



# Kent Local Medical Committee

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

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To all GPs in Kent & Medway

11 January 2018

Dear Colleagues

## Winter Pressures

We are aware of the pressures practices are under and have been working on initiatives on your behalf.

### QoF

We have written to the STP Chair and the Accountable Officers of all CCGs to ask them to consider suspending QoF for the rest of this financial year. This has already happened in Wales and is being considered nationally in England. If this is approved, we envisage practices being awarded the same points as last year without having to chase reviews and codes until 31 March 2018.

### Cancellation of Elective Surgery

We have pointed out the workload associated with the cancellation of operations in primary care. At the Kent and Medway Winter planning group it was agreed that hospitals would ask patients when cancelling their operations if they needed anything, for example sick notes or analgesia.

### Schools requesting information about absence from school

Guidance on declining such requests is on the Kent LMC website. CCGs have agreed to take this to KCC with a view to communicating with all schools to ask them not to send pupils unnecessarily to GPs for this purpose.

### Step Down Beds in Nursing/Care Homes

There is evidence of capacity in the care sector being considered to take some discharges from acute beds. We have asked that a service be commissioned to look after these patients and made it clear that primary care cannot take up the slack.

We will keep you informed of developments.

Yours faithfully

Dr Gaurav Gupta  
Chair  
On behalf of Kent Local Medical Committee

Dr John Allingham  
Medical Secretary  
On behalf of Kent Local Medical Committee