

West Pennine Local Medical Committee

Supporting and representing GPs in Oldham and Tameside & Glossop

December 2021 UPDATE FROM YOUR LMC



Dr Amir Hannan, Chair



Dr Alan Dow, Secretary



Dr Andrew Vance, Vice Chair

LMC meeting – 14th December 2021

The committee met on the evening of Tuesday 14th December via Teams. PCN and CCG Leads joined the meeting in order to discuss the newly imposed government deadline for the delivery of the Covid-19 booster vaccination programme. The PCNs in T&G are optimistic that they will succeed in delivering the programme and thanks were extended to T&G CCG for helping to lead this huge piece of work. It was acknowledged that there is capacity; the biggest challenge currently is encouraging patients to come forward for vaccination. In Oldham, the PCNs are also stepping up to the challenge; there is concern though that some areas of GP work, including minor surgery, will have to be postponed.

Dr Alan Dow, LMC Secretary and GM GPC Representative, shared his concern about the time taken of GPs to complete Safeguarding reviews and attend meetings. Although there are Professional and legal duties around safeguarding that does not mean the time should not be funded. He also flagged that some found the referral process for upper GI conditions unclear, although the Committee mostly appreciated its flexibility compared to the other 2WW referral proformas.

Jane Hill, GP practice Data Protection Officer, shared that NHSE's Accelerating Access to Patient Records Programme has now been postponed until April 2022. Jane is concerned this is still insufficient time to safely implement the programme. Oldham and T&G leads have set up a task & finish group to discuss the implications of the programme and Jane is currently working on a concise guidance document for GPs and practice staff. It is essential that anybody who inputs into the clinical record is aware that patients could access the data via the NHS app.

Dee Radcliffe, Oldham Practice Manager representative, updated the committee on just how very stretched PMs are, often struggling with workforce issues with members of staff increasingly having to isolate because of Covid 19.

Dr Alan Dow, GM GPC Representative, shared a GPC update, explaining that Dr Farah Jameel is the newly appointed Chair and has a new executive team. Dr Dow will now be the PCN Policy lead and is also on the GP Trainee Subcommittee.

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Covid-19 guidance

T&G CCG have recently published Version 29 of their Covid-19 guidance, which we have attached for ease of reference. We have also attached a “crib sheet” which has been shared by Sussex LMC and you may find useful. These documents and other updated Covid-19 guidance documents can also be found on the LMC website: www.westpenninelmc.org.uk

COVID vaccination programme success

Practice staff have been doing the most amazing job of vaccinating patients. General Practice staff should feel extremely proud of their achievements, leading and delivering the majority of the vaccination programme alongside continuing to care for patients with their usual dedication. The latest vaccination figures can be found here:

<https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/vaccinations>

“First Five” GP Representative Vacancies

If Committee supported an amendment to our current constitution, we could create a first Five place and continue the contribution made by Dr Eleanore Lyons and Dr Mariyam Malik in the past. After discussion this was supported and so there are now two vacancies for “First Five” GP representatives (from Oldham and T&G) on the committee. LMC meetings take place on the second Tuesday of every month at 7pm, currently via Teams. It would be appreciated if you could please share this information with any GPs at your practice who are in the first five years of their career and may wish to be the voice of their “First Five” colleagues. Please do encourage them to get in touch via the LMC office: westpennine.lmc@nhs.net

IT System user group meeting – 13th January 2022

In order to support GPs, Practice Managers and practice staff in Oldham and Tameside & Glossop, the LMC, in collaboration with Oldham CCG and T&G CCG, will be hosting a quarterly system user group meeting. The next meeting will take place on Thursday January 13th at 12.30pm via Teams.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

The meeting will be co-chaired by Dr Amir Hannan and Dr Shelley Grumbridge, and Pauline Cheetham from EMIS will also be in attendance to respond to queries and concerns.

If you have any particular concerns with, for example, Docman/ AccuRx, SystemOne, EMIS, or any other IT system in use in General Practice, please do let us know by emailing the West Pennine LMC office and we will ensure that the relevant organisations are represented at the meeting: westpennine.lmc@nhs.net

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DPO Update



Jane Hill, GP Practice Data Protection Officer

Apache vulnerability

NHS Digital have alerted colleagues about a critical vulnerability regarding Apache Log4j v2, also known as Log4Shell or Logjam. (Apache is a software foundation which runs on web servers.)

We have received confirmation that EMIS / TPP is not affected by this. It would be advisable to contact any web-based suppliers, which you have independently sourced for use at your practice, in order to ensure the data you hold is not at risk.

NHS Digital/ NHS X Accelerating patient access to health records via NHS App

As a result of the GPC putting pressure on NHS England, this programme has now been paused until April 2022. I am mindful however, that April will be with us before we know it! I will share a concise guidance document in the new year, and I would recommend you advise all GP practice staff and anyone else who inputs into the clinical record that from April 2022 patients aged 13 and over will be able to access any prospective data via the NHS app.

My Way Diabetes platform

Graham Hayler, IG Lead at Manchester CCG, is working on the contract and as this still hasn't been finalised, it obviously presents a risk for GP data controllers. For that reason, I would recommend you and your patients don't use this platform for the time being.

The My Way Diabetes team have recently chosen to commission Kaleidoscope, an independent IG consultancy, to develop a new MWD DPIA template and GP Data Processing Agreements to ensure best practice.

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Information Sharing Gateway

For practices in Oldham:

The following Data sharing agreement is on the ISG and requires data controller sign off:

- NCA SystemOne to Oldham Primary Care EMIS sharing agreement was uploaded to the ISG for data controller sign off in July 2021. It has since been updated to include the sharing of Pennine MSK data.

For practices in T&G:

The following DPIAs/ Data sharing agreements are now on the ISG and require data controller sign off:

- GM Care Record - Heart Failure care plan DPIA
- SMASH PINCER - This is a national initiative aiming to reduce clinical errors in Medicines Management.
- STOMP- stopping over medication of people with a learning disability, autism, or both with psychotropic medicines. This will involve Clinical Pharmacists from the Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust accessing patient records.

If you require any further information about the above, or any other Data Protection issues, please do not hesitate to contact me at jane.hilldpo@nhs.net or westpennine.lmc@nhs.net or mobile 07951 530 417