

LMC ViewPoint

The newsletter of Leeds Local Medical Committee Limited

6th December 2022

ICB in Leeds response to media reporting of GP appointment data

The LMC and a number of practices raised concerns about an article in the Yorkshire Evening Post that misrepresented the newly-released GP appointment data and effectively criticised practices for offering patients the opportunity to book beyond a month in advance, something many patients appreciate when they book routine health checks or follow-up appointments. We were pleased that the ICB in Leeds responded and sent the [attached letter](#) to the editor. It explains the facts behind the figures and gives more context about all that practices are doing to care for patients.

The letter will be included in the YEP letters page and has been shared with the paper's parent organisation's national data team to include in their story packs should they look at pulling together these stats again in the future.

Invasive Group A streptococcus (iGAS)

Media reports in the last few days highlighting the warning from the UK Health Security Agency about an increase in cases of invasive Group A streptococcus have led to a big rise in parents contacting practices and 111 services for advice and seeking antibiotics for their children.

Current invasive Group A streptococcus (iGAS) infection notifications remain unusually high for this time of year, particularly in children. Marked increases in scarlet fever notifications are also being seen. Investigations are underway following reports of an increase in lower respiratory tract GAS infections in children over the past few weeks, which have caused severe illness. A high burden of co-circulating viral infections may be contributing to the increased severity and complications through co-infection. Urgent notification to UKHSA Health Protection Teams of iGAS infection is essential to facilitate immediate public health actions including assessment of contacts.

Recommendations from the UK Health Security Agency include:

- Given the unusually high level of GAS, and viral co-circulation in the community, health care professionals are asked to have a low threshold to consider and empirically prescribe antibiotics to children presenting with features of GAS infection, including where secondary to viral respiratory illness.
- Consider taking a throat swab to assist with differential diagnosis or if the patient is thought to be part of an outbreak (to confirm aetiology), allergic to penicillin (to determine antimicrobial susceptibility) or in regular contact with vulnerable individuals
- Parents of children with presumed respiratory viral infection should be made aware of features suggestive of secondary bacterial infection, such as clinical deterioration, and when and how to seek further help. Safety netting advice for parents can be found on the link below.
- GPs should maintain a low threshold for prompt referral to secondary care of any children presenting with persistent or worsening symptoms.

Useful information includes a [Health Protection Report, guidance and data, safety netting and patient information sheets](#) produced by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, and a reminder on [notification of infectious diseases](#).

LMC England Conference

Dr John Allingham has moved from Kent to Leeds and joined the LMC team attending the LMC England Conference in November. Here is his report:

Over the last 12 or 13 years I have been to nearly every UK and England LMC Conference, but this was my first as a Leeds LMC Representative. My overall impression was disappointing. The motions debated reflected the pressure and disquiet felt in General Practice but offered little in the way of policy guidance to the GPC to inform contract negotiations.

The first day of conference followed the traditional approach of motions debated and then voted on.

It started with a debate on workload and safety which included the proposal that all practices should declare themselves as 'needing improvement.' This was rejected which is just as well because it is not technically possible.

There was a debate on Mental Health Services with powerful speakers berating the rejection of mental health referrals. The thresholds of immunisation payments in QoF were debated. This is something that the GPC could seek to change in contractual negotiations. There was a call for help to deal with the energy crises. Another to look for fairness in CQC inspections particularly with respect to the ethnicity of the registered manager. There were other motions concerning the PCN DES, enhanced access, recording hours rather than sessions and ICSs.

Gender dysphoria services were debated and there were calls for improvement in services, specialist initiation of medication and proper shared care arrangements. One speaker told a personal story of how it had taken 6 years for a patient to work their way through the waiting lists and barriers to access.

The afternoon session included the proposal that GP core contract hours should be reduced from 8 to 6.30 to 9 to 5. I spoke to oppose this motion, but it was approved albeit with a split vote. This was the front-page story in the Daily Mail the following day.

Lucy Clement proposed a successful motion largely written by Leeds LMC about the secondary care to primary care workload shift. This has been debated before and the outcomes have been a lot of discussion but very little tangible action. Our motion offered some clear outcomes that the GPC could ask for.

The second day conference was split into 4 groups who held facilitated discussions about what we hope to see in the contract after 2024 when the current one expires, what industrial action we would consider taking if the contract is unacceptable, how we might explore additional funding methods including charging patients and how PCNs are functioning. I felt we were discussing issues that are political rather than contractual and as such should be avoided or are vague nebulous 'what if' scenarios.

As a relative newcomer to Leeds conference was a good opportunity for me to get to know the excellent team at the LMC better. In that regard it was a success!

Annual GP Awards / GPMplus: wellbeing support for General Practice

GPMplus delivers a range of wellbeing support services to General Practice colleagues and teams and has been shortlisted for HCP Education Programme/Provider of the Year at the General Practice Awards 2022, which will take place on 9th December in London. Good luck to all involved!

