



Dear Colleague

Welcome to this week's edition of the LMC Express. The local updates for this week include:

- BMA Referendum on 2024/25 Contract Imposition
- PCQS:ABPM Claims
- CWJ Template Employment Contracts and Policies April 2024
- General Practice Alert State (GPAS) National Reporting Dashboard
- Useful Links
- Upcoming LMC Interface Meetings

BMA Referendum on 2024/25 Contract Imposition

GPs in England have overwhelmingly voted to reject the 2024/25 national GP General Medical Services (GMS) contract imposition. More than 19,000 GPs and GP registrars took part in the BMA's referendum, with 99.2% voting 'no' to the question: 'Do you accept the 2024/25 GMS Contract for General Practice from Government and NHS England?'

The BMA has issued the following press release: [GPs vote overwhelmingly to reject contract changes in BMA referendum - BMA media centre - BMA](#)

PCQS: ABPM Claims

We are working constructively with the ICB to review PCQS tariffs and specifications. As part of that review, it has been agreed that practices should have been able to claim for ABPM where ambulatory monitoring is recommended for evaluating patients with the following conditions:

- suspected white coat hypertension
- borderline/labile/episodic hypertension
- resistant hypertension (4 or more antihypertensive agents, or poor tolerance to drugs)

The ICB is working with APEX to update the business rules so that the changes can take effect from 1 April 2024 but if a practice has a query about ABPM claims, it can be raised with kmicb.gphealthoutcomes@nhs.net.

CWJ Template Employment Contracts and Policies April 2024

We are delighted to inform you that Clarkson Wright & Jakes have completed a full review of the employment contracts and policies to bring them all up to date with current employment law and practice and to ensure they are CQC compliant. For clarity Clarkson Wright & Jakes have itemised all changes pertaining to the contracts and policies and they are detailed in the LMC advice letter available on the Invicta Health Learning website. It is our view that these documents represent a high quality set of employment policies and procedures and would recommend that you give due consideration to their use within your practice. If you are already using the CWJ contracts and policies please update them with the latest version.

To access and download the full list of template contracts and policies:

- go to the [Invicta Health Learning Website](#) and log in using your usual username and password
- click on RESOURCES, select Practice Manager Resources
- scroll down to Employment Policies & Contracts - you should then be able to access and download the documents.

If you are not currently registered you will need to create a new account. To do this click on 'Create new account' under the Login button and fill in your details. A confirmation email will be sent for you to click and complete the registration process. To access the employment law documents you will then need to obtain authorisation by emailing the LMC (info@kentlmc.org) or the Staff Training Team (learning@invictahealth.co.uk)

General Practice Alert State (GPAS) National Reporting Dashboard

The national GPAS reporting dashboard has been published and shows the pressure general practice is under. Last week Kent & Medway practices reported **GPAS Red/Opel 4**.

Thank you to practices that continue to provide input into GPAS on a weekly basis. The information you provide is invaluable in evidencing the pressure general practice is operating under. The GPAS information from the national dashboard will be used by the BMA and feed into contract negotiations.

Submissions continue to be completely anonymised. The LMC is not able to identify individual practices from the submissions. The only data that is shared with either the ICB or other stakeholders is aggregated at HCP or Kent and Medway level. The more practices that take part in GPAS, the more robust the evidence will be. **Collecting this data is assisting the LMC in illustrating operational pressures in general practice. The report takes less than 5 minutes to complete each week.**

We would encourage every practice to submit a report on weekly basis and to also provide comments and feedback. Furthermore, if you are experiencing acute operational pressures please do get in touch with either the LMC or the ICB to seek support

The LMC is able to assist with getting practices started on reporting. Information can be found on our website at [Kent LMC - General Practice Alert State \(GPAS\)](#) or please email the LMC at info@kentlmc.org **If your GPAS contact person changes or leaves the practice, please update us with the new contact person at info@kentlmc.org**

To view the latest GPAS SitRep please [click here](#)

The LMC is currently working the ICB to explore the support that can be offered to practices when declaring any state beyond Green. For example this could be additional resources, changes to operations with a practice or the wider healthcare system, assistance with communications. We would welcome any ideas from practices as to the help or support that could be offered to a practice when challenged by increased operational pressures and so declaring, a state of amber, red or black: please send them to the LMC at info@kentlmc.org

Useful Links

[Subscribe to Kent & Medway ICB General Practice Updates](#)

[Previous issues of the General Practice Update available online](#)

[Subscribe to NHSE Primary Care Bulletin](#)

[Email Newsletters from CQC](#)

[Kent and Medway Primary Care Training Hub](#)

[Sign up to Primary Care News](#)

Upcoming LMC Interface Meetings

The following meetings are taking place over the next few weeks. If you have any issues that you would like us to raise please email info@kentlmc.org with the title of the meeting and details of your request.

Kent & Medway GP Board - In Person – Wednesday 17 April

Full LMC Committee – Thursday 18 April

LMC Sessional GP Sub-Committee – Thursday 18 April

Kind regards

Kent Local Medical Committee



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*Supporting list based personalised care,
the partnership model and meaningful collaboration*