

LMC Update Email

6 December 2019

Dear colleagues

Manifesto commitments

Ahead of the General Election next week on 12 December, the BMA has published a summary of what different party manifestos are pledging on health, available [here](#). The page also includes an analysis of how commitments compare to the BMA's manifesto 'asks' and a [template](#) to email your prospective parliamentary candidates.

GP trainees' views on the future of General Practice – King's Fund report

The King's Fund produced a [report](#) this week based on a survey that received responses from 840 GP trainees in England. This repeated a survey they ran in 2016 and 2018. Key findings included:

- Only 27 per cent of trainees intend to work full time in general practice one year after qualifying and only 5 per cent after 10 years (down from 31 % and 10 % 2016)
- The intensity of the working day remains the commonest reason for choosing part-time or portfolio work (69 per cent), although family commitments (66 %) and interest in other work like emergency medicine or palliative care (50 %) were also important factors. Other NHS clinical work or medical education continue as the commonest choices to combine with general practice as a portfolio career.
- Only 41 % of respondents are considering GP partnership at 10 years, down from 45 % in 2016; the most common reasons for this are the financial implications (58 %) and the lack of training in business matters (47 %).

It was also worth noting that in the 2016 survey, trainees reported they were considering portfolio working at a later stage in their career, but this year they saw an increase in the number of trainees considering it one and five years after qualifying (24 and 51 %, up from 18 and 44 % in 2016).

Electronic Prescription Service update (England)

The [Electronic Prescription Service](#) (EPS) allows prescribers to send prescriptions electronically to a dispenser of the patient's choice. Phase 4 of the EPS is currently being rolled out on TPP SystemOne. Read more [here](#) and see the FAQs attached. The GPC IT policy group lead, Anu Rao, has also written a [blog](#) about EPS and the other work streams that the group are involved in.

Currently, dispensing practices are unable to use the EPS for medicines dispensed by the practice dispensary. Further information for dispensing practices has been produced by the [DDA](#). We continue to urge NHS England to enable the implementation of EPS for dispensing practices.

Scottish LMC conference

Read the resolutions from Scottish LMC conference, held last week, [here](#). These, along with the minutes and agenda, are also available [here](#)

PCN conference 2020 (England)

Building on the success of our first conference for PCN clinical directors earlier this year, we are now preparing for a much bigger event next year. This will provide an opportunity to join other PCN leaders and gain insight into what's happening across England, share best practice and build supportive relationships. The PCN Conference will be on **Saturday 8 February**, at the ICC Birmingham. It is suitable for clinical directors, PCN leads and those providing supporting management. Learn more and get your early bird discount at www.bma.org.uk/pcn-whats-next

PCN support services – learning and development for clinical directors (England)

The BMA learning and development team provides a bespoke offer of blended learning, focused on the topics crucial to developing your PCN plan and strategy. Learning will equip clinical directors, and those in supporting roles, with strategic planning, workforce planning, and leadership and management skills to help shape the direction of their PCN. Programmes will run from January to April 2020, in Bristol, Leeds and London. [Book now](#) or find out more on our [website](#).

Home visits (England)

There have been further reports in the media about the vote at the LMC England conference demanding that home visits should be removed from the core contract. The story was covered by the [Independent](#), [New Statesman](#), and a mention in a [Daily Mail](#) article about the King's Fund poll of GP trainees highlighted above.

Disability survey (UK)

To mark International Day of People with Disabilities on 3 December, the BMA would like to know how disability and ill-health affects the careers of doctors and medical students, and the support you receive or would like to receive at work or in study. Take our short survey [here](#). Earlier this year we spoke to deaf-blind medical student Alexandra Adams – [read the feature here](#)

National General Practice Profiles: 2019 annual update (England)

Public Health England has published a data tool presenting a range of GP practice-level indicators using the latest available data in the [National General Practice Profiles](#). This tool is designed to support GPs, CCGs and local authorities to commission effective, appropriate healthcare services for their local populations. Users can search for and view data for individual GP practices and compare them with others in CCGs and across England.

Clinical Academic career progression survey

Are you an academic GP? The BMA's Medical Academic Staff Committee would very much appreciate if you could fill in their short survey about the changes needed to improve diversity and career progression in medical research, education and clinical academia. Take the survey [here](#)

Public Health Conference 2020

Public Health Medicine Committee will be holding their [Public Health conference on 26 February 2020](#) at the BMA House London. The theme of the conference is '21st century public health' and what that might mean for public health professionals. There will be keynote speakers on climate change and economic inequality. For further information please contact info.phmc@bma.org.uk

Sandy Macara Memorial Lecture

The Public Health Medicine committee is also organising the '[Macara Lecture 2020](#)', to be held at the *Wales Millennium Centre on 28 January 2020*. This address honours the life and work of the former BMA Council Chair Sir Alexander Macara who died in 2012. The Memorial Address 2020 is being delivered by Professor Ronan Lyons, Professor of Public Health at Swansea University. The subject of the lecture, 'Big Data and Public Health', also picks up on the conference theme of twenty first century public health. If you are interested in this event, please contact info.phmc@bma.org.uk

Read the latest GPC newsletter [here](#).

Have a good weekend

Richard