Services available from GPMplus include Healthy Practice wellbeing education courses, with a range to suit all members of the practice team. There's more detail, including how to book your place on these courses, on the [GPMplus website](#) – please do share this link with all staff at your practice. GPMplus also provides a popular peer mentoring service which is available to clinicians and leaders within General Practice. Our programmes are directly supported by NHSE/I which means the services offered can be delivered free at the point of access.

Medical Examiner Recruitment for Leeds Medical Examiner Service

In preparation for the statutory phase of the Medical Examiner Service due April 2023, LTHT are seeking to recruit a further 7 Medical Examiners to join the team based at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

Medical Examiners are appropriately trained senior doctors who verify clinical information on Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD), ensure appropriate referrals to the coroner, and

ensure accuracy and consistency of the MCCD. They are also a source of advice for affiliated professionals and services.

They are responsible for independent scrutiny of the documentation and circumstances leading to a patient's death and advise clinical teams. In addition, the Medical Examiners Service provides bereaved families with an explanation and opportunity to ask questions and discuss the MCCD. Medical Examiners identify and escalate any concerns they may have about an individual case, but also any concerns raised by clinical staff or the bereaved. The Medical Examiner Service works closely with Learning from Deaths and other existing Trust clinical governance systems and aims to independently identify themes arising from cases reviewed. Externally they will be in regular contact with coroner's officers, registrars, and other key stakeholders. Medical Examiners are employed by the acute Trust but have a separate line of accountability to the National Medical Examiner Service via the Regional Medical Examiner teams, who provide support and training to all local Medical Examiner teams.

The Medical Examiner system began by looking at acute deaths within hospital sites, but is extending its service to the scrutiny of deaths within the community, in line with statutory requirements.

It is for this reason LTHT are particularly interested in attracting applications from those doctors working within General Practice or Community Healthcare Services to join the current team of hospital consultants.

Those successful applicants already in a Consultant post would be paid 1 PA at their current salary point, Non-consultant MEs (for example GP/SAS/Registrar) would be paid the equivalent 1PA (4 hours) at the first point of the consultant salary scale.

Please note, Medical Examiner PAs should be taken on in addition to the applicant's current clinical workload. Existing consultants wishing to substitute Medical Examiner time for clinical time will only be considered if they have the support to do so from their practice or organisation line manager.

If you wish to express an interest in this role, please apply with a CV via NHS Jobs using reference number: **C9298-MED-079** (Link to advert on NHS Jobs: <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9298-MED-079>)

The deadline for this post is **Thursday 22 December 2022**

If you have any questions in the meantime please email leedsth-tr.meoffice@nhs.net for the attention of Dr Niki Snook or Dr Lesley Kilshaw.

Practice Vacancies

Medical Secretary – Alwoodley Medical Centre

Required for extremely busy medical practice. Must be IT literate, friendly, enthusiastic, with typing skills and the ability to multi – task. Previous experience in a similar environment would be an advantage but is not essential.

Full or Part-time hours will be considered.

Apply in writing with CV to: Alwoodleymedicalcentre@nhs.net

Previous applicants need not apply.

Closing date – mid March 2022

Salaried GP Vacancy - Permanent position / Sessions per week: 4-6 sessions per week**Start Date: April 2023**

Aire Valley Surgery is a training practice with two sites, and everyone works across both sites at Rawdon, LS19 6DD and in Yeadon LS19 7JN. We are looking for a highly motivated doctor to join our growing team as a Salaried GP.

Our 'big practice with a small friendly team approach' is increasing capacity and we are looking for a new Salaried GP to join our team. We currently have 6 partners, 6 Salaried GPs and our clinical team also consists of 2 ANPs, 1 Physicians Associate, 2 Practice Pharmacists, 3 Nurses, 3 HCAs, and a Care Coordinator supported by a fantastic management and admin team.

Aire Valley Surgery is a training practice, which means that we have a regular intake of Medical Students (years 1,2 and 3) in addition to our GP Registrars and FY2 doctors.

Aire Valley Surgery participates in a range of projects and enhanced services and works with Yeadon Primary Care Network.

- List size of approximately 14,500
- 6 Partners – Dr Chris Mills, Dr Elaine James, Dr Adrian Rees, Dr Sumana Reddy, Dr Catrin Lewis, and Dr Jon Yardley
- System One and operating a triage software system through AccuRx
- There is no requirement for any extended Hours work

We offer a competitive salary and the BMA model contract for salaried GPs.

Potential applicants are encouraged to arrange an informal tour and introductory chat with the Practice Manager – Mrs Victoria Johnson.

Applications and Enquiries to:

Please email your CV with a covering letter to:

Mrs Victoria Johnson – Practice Manager

Aire Valley Surgery, 11 New Road Side, Rawdon, LS19 6DD

Email: v.johnson10@nhs.net

Ashfield & The Grange Medical Centre

Ashfield and The Grange Medical Centre have an excellent opportunity for a GP to join our friendly and supportive practice team. We require a minimum of 4 sessions per week.

We are a two-site practice with surgeries in Crossgates and Seacroft with excellent transport links into. We are a PMS practice with a registered list size of 6500 and actively expanding.

