



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

1. **URGENT HEALTH CHECKS Q3 & Q4 2020/21 PAYMENTS LMC REMINDER.**
2. Patient Access to Medical Records – Join the **LMC INFORMATION SHARING SESSION EVENT**
3. CQC Unannounced Focused Access Inspection - BSol CCG General Practice Peer Support Team Presentation and Toolkit.
4. Vaccination Data Resolution Service (VDRS) and Overseas Vaccines Validation Service.
5. HPV 3 to 2 dose schedule change in the NHS national vaccination programme.
6. Living with COVID-19 white paper – update from NHSEI.

1. URGENT HEALTH CHECKS Q3 & Q4 2020/21 PAYMENTS LMC REMINDER

Hopefully, you will have seen the recent communication from Birmingham LMC around the Contract Variation for Health Checks that was offered to practices by BCC Public Health back in 2020. We understand not all practices may have signed into this agreement, but if you did, then we would urge you to contact Public Health as soon as possible to establish whether there are any monies due for reclaim from your practice. We understand that there may be practices owing large amounts of money which is due to be reclaimed by Public Health in Q1 2022.

You will also be aware that the LMC did write to practices back in December 2020 reminding everyone as to their obligation in paying back any monies owed. I would draw particular attention to the areas highlighted in red in the e-mail trail below:

From Birmingham LMC - TO ALL GPs AND PRACTICE MANAGERS

We have recently contacted Public Health on behalf of Practices with a view to requesting an extension to the funding for NHS Health Checks. They are prepared to honour the funding protection agreement made in Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 in relation to Health Checks for Quarter 3 and Quarter 4. The Contract Variation Document will be forwarded to practices in due course. This offer is intended to support GP Practices' cashflow until they can hopefully start delivering Health Checks in the New Year. Public Health have requested that any practice wishing to sign into this agreement return their signed paperwork asap for the Contract Variation to take place in a timely manner. We believe there is a cut-off date so if you are keen to participate then we would advise signing up to the agreement sooner rather than later. Of course, it is up to the practice whether they wish to take up this offer or decline it.

As per previous arrangements payments will NOT be made for the smoking cessation service as this is not a mandated service.

We appreciate that Health Checks are an invaluable service for our patients, **however we would stress that practices should take into consideration their in-house workload pressures, funding implications for this Health Check Service and the uncertainty of the COVID workload before signing into any Contract Variation. You will need to ensure that you have calculated whether you can deliver enough health checks to consider this financially viable or not, and whether you will be able to avoid any claw back of monies owed at the end of the financial year and thereafter.**

Please see extract below, full details to be forwarded by PH in due course:



Variant 1 (No Health Checks Delivered):

Average Quarterly Payment £1,000

25% can be retained by GP £250

75% will be reclaimed back over a 1-year period £750

Variant 2 (Health Checks Delivered):

Average Quarterly Payment £1,000

Actual Health Checks Delivered £600

Additional Cashflow Payment £400

25% can be retained by GP £100

75% will be reclaimed back over a 1-year period £300

Variant 3 (Health Check Supersede Average):

Average Quarterly Payment £1,000

Actual Health Checks Delivered £1,750

Payment made to GPs would be £1,750

No Reclaim Applies

Where enough activity has not been achieved to reclaim the full amount owed to Birmingham City Council as at the Quarter 4 Payment (April 2022), Birmingham City Council will invoice the concerned GP Practices accordingly.

REMINDER ISSUED FROM LMC ON BEHALF OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The LMC understand that practices have received the below email from Public Health. We would like to issue a reminder to all practices who signed the contract variation in 2020 from Public Health in relation to the Q3 and Q4 HC payments, that these payments are now due for repayment if you have not completed the work. We would urge any practices that have not yet started Health Checks to do so as soon as possible, in order to ensure that any repayments are kept to a minimum.

"First can I start by offering my warm thanks to practice who are already delivering NHS HC to their patients. Currently in excess of 50% of practices are delivering at pre-pandemic levels, and on the way to preventing cardiovascular disease in their patient population.

Other practices I am aware have found this challenging, for various reasons, and are yet to recommence NHS HC or have recommenced at very low levels. I thought it would be helpful to raise your awareness of a potential problem, which may arise.

If your practice was one of those that accepted cash flow payments in 2020-21, then you will have signed a contract with Birmingham City Council Public Health. The contract identified you accepted cash flow payments to cover any financial hardship caused by lockdown, with the proviso that we would reclaim 75% of any payments made in 2020-21 from your practice's NHS HC activity generated during 2021-22.

