



GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED

10th May 2024

To All GPs and GP Practices

Welcome to our May 2024 newsletter.

New Session

The GP Subcommittee/LMC held its first meeting of the new session on 15th April. At that meeting, the following posts were elected to:

- Chair-Dr Mark Fawcett
- Vice-Chair-Dr Gayle Dunnet
- Medical Directors-Dr John Ip & Dr Patricia Moultrie
- Ex-Officio Chair-Dr Maureen Byrne
- Executive-Drs Michael Anderson, Ronnie Burns, Christopher Mansbridge, Austin Nichol & Michael Rennick

The new Chair and committee members thanked Dr Maureen Bryne for chairing the committee for the past 2 years.

Prescribing Initiative 2024-25

Practices will have received a communication from the health board on 12th April regarding the Prescribing Initiative 2024-25. Practices should be aware that this was not agreed by the GP Subcommittee nor the LMC. We had concerns about the proposed document, especially around workload, which we were still seeking to engage with the board on. However, the Initiative was released to practices. Practices will want to consider whether signing up to it this year is the correct decision for the practice.

GP IT Re-provisioning Update

15 of the 18 Vision practices in GGC have now been migrated to the cloud based hosted environment. The feedback so far from those practices has generally been positive but we would be keen to know of any issues that practices may be having.

For EMIS practices, the development of the software tool that will enable data conversion from EMIS to Vision is nearing completion. This will be tested in a few practices across Scotland over the next month. The board is finalising its communication to EMIS practices about the timelines for migration. This will be sent out to practice in due course.

The update to Docman to the cloud based version has been delayed due to technical issues. The start date for the first migrations is likely to be late summer.

Employers' Superannuation Contribution

Practices have contacted us regarding the increase in employers' superannuation contributions from April. Funding for practices for this is a matter that SGPC has been raising with the Scottish Government. A communication was issued by the Scottish Government in the practice mailing on 12th April, and a letter from the Chair of SGPC, Dr Andrew Buist, was circulated by the LMC office on 1st May. We are awaiting a further update on this.

SGPC-Herald Article

The Chair of SGPC, Dr Andrew Buist, recently wrote in [The Herald](#) on where general practice in Scotland currently sits. Included within that is the following section:

What the Scottish Government has not done, and what we agreed was needed in 2018, is to invest the resources needed into core GP services to expand the GP workforce, to bring down average list sizes and make it easier for patients to get the care they need.

If we don't fix this GP shortage soon we risk repeating the mistakes of 2004. Not investing is a direct threat to the sustainability of the GP services across the country where GPs are increasingly getting burnt out by the demand exceeding their capacity and consequently leaving prematurely.

BMA Safe Workload Guidance for GPs

Practices are reminded that if they are in a position that they need to utilise the Safe Capacity Exceeded Alert voicemail outlined in the [BMA's Safe Workload Guidance for GPs](#), that the GMS Contracts Team should be notified via [email](#) that the practice is doing this. We are aware that a small number of practices have used this alert. There is the option for staff to read the message out to patients, rather than putting it on the practice's telephone system as a recording. We would encourage GPs to consider the guidance as a whole.

Practice Situation Survey

We would like to thank practice managers for their ongoing support with our practice situation survey. This is a weekly, one question survey to practice managers asking them to gauge the level of pressure experienced by their practice over the past week. We are aware that many practices are experiencing significant workload demand and practice pressures. We are keen to monitor the situation in general practice in GGC and to allow us to feed back locally and nationally. The survey is anonymous and should take practice managers less than a minute to complete. The weekly email notes the data that is coming into the office. We are having good uptake with this, with around 120/130 practices completing this each week.

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](#)

The Workforce Specialist Service-
[The Workforce Specialist Service \(WSS\) - National Wellbeing Hub](#)

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

[Working Health Services Scotland \(WHSS\) - Health and Well-being \(nhsinform.scot\)](https://www.nhs.uk/working-health-services-scotland)

The Cameron Fund

[The Cameron Fund | The GPs' Own Charity](https://www.thecameronfund.org/)

Royal Medical Benevolent Fund

[Royal Medical Benevolent Fund - Help for Doctors in Need \(rmbf.org\)](https://www.rmbf.org/)

Yours sincerely,

Dr Mark Fawcett
Chair

Dr John Ip
Medical Director

Dr Patricia Moultrie
Medical Director

Marco Florence
Policy Officer

Elaine McLaren
Administration Officer