Our practice provides excellent care and are high achievers for treating and caring for patients with long term health conditions. We are high QOF achievers year on year and this is down to our team work ethic and a can do attitude with a friendly atmosphere.

Our Practice team consists of 2 GP partners, 5 salaried GP's, registrars and FY2, who work great as a team providing excellent patient care. The team is complemented by our fantastic Advanced Care Practitioner who supports our GP's with core practice work and visits and brilliant nursing team who have a wide skill mix including Practice nurses and HCA's. We have a friendly reception and administrative team.

We are a Training Practice with a broad involvement in education & training including FY2, registrars and student nurses. We have created a supportive MDT way of working to support all our trainees but also to ensure existing staff are able to access mentoring from the wider team.

Weekly allocated CPD time for salaried GP's.

Main duties of the job

We are looking for a skilled GP with the motivation skills and ambition to be actively involved in our practice. For GP's who have special interests these are encouraged and supported.

The post-holder will be expected to undertake all the normal duties and responsibilities associated with a GP working within primary care.

The post-holder will perform the normal duties of a General Practitioner, contribute to the collective working of the practice, participate in learning, and audit and support the practice in its work with a wide range of health needs in primary care, ensuring the highest standards of care for all registered patients.

For more information on the role, please contact Michaela Guilfoyle, Practice Manager telephone 01132044916 or email practicemanager.ashfield@nhs.net

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Central North Leeds PCN Ltd (Based at Shadwell Medical Centre)

Salaried GP (flexible number of sessions) - Salary negotiable.

This is an exciting opportunity to join our growing team at Shadwell, a small single site System One practice in leafy North Leeds. We are seeking GP's who want to offer continuity of care and develop strong professional relationships so that our patients receive excellent care. The practice is now managed by the PCN and works closely with the other practices in Central North Leeds, one of Leeds largest PCN's. You would be joining a forward thinking, friendly and committed team which is well supported by the PCN clinical director and business manager, plus the wider workforce who are based at the practice, including pharmacists, paramedics, OT's and social prescribers. You would be an active member of the team taking part in weekly practice meetings and be fully involved in decision making and developing the practice strategy.

If you are interested in this role and would like further information please contact Lynne Doyle, PCN Business Manager. lynnedoyle@nhs.net

Whitehall Surgery - Salaried GP – 5 – 6 Sessions

Due to a growing list and Maternity Leave we are looking for a Salaried GP / Partner to join our team.

We are offering 5 – 6 sessions (job share welcome)

Competitive salary with Defence Subscription

Thriving practice of approx. 9,000 patients, in new modern building with car park, comprising 4 GP Partners, 2 Salaried GPs, 2 ANPs.

One of our GP Partners is Clinical Director to the PCN; therefore, we are a very forward-thinking practice

We are a high achieving, well organised practice and use SystmOne

We have the following in house services for our patients:

- Family planning service providers for both Implants and Coil devices
- Minor surgery including joint injections
- Pharmacy Team including PCN Pharmacist support
- Social Prescribers
- Physio First service
- Mental Health Practitioner

If you are interested in joining our great team, please contact Joanne Woods Practice Manager, Whitehall Surgery, 1st Floor Wortley Beck Health Centre, Ring Road Leeds LS12 5SG.

Email: joanne.woods@nhs.net

SALARIED GP VACANCY

Bramley Village are seeking a GP to join their surgery. We are offering 4-6 sessions per week, ideally Wednesday, Thursday & Friday.

- Excellent benefits including, £10,500 - £11,000 per session.
- Low visit rate
- Regular Clinical Meetings
- Enthusiastic and Dynamic practice
- Study Time
- Shared workflow

Please contact Vicky.Jacques@nhs.net for further information or click on the link below.

<https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/A2381-22-6465>

Salaried GP with potential for partnership – Burley Park Medical Centre

We are looking for a Salaried GP to join our team with a potential view to partnership. We will consider applications for part-time or full-time.

Benefits include:

- BMA salaried GP contract
- Protected learning time
- Paid indemnity subscriptions
- Friendly, supportive team
- Shared workload inc home visits and results management.
- Weekly clinical team meetings

Burley Park Medical Centre is a friendly, high-achieving training practice looking after a diverse population of over 13,000 patients. We are looking for a salaried GP to join our practice clinical team, consisting of 3 GP Partners, 4 salaried GPs, 1 GP Trainee, 3 ANPs, 2 practice nurses, 2 HCAs and PCN ARRS staff.

You will work together with the reception/admin and management teams within a supportive and co-operative environment.

We encourage training and the sharing of knowledge and experience. At our weekly clinical team meetings clinicians meet and discuss patient cases, current guidelines, patients of interest and families of concern.

further information or to arrange an informal visit please contact Jane or Natalie:

burleyparkmedicalcentre@nhs.net. Applications via NHS Jobs: [A3987-22-9678](https://nhs.uk/jobs/A3987-22-9678)

Comings & Goings

- Laurel Bank Surgery welcomes Dr Gwyn Elias to our team as a new salaried GP.