

Welcome to the March GP bulletin

This email has been sent to the main contact we hold for your practice only.

It contains important GP pension information for practitioners - please can you share with GPs in your practice.

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GP Pensions

Information for practitioners

Annual pension administration update

As part of the requirements of the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations, GPs need to return their GP Provider Annual Certificate of Pensionable Income or the Type 2 Medical Practitioner Self-Assessment form to PCSE by 28 February each year i.e. 11 months after pension year end. It is a legal requirement for GPs to complete and submit these documents.

Although the deadline for submitting pension administration this year has passed, it is important that practitioners still complete and submit their forms to PCSE.

Any forms received past the deadline may not be reflected in the August 2019 Total Reward Statement, but will show on any future statements.

Important: If practitioners do not submit pension documentation for any one year it will result in an incomplete pension record which may affect Annual Benefit Statements (Total Reward Statements), Annual Allowance statements, etc.

NHS Pensions Amnesty forms - reminder

Practitioners should use the amnesty forms released by NHS Pensions to send PCSE certificates for any missing years from 2009/10 to 2016/17. NHS Pensions has also added historical forms for GP provider (Type 1) and non GP providers dating back to 2009/10 to their website, along with the guidance notes for those years.

Using these forms/certificates to send PCSE information for any missing years will help practitioners to get their pension records up to date as soon as possible.

Please click [here](#) to read more about these forms.

Important information regarding pension adjustment payments

Once PCSE has processed your end of year certificates/ Type 2 forms we will automatically adjust the next practice contractual payment run to account for the arrears or overpayments.

Members do not need to take any action.

However, we recognise that some members may wish to make a payment before the end of the 18/19 tax year. In order to do this, end of year certificates must be submitted to PCSE first, and then an ad-hoc payment can be made via online banking. PCSE's customer support centre can provide NHS England's bank details over the phone. They can be contacted on 0333 014 2884.

When making a payment it is important to enter the reference in the following format:

Practice code – year ending for example: P82004YEND2018

If the correct payment reference is not used, the payment cannot be quickly allocated to the correct fund. This delay may result in the amount being deducted again from the practice's next contractual payment.

Short term agreement – Locum A & B forms

Locum A & B forms, along with corresponding pension contribution payments **must** be submitted to PCSE within 10 weeks from the date each work placement ends.

For a short-term period only, NHS England has agreed that PCSE can accept A & B forms that have not been submitted within the ten week deadline for Locums who have **already** made their pension payment by BACs/online banking **within** the ten week deadline.

Please note this is an interim arrangement only. Future form submissions and payment must be sent within the 10 week deadline in order for them to be accepted.

Information for practices

Pension adjustment payments

Once PCSE has processed any end of year pension administration certificates (including forms submitted as part of the [NHS Pensions amnesty](#) process) we are required to automatically adjust the next contractual payment run to account for any arrears or overpayments. Adjustments are shown clearly on the practice statement with the name of the practitioner any adjustment concerns.

In line with NHS Pension guidelines and overarching legislation, it is the responsibility of the practice to refund or recoup the adjustment directly with the practitioner concerned.

PCSE has developed a new section with FAQs regarding pension adjustments, which can be accessed [here](#) in the 'Help' section of the PCSE website.

Cervical Screening

Deferral periods must not exceed 18 months

When deferring a woman's screening invitation please ensure the deferral period does not exceed 18 months.

Through the Prior Notification List (PNL) process, GPs may defer a woman's screening invitation and notify PCSE by submitting a deferral form.

The [deferral form](#) has recently been standardised and is available on the PCSE website (see 'Step 3' on PCSE's webpage: [Screening administration support for GPs and Nurses.](#))

In line with guidance published in the ['NHS cervical screening call and recall: guide to administrative good practice'](#) the GP practice must specify how long the deferral is for in multiples of 6 months, up to a maximum time of 18 months. So, a woman may be postponed for 6, 12 or 18 months at any one time and the appropriate section of the form must clearly state the date in dd/mm/yyyy.

Cervical Screening Programme Deferral

This form should be used if a patient's next test is to be postponed. The reason for postponement and new deferral date must be specified.

The patient will be invited for screening approximately 5-6 weeks before the end of the deferral period.

Patient Name	
Patient NHS Number	
Patient Date of Birth	
Patient Address	

Please defer until (DDMMYYYY)
(maximum 18 months)

How to upload a completed deferral request via the online form

All deferral forms should be submitted to PCSE via the online form.

- Go to the [Contact Us](#) page and select 'Screening – Cease/Reinstate/Defer' from the drop down menu under enquiry type
- Complete the mandatory fields and upload the colposcopy discharge list document
- Submit the request

PCSE will acknowledge receipt of the form and update accordingly. You will receive a case reference number should you need to follow up on your submission.

Details of the new deferral form was shared in the December bulletin along with the new reinstate and ceasing forms which are all available in the Cervical Screening section of the [PCSE website](#).

Open Exeter password reset information

Primary contacts for Open Exeter (usually the practice manager in a GP practice) can reset passwords and add other users in their NHS organisation directly. Instructions on how to do this can be found [here](#).

If you would like to set up an additional primary contact at your practice, please click [here](#) to read guidance.

Supplies

New guidance added to 'Help' section

We are continuously updating the FAQs in the 'Help' section of the PCSE website, and most of the queries we receive into our customer service centre can be resolved using the guidance in this section.

We have recently refreshed our guidance on what to do if you are trying to order personalised pads, but the practitioner is not appearing in the drop-down list of practitioners for personalisation.

Please click [here](#) to view the new guidance.

Registrations

Common reasons for rejections of patient registrations

We will be providing practices with more information regarding patient registration rejections over the next few months, but as an interim measure we have listed a few of the most common reasons for a registration request being rejected. We hope you find this information useful.

- Birthplace has not been provided - on a first registration or registration for an immigrant where an NHS number has not been supplied

- No trace of address – i.e. the address provided by the practice does not exist on Royal Mail post code finder, Google or on NHAIS (this is an issue often caused by spelling errors)
- The patient's previous address was Scottish or Northern Irish. If this is the case, please supply address and post code in the 'message' field in addition to the previous address field.
This should enable the registration to go through automatically, but even if it doesn't, it will still make it easier for the PCSE registrations teams to process efficiently.
- Mismatch of GP code. This can happen if a GP moves practices and tries to use their GP code from the previous practice. The GP should submit a [Performers List change request \(NPL3\)](#) for a change of practice, and a new GP code will be supplied by PCSE once the change has been confirmed. Mismatch of GP code can also happen if a GP retires and returns after 24 hours, and uses their old GP code rather than the one issued following retirement. However, new codes are not necessary where the (new) practice has a [pooled list](#) in place.

Contacting PCSE

You can contact the PCSE Customer Support Centre on 0333 014 2884 (open from 8:00-17:00, Monday to Friday), or [click here](#) to send us an enquiry via our online form. Your query can then be logged, tracked and sent to the right team as quickly as possible.

If you need to follow up on a query, please quote the case reference number to help us quickly identify it.

You can also try our online help for answers to the most [frequently asked questions](#) from our customers.

We have seen a large increase in email queries being sent to multiple email addresses. Sending duplicate emails impacts on our response times, and we encourage practices to use the online form for all written queries.

Best wishes,

Primary Care Support England (PCSE)