

# GP Bulletin

Date 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019 / Issue 310

## About this bulletin

To minimise the number of emails sent to practices, the Local Regional Team is using this weekly bulletin as its main method of communicating with practice managers covering the 350 practices in Bristol, Somerset, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire, Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. The bulletins contain important information for practice managers, which might include requests for information and deadlines, as well as updates on issues relating to GP contracts.

Copies of the bulletins and attachments are available on our website:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/south/info-professional/medical/dcis/gp-bulletin/>

If you have any questions or wish to provide feedback, please contact the Primary Care Team: [england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net](mailto:england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net)

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## Key Deadlines

CQRS declarations for payment in the same month	9 <sup>th</sup> of each month	Via CQRS
Maternity, paternity, parental or sickness absence	Last working day of each month	Via email to <a href="mailto:england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net">england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net</a>

### • Items for all Practices

#### URGENT: EU Exit letters

Please find attached three important EU Exit letters which need to be cascaded onto all GP, Pharmacy, Dental and Optical providers in England:

- A letter from Keith Willett confirming the dates of EU exit and advising that we could leave with no deal on 12 April and must therefore prepare.
- A letter from the Secretary of State for all NHS staff that gives further information about the Government's ongoing preparations for leaving the European Union. A copy of the letter is also available [here](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-and-social-care-staff-eu-exit-preparations-update) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-and-social-care-staff-eu-exit-preparations-update>).
- A letter from the SofS and the Home Secretary to chief executives, which contains an important update on the EU Settlement Scheme relevant to all staff in health and social care.

**Please note** In addition we will be following up with a further EU Exit primary care guidance communication shortly.

#### 2019/20 General Medical Services (GMS) Contract: Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF)

The aim of this document is to provide additional guidance on the interpretation and verification of the QOF indicators for 2019/20 in England, which are listed in Annex D of the Statement of Financial Entitlements Directions (SFE) . It is effective from 1 April 2019 and replaces versions issued in previous years.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/2019-20-general-medical-services-gms-contract-quality-and-outcomes-framework-qof/>

#### GP Contract Directions 2019 to 2020

The Primary Medical Services (directed enhanced services) directions 2019 sets out the legal framework under which enhanced services must be provided nationally.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gp-contract-directions-2019-to-2020>

## **GP Contract 2019/20: ENHS England Enhanced Service Specifications**

These enhanced service specifications outline more specialised services and those additional services provided by all General Medical Services (GMS) practices.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/gp-contract-2019-20-nhs-england-enhanced-service-specifications/>

## **Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service 2019/20**

NHS England has published a range of documents for the Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service (DES) Specification 2019/20. The [guidance](#), [registration form](#), [network agreement](#) and [DES and VAT Information Note](#) are available on the NHS England website.

## **Tier 2 Sponsorship**

NHS England is supporting practices should they wish to apply to be Tier 2 sponsors for doctors that require a visa. Supporting information is attached. Please contact Dr Liz Thomas [liz.thomas2@nhs.net](mailto:liz.thomas2@nhs.net) if there are any concerns. We are working to make sure all such GPs make themselves known to us and then we can match them up with a local area.

## **Primary Care Networks – Frequently Asked Questions**

NHS England has published a set of frequently asked questions about primary care networks. The questions were collated via a series of engagement sessions.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/primary-care-networks-frequently-asked-questions/>

## **2-3 Year Olds Flu Vaccination Questionnaire 2018/19**

Across the South West of England we've seen a significant increase in the uptake of 2-3 year old flu vaccinations this season in comparison with last year. We would like to get a sense of what things you may have done differently if anything from this 2018/19 season to the previous 2017/18 season.

It would be great if you could complete the survey on the link below, which should only take a couple of minutes. We're planning on reviewing the responses on Monday 15 April, if you are able to respond please do so before this date.

[Link to Survey](#)

Your response helps with future planning and commissioning with you and we appreciate your continued support with this important Public Health immunisation programme.

If you have any queries regarding this survey please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Public Health Team, NHS England South West (North)  
[england.bgswareateampublichealth@nhs.net](mailto:england.bgswareateampublichealth@nhs.net)

## **General Practice Improvement Leaders Programme - SW regional cohort**

There are still places available on this course, so please book now if you would like to attend. Please see attached 'General Practice Improvement Leaders Programme SW region flyer March 2019'

- **Items for Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Practices only**

None

- **Items for Somerset Practices only**

None

- **Items for Devon Practices only**

None

- **Items for Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Practices only**  
**URGENT re Measles cases in Cornwall**

Public Health England is working with Cornwall Council, the NHS and other partner agencies following confirmation of three confirmed and three probable cases of measles. These cases attended a school, a childminder setting and Falmouth University.

Immediate close contacts that may have been exposed to the cases while they were infectious have been identified and followed up. Warn and inform messages have been shared with individuals attending the above settings. The cases and their contacts are urged to check their MMR status and ensure that children are up to date with MMR vaccination.

Please ensure that all practice staff (including reception) have records of two doses of measles-containing vaccine and/or a positive measles IgG antibody test.

### **Multi Agency Referral Unit (MARU) – new email**

As you may already be aware the GCSX email system will be phased out by central government as a way of delivering secure email on the 31 March 2019.

There is **no direct replacement** service, instead organisations are being asked to meet the government's [secure email policy](#) standards.

Therefore, from 1 April 2019 the Multi Agency Referral Unit has a new email address which is: [multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk)

Please ensure that you update any contact lists that you use with the email address above. If you have any queries, please contact [togetherforfamilies@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:togetherforfamilies@cornwall.gov.uk)

[www.cornwall.gov.uk/togetherforfamilies](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/togetherforfamilies)