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FAO: Heads of Primary Care

26 September 2016

Dear colleagues,

Action for provision of information on general practice access data

From October 2016, as agreed in contract regulations, every GP practice in England will be required to submit a new online access return twice a year through the Primary Care Web Tool (PCWT). This will set out what access to appointments the practice offers to patients either itself or through some other arrangements and seven days a week.

The first return will be open for submission from 3 October 2016 to 31 October 2016 inclusive. Guidance will be published shortly on NHS England's website, and we have attached a copy to this letter.

I would be grateful if you can ensure every GP in your area is aware of this new contractual requirement as soon as possible. We will be confirming this new legal requirement in the GP bulletin, CCG bulletin and Regional team action bulletin.

NHS England regional teams will continue to be responsible for general enquiries' about the PCWT and how to access the different modules as they are now, as well as maintaining the use of the PCWT.

For general enquiries or technical use of the PCWT please email info.primarycareweb@nhs.net

If you have any queries about this new collection that is part of the PCWT, please do not hesitate to contact england.gpaccess@nhs.net

Yours sincerely,

John Taylor Head of Seven Day Access to General Practice NHS England