

Tuesday 25 September 2018

Issue 2

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GPC UK meeting

GPC UK held its meeting on Thursday 20 September. The following issues were discussed at the meeting:

- Nation and Policy Leads update
- Contract negotiations
- NHS England Consultation on contracting arrangements for Integrated Care Providers (ICPs)
- NHS Digital Investment in General Practice report
- Recognising GPs as specialists
- GPC UK Committee monitoring

The next meeting of GPC England will take place on Thursday 15 November 2018 and the next GPC UK will take place on Thursday 21 March 2019.

GPC Executive and GPC policy leads confidential update

Please see the attached (appendix 1) which is an update that summarises developments since the last meeting of GPC. These updates are produced on behalf of the GPC Executive across each of the nations and the GPC Policy Leads.

NHS England consultation on contracting arrangements for Integrated Care Providers (ICPs)

The committee discussed NHS England’s consultation on [contracting arrangements for Integrated Care Providers](#). It was noted that the BMA’s response was being reviewed by the legal department and would be circulated to the committee in due course.



Recognising GPs as specialists

The committee discussed a proposal to refer to GPs as ‘Consultants in Primary Care’ as part of the debate on recognising general practice as a specialty. The BMA, alongside the RCGP, has consistently supported the recognition of GPs as specialists. It was also noted that the independent review of the GP Partnership model would be looking to push for such a change with the GMC. Whilst the discussion remains ongoing, it was recommended that wider views be sought from medical students and GP trainees.

NHS Digital Investment in General Practice report

The committee received the newly published [Investment in General Practice report](#) by NHS Digital. It was noted that 2017/18 had seen £10.2bn invested in general practice (excluding drug reimbursement & GPs in A&E) in England, which represented 8.1% of the NHS budget and therefore fell £3.6bn short of the BMA’s target level of investment (11% of NHS budget). The committee expressed serious concern that the proportion of the NHS budget going to general practice in England, excluding the reimbursement of drugs, had fallen from 9.6% in 2005/06 to 7.4% in 2013/14 and was now 8.1% in 2017/18.

GPC UK committee monitoring

The committee received a presentation and report on their monitoring data for the 2018-2019 session, comparing proportions on gender and ethnicity data for GPC UK, with the wider GP BMA membership and the GP workforce across the UK. The report also highlighted issues in terms of trends over the past three sessions. This report forms part of a pan-BMA programme of work addressing under-representation across the BMA membership and representative structures, which will also support the work being done by GPC UK to address representation issues, particularly in terms of gender, within the committee itself. If you would like to know more about this work, please get in touch at info.eic@bma.org.uk.

Preventing children’s tooth decay – England

We have been working with the Chief Dental Officer for England to highlight our concerns about the impact of poor dental health – taking forward ARM policy. Our activities have included media work to raise the profile of this issue. The Chief Dental Officer has also produced a set of online resources, for the wider Health and Social Care and Early Years workforce, to support oral health promotion for children aged 0-2 years in non-dental settings. This includes posters, leaflets and other resources (eg Apps, videos, guidance) for the public, patients, parents and carers. [The resources are available to download and use here.](#)

Women in Academic Medicine Conference – Friday 12 October 2018

This exciting one-day conference aims to celebrate and promote the role of women in academic medicine, in particular, in the development of policy at every level. The conference will provide a national forum for female medical academics to raise issues, share experiences and celebrate achievements with the aim of supporting and empowering female academics. The conference is also open to public health doctors and more information can be found at the following link:

<https://www.bma.org.uk/events/2018/october/women-in-academic-medicine>

Sessional GPs e-newsletter - UK

The September issue of the sessional GP newsletter includes an article on the updated FAQs for state- backed indemnity for GPs by Matt Mayer, Sessional GPC exec and Mark Sanford-Wood, GPC exec. The newsletter also includes an article by Zoe Norris on pay uplifts and DDRB, including a template letter for salaried GPs to take to their practice. Read the newsletter [here](#).

LMC observers at GPC meetings - UK

LMC observers are welcome to attend GPC meetings. If your LMC would be interested in sending an observer, please contact Kathryn Reece (kreece@bma.org.uk). A maximum of three LMC observers may attend any one meeting.

The date for the 2018/19 session for GPC meetings are below. Meetings will commence at 10:00am and will usually finish at 5:00pm (never later than 6:00pm).

GPC England	Thursday 15 November 2018	BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP
GPC England	Thursday 17 January 2019	BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP
GPC UK	Thursday 21 March	Northern Ireland – To be Confirmed
GPC England	Thursday 18 July 2019	BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP

Please note that all travel and other expenses for LMC observers should be met by the relevant LMC.

Dates for your diary

A reminder of the forthcoming dates for LMC conferences as per our email of 28 June:

LMC England conference – Friday 23 November at the Mermaid, London.

LMC Secretaries conference – Friday 14 December at BMA House, and

LMC UK conference – the afternoon of Tuesday 19 and a full day on Wednesday 20 March in Belfast.

Exact start and finish times and more details will follow in due course.

Deadlines for submitting conference motions

LMC Conference, UK – Midday 13 December 2018

More details including how to submit your conference motions will be sent out in due course.

LMC access to the BMA website - UK

It has been drawn to our attention that some LMCs may be having difficulty accessing the BMA website. All LMCs do have access, but need to use the login details registered for submitting conference motions. This may, however, be an individual's email address, registered to input conference motions only.

If you wish to create an office account, using the office email address as part of your login and a password that everyone can use, or if you are unsure of your current login details and password, please email Karen Day at kday@bma.org.uk and she will email you your relevant information.

LMCs – change of details - UK

If there are any changes to LMC personnel, addresses and other contact details, please can you email Karen Day with the changes at kday@bma.org.uk.

GPC England next meets on 15 November 2018. LMCs are invited to submit items for discussion. You may like to review these, beforehand, with the representatives in your area who serve on the GPC. The closing date for items for the GPC England meeting is 8 May 2018. It would be helpful if items could be emailed to Kathryn Reece at kreece@bma.org.uk. You may also like to use the GPC's listservers to exchange views and ideas.

GPC News

LMCs are reminded that their regional representatives can provide more detailed information about the issues covered in GPC News, and other matters. Other members of the GPC would also be pleased to accept invitations to LMC meetings wherever possible. The secretariat can also provide a written background brief if required, but it would be helpful to have such requests well in advance of your meetings.

Finally, if LMCs require assistance on local issues, they can also contact the BMA's local offices. Their details are available on the BMA website.

This newsletter has been sent to:

Secretaries of LMCs and LMC offices
Members of the GPC
Members of the GP trainees subcommittee
Members of the sessional GPs subcommittee