



GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED

COVID PRACTICE COMMUNICATION NO 50

13th May 2022

To All GPs and GP Practices

Welcome to our 50th Covid Update. Having reached the half century mark since the start of the pandemic, we will be reviewing our communications to GPs and practices from the summer. We know that the Covid newsletter have been an important source of information to GPs and practice staff over the pandemic. We want to ensure that our newsletters remain useful and accessible to you.

It continues to be an extremely challenging time in GP practices. LMC delegates met in York this week to discuss the issues affecting general practice and to explore the solutions. Governments need to listen to GPs and to provide the help and support to improve services and waiting times.

Dr Alan McDevitt CBE stepped down as Chair of the LMC and GP subcommittee in April having served 3 years since April 2019. We thank Dr McDevitt for his leadership and expertise as Chair. We are very grateful for his key role in the Covid Community Pathway and the Primary Care Clinical Advisory Group.

Office Bearers

We are delighted that Dr Maureen Byrne has been elected Chair of the LMC and GP subcommittee. Dr Byrne is a GP in Johnstone and has been Vice Chair for the past 3 years. Dr Mark Fawcett who is a GP in Ibrox has been elected Vice Chair.

Drs John Ip and Patricia Moultrie were re-elected the medical directors.

Dr Alastair Taylor continues in his role as the treasurer.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee members elected for this session are Drs Ronnie Burns, Gayle Dunnet, Christopher Mansbridge, Austin Nichol, and Michael Rennick. Immediate past Chair ex officio Dr Alan McDevitt shall attend for 1 year.

New Committee members

It is always great to see new members join the LMC and GP Subcommittee. We have 6 new members who are- Drs Ewan Gray, Peter Horne, Lynn Howie, Peter Livingstone, Graham Morrison, and Scott Queen. We welcome them onto the committee and look forward to their contributions to the work of the LMC and GP subcommittee.

We have produced a few short videos to explain the functions of the LMC and the GP subcommittee, and to give some information about its history and representative roles. They can be found via the links below. We hope you find them informative.

- [Introduction to Glasgow Local Medical Committee](#)
- [Introduction to NHS A GGC GP Subcommittee](#)
- [The Area Medical Committee](#)
- [History of the LMC & the GP Contract](#)
- [National Representation of General Practitioners](#)

GP Practice Escalation

We are aware that practices are facing considerable pressures at the moment. We would like to remind practices that should they need to make use of the practice escalation [framework](#) then they should engage with the board.

UK LMC Conference

8 delegates from Glasgow LMC attended the LMC Conference this week. Over 250 GPs across the UK debated and listened to the issues affecting general practices in the 4 nations. It was not a surprise that the key issues were workload pressures, additional work caused by hospital backlogs, retention and recruitment of GPs, and a call to end the negative press that GPs have been receiving.

Safe working with a call for workload limits was supported but a motion to reduce core hours to 9am to 5pm was lost. Many delegates noted that the difference between the GP contracts and health systems across the 4 nations are significant and increasingly divergent. However, the workforce shortages, transfer of workload from secondary care, and the increasing demand in general practice is common across the whole of the UK.

Premises

The Scottish Government has issued a communication outlining that GP practices will no longer be required to provide 3 quotes before they can be given a premises improvement grant by their Health Board. However, Boards may still turn down an application if the quote or quotes received do not represent good value.

New Adult Disability Payment

Social Security Scotland is hosting a series of information events in advance of the national launch of the Adult Disability Payment. Adult Disability Payment will replace the UK Government's Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in Scotland.

These events are broken into distinct topics: General Policy; Applications; Supporting Information and decision making – for third sector and public sector; Special Rules for Terminal Illness; Debt, hardship and overpayments. You can find more details about these events, and sign up on the [Social Security Scotland Website](#).

Wellbeing Resources

The cumulative stress of the pandemic, the workload pressures, and patient demand is undoubtedly affecting people's mental health. We know that practice leadership, and a supportive and valuing culture in general practices is vital in maintaining the wellbeing of the practice team. These are some of the wellbeing resources available to GPs, PMs and practice staff-

National Wellbeing Hub - www.promis.scot

NHS GGC Occupational Health Service-

<https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/working-with-us/hr-connect/occupational-health/covid-19/>

[Covid-19 Staff Support Line](https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/working-with-us/hr-connect/occupational-health/covid-19/)- 0141 303 8968

The Workforce Specialist Service-

<https://www.practitionerhealth.nhs.uk/accessing-the-service-in-scotland>

BMA Wellbeing Resource-

<https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/your-wellbeing/wellbeing-support-services/sources-of-support-for-your-wellbeing>

Yours sincerely,

Dr Maureen Byrne
Chair

Dr John Ip
Medical Director

Dr Patricia Moultrie
Medical Director

Marco Florence
Business Coordinator

Elaine McLaren
Administrative Assistant