primary/ secondary care interface meetings

We welcome colleagues from a variety of primary and secondary care organisations to put faces to names and discuss interface challenges. The aim is to strengthen relationships and build communication networks in order to make day to day interface smoother.

LINCOLN

7pm Thursday 7th March at the International Bomber Command Centre, Lincoln, LN4 2HQ

GRANTHAM

7pm Thursday 14th March at the Old Barn Hotel, Toll Bar Road, Marston, Lincolnshire, NG32 2HT

BOSTON

7pm Thursday 21st March at the Away Resorts Boston West Hotel, Hubbert's Bridge Boston (Venue TBC)

SAVE THE DATES:

We have a number of events planned for this year. These will become available to book in the coming weeks but in the meantime, please save the date!

- NB Medical Clinical Hot Topics Update - Coming in May - Venue TBC
- Lincolnshire LMC Day - Tuesday 9th July - Doddington Hall, Lincoln
- Dispensing Practice Day - Wednesday 17th July - The Dower House Hotel, Woodhall Spa
- Lincolnshire Practice Manager's Conference - Thursday 12th & Friday 13th September - Belton Woods Hotel, Grantham
- Lincolnshire GP Conference - Friday 15th & Saturday 16th November - Doubletree By Hilton, Lincoln.

Regular educational events for practice teams

We continue to run a range of educational courses, webinars and events for GPs, managers and their teams. All of these can be viewed on the [LMC Training & Events pages](#). If you have any questions about LMC training please email us at info@lincsllmc.co.uk

CQC'S STATUTORY NOTIFICATIONS

Top tips for a good experience submitting notifications to CQC

Providers must notify CQC about certain changes, events and incidents that affect their service or the people who use it. Giving CQC the right information first time means you'll need to spend less time responding to their requests for further information.

Here are some top tips for getting notifications right:

- 1.If you have access to the [provider portal](#) (current or new), this is the easiest and quickest way for you to submit a notification.
- 2.If you're using a Word form, always download the latest version [from their website](#) rather than using saved versions as we change our forms from time to time.
- 3.Make sure the provider and location IDs and name of provider entered on the form are correct. It is important to remember this will have changed if you have made changes to your legal entity. You will find your provider ID and the location IDs on your latest certificate of registration.
- 4.Make sure all the fields on the notification form are completed.
- 5.Keep up to date with the [latest guidance](#) on submitting notifications.
- 6.You should always receive a submission notification and a reference when you have correctly submitted a notification. If you do not receive this CQC may not have received your information.

For the best and fastest way to submit notifications, sign up to the new provider portal as soon as you receive your invite.

Read more about statutory notifications [here](#)

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

LEVEL 5 PROGRAMME FOR NEW AND ASPIRING MANAGERS

Gain a level 5 recognised professional, qualification that will provide a foundation in practice management, led by the IGPM Accreditation Framework.

Lincolnshire LMC have joined forces with the IGPM and Damar Training to develop a bespoke programme for Lincolnshire General Practice staff who are either new to the practice manager role or who are aspiring to become a practice manager in the future.

Join us at our information event online to find out more - [REGISTER HERE](#)
Wednesday 6th March at 13:00hrs



MENTORING AND COACHING

Our trained mentors can support you to make positive steps forward in your career and personal life.

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

01522 576659 | INFO@LINCSLMC.CO.UK
www.lincslmc.co.uk/wellbeing

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

USEFUL LINKS

Training resources:

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

Wellbeing Resources:

- [10 Top Tips Wellbeing Poster](#)
- [Mentoring & Coaching Poster](#)
- [Take-30 Poster](#)
- [LMC Wellbeing_page](#)

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 23](#)

Buying Group:

- www.lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk



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