The contract stipulates that any outstanding amounts not collected: due to insufficient NHS HC activity being completed during 2021-22, would result in practices being invoiced in the 1st quarter of 2022-23. I.e., April 2022 for any outstanding amount.

Reviewing the Q3 NHS HC data received from MLCSU, I can confirm that approximately 80 practices appear to be at risk of receiving invoices for amounts ranging from a few hundred pounds to in a few cases £10-30k."



2. Patient Access to Medical Records

BIRMINGHAM LMC would like to invite you to an Information Sharing Session on ***change to patient access to medical records***, which is due to come into force on 1st April 2022.

The event will be held on Wednesday 23rd March between 1300 to 1400, via Microsoft Teams.

NHSX Implementation will provide a 15-minute presentation, then open up the session for questions and answers. In order to help prepare for the session the links below will provide information on the programme and will answer some of the more frequently asked questions.

[Access to patient records through the NHS App](#)

[Giving patients online access to their medical records: guidance for GP practices](#)

Below are the Microsoft Teams joining instructions for the event, **you do not need to book**, just join us on the day when we look forward to seeing you.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

[Learn more](#) | [Meeting options](#)

3. CQC Unannounced Focused Access Inspection - BSol CCG General Practice Peer Support Team Presentation and Toolkit

Presentation – see attached document

Including updates on:

The CQC Access Statements.

Direct Monitoring Approach Call – Access this link to prepare for your DMA call:

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/how-we-inspect-regulate/monitoring-questions-gp-practices#hide1>.

Digital Support.

Recording of the Webinar: [CQC Unannounced Focused Access Inspection 22.02.22](#)

Briefing Document - Toolkit

To support our practices the BSol CCG Peer Support Team have developed a bespoke document to help practices prepare for a CQC Focused Access Inspection.

Useful Information

Please see attached document with useful contact details to help including how to obtain CHIS Data.

4. Vaccination Data Resolution Service (VDRS) and Overseas Vaccines Validation Service

The NHS is encouraging people registered with a GP practice in England to check that their vaccination records are up to date. If a member of the public had their vaccinations in England but there is an error on their record, or they have an incomplete record, they should call 119 and ask to be referred to the VDRS.



Supporting the Business of General Practice

Over 16s who have had one or more COVID-19 vaccinations abroad that are approved by the World Health Organisation can [book an appointment](#) at a vaccination site to show evidence of their vaccinations and request an update to their record. Anyone intending to use their [NHS COVID Pass](#) to travel should check their pass status before booking and call 119 if their record isn't showing correctly. Queries relating to incorrect personal information on a patient record will still need to be resolved by their GP practice.

5. HPV 3 to 2 dose schedule change in the NHS national vaccination programme

From 1 April 2022 the HPV vaccination programme is moving from a 3 dose to 2 dose schedules for eligible adolescents and adults starting the course after they turn 15 years old, including men who have sex with men. This is with the exception of individuals known to be HIV infected or immunocompromised, who should continue to be offered the 3-dose schedule. The interval between doses for the 2-dose schedule should be 6-24 months after the first dose.

The [bipartite letter provides further information and guidance](#). A revised Green Book chapter and PGD will also be published in due course to support this change.

6. Living with COVID-19 white paper – update from NHSE/I

The NHSE/I has now published an update following the Living with COVID-19 white paper: [Coronavirus » Living with COVID-19 white paper – update \(england.nhs.uk\)](#) and also attached Enc. 1

Please note our office contact times remain 10:00-16:00 and any queries on the day should be directed to birmingham.lmc@nhs.net as we are currently remote working so would be grateful if all contact were made via the nhs.net email.

Please note that the LMC are unable to accept calls or hold communications with patients, we are GP representatives, and we would respectfully ask that Practices do not advise patients to contact us. Could we also remind Practices that any copies of patient related correspondence MUST be anonymised as the LMC cannot accept patient identifiable data.

Helpful Links:

BMA COVID-19: toolkit for GPs and GP practices <https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/covid-19/gp-practices/covid-19-toolkit-for-gps-and-gp-practices> Comprehensive guidance for GPs, partners, and practice managers to manage employment and contractual issues and service provision during the coronavirus pandemic.

GOVERNMENT WEBSITE: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> for recent and upcoming changes, guidance & support.

NHS ENGLAND: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/implementing-phase-3-of-the-nhs-response-to-the-covid-19-pandemic/>