



GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED

9th June 2023

To All GPs and GP Practices

Welcome to our June 2023 newsletter.

The workloads that our committee members know of first hand and hear of from colleagues are extremely challenging. Fundamentally, more GPs are required across GGC and Scotland, and the MDT that was committed to as part of the 2018 GMS Contract must be delivered. We are in some of the most difficult times that GPs can recall working in general practice. However, be assured that the LMC is absolutely committed to finding solutions, working locally with the Board and HSCPs, and with SGPC nationally.

Dr Gordon Forrest

The LMC and GP Subcommittee was extremely saddened to learn of the passing of committee member Dr Gordon Forrest last month. Gordon had been a committee member since 2009, and was a highly committed and hardworking member, representing us on a number of key groups, including over the past few years as the GP Subcommittee's PCIP representative for Renfrewshire. We send our condolences to Gordon's family and practice team. A minute's silence was held at the GP Subcommittee/LMC meeting in May to mark Gordon's passing.

Waiting Times Information

GPs and patients need to know accurate waiting times information. The GP Subcommittee recently raised this issue with the board's chief executive. This is something that we've been seeking for some time. We were pleased that the board confirmed that it would be publishing such data. You can find [it at this link](https://rightdecisions.scot.nhs.uk/ggc-referral-management/waiting-times/).

<https://rightdecisions.scot.nhs.uk/ggc-referral-management/waiting-times/>

We think that this is a good start but will be working with the board to improve the presentation of the data as well as including a narrative for patients and the public explaining the figures.

Homeless GP Practice

Glasgow City HSCP presented and took questions at the May GP Subcommittee meeting on the decision to close the Homeless GP Practice, as well as the service that is provided by the Complex Needs Service. Following that, the LMC had a discussion on this and it was agreed that the LMC would write to the HSCP calling on the HSCP to reverse its decision to close the practice.

Face to Face Appointments

Our Medical Director, Dr Patricia Moultrie, recently spoke to [*The Herald*](#) on face to face appointments. Her comments are below:

Dr Patricia Moultrie, Medical Director of the Glasgow Local Medical Committee said the criticism that was levelled against GPs for limiting face-to-face consultations during and in the aftermath of the pandemic "had a major impact on morale and caused a lot of hostility from patients."

She said: "Practices have got to determine what is possible for them."

"Patient demand is significantly outstripping GP capacity.

"We think it is quite likely that there will be patient need that is not met because Scottish Government has not funded general practice adequately."

Following this article, the issue was also reported on by [Pulse](#).

GP IT Reprovisioning Update

The Vision clinical system will be implemented in all GP practices in the coming few years. This will be a significant change for practices especially those that are currently using EMIS. Vision 3 has been approved and the company has indicated that Vision Anyway to be ready by summer 2024. The LMC sits on the GGC GP IT Reprovisioning Programme Board which will be overseeing all aspects of the clinical system migration.

The approved Vision system which is an updated Cloud version of Vision 3 is being rolled out in some health boards in Scotland. We hope that by learning from these boards who are early adopters, this will help us in GGC to streamline the process for practices.

We are currently looking at the development of software solutions that will convert practices' data from EMIS into Vision, as well as tools to upload practice data into the Vision cloud. Other key workstreams that we are focussed on include IT training for GPs and staff, and ensuring that the IT infrastructure is fit for purpose going forward.

SGPC Update

The BMA has published a very useful [insight](#) on the sustainability pressures being faced in General Practice in Scotland, bringing together information on published data and FoI responses that it has gathered. This was covered in a number of media outlets, as an example in [The Scotsman](#).

In addition to this, it is also running a GP wellbeing [survey](#). If you have not yet filled this in, we would encourage you to do so, as it will help SGPC in negotiations with the Scottish Government. The survey closes on **9 June**.

Dr Andrew Buist, the Chair of SGPC's latest [blog](#) is on the current pressures in General Practice.

The BMA Scottish GP Committee (SGPC) met on 23 March 2023, where the committee discussed the direction of the contract, pensions and a contract review of the last 5 years, and CTACs and pharmacotherapy. It also heard updates from the Equality Champion and Sessional GP representative, received reports on IM&T and a summary of the junior doctors' ballot in Scotland. Eight Glasgow LMC members sit on SGPC.

BMA Scotland submitted DDRB evidence on 11 January across all Branches of Practices. The request for GPs is for DDRB to make recommendation on practice staff and non-staff expenses as otherwise any pay award will be significantly less in reality. A further oral evidence briefing session was held on 3 April 2023 which was attended by all Branch of Practice chairs in BMA Scotland.

UK LMC Conference

Eight representatives from Glasgow LMC attended the UK LMC Conference on 18th and 19th May in London. This was a useful opportunity to hear from GP colleagues from across the UK

about the many similar challenges that are being faced, as well as debate issues affecting GPs on a UK wide basis.

Email Mailing List

If any GPs would like to receive our communications direct to their own inbox, as well as their practice's, please do [let the office know](#).

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-
[Occupational Health - NHSGGC](#)

[Covid-19 Staff Support Line](#)- 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>

[Working Health Services Scotland \(WHSS\) - Health and Well-being \(nhsinform.scot\)](#)

The Cameron Fund
[The Cameron Fund | The GPs' Own Charity](#)

Yours sincerely,

Dr Maureen Byrne
Chair

Dr John Ip
Medical Director

Dr Patricia Moultrie
Medical Director

Marco Florence
Policy Officer

Elaine McLaren
Administration Officer