About this bulletin
To minimise the number of emails sent to practices, NHS England and NHS Improvement – South West 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 affecting payments, as well as updates on issues relating to GP contracts. We recognise that CCGs with delegated authority may also issue information to practices regarding their areas of specific responsibility, however, the bulletin remains relevant to the practices in those areas in terms of the public health areas for which NHS England and Improvement remain responsible.

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

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• Items for Somerset Practices Only
  o None
• Items for Devon Practices Only
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• Items for Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Practices only
  o QOF 2019/20 Year End – Action Required
### Key Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>By 27 March 2020</th>
<th>Via CQRS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accept QOF 20/21 offer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete all the relevant actions in the QOF 2019/20 year-end checklist and complete the Quality Improvement Domain by manually inputting the achievement</td>
<td>By 31 March 2020</td>
<td>Via <a href="https://digital.nhs.uk/services/general-practice-gp-collections/service-information/quality-outcomes-framework">https://digital.nhs.uk/services/general-practice-gp-collections/service-information/quality-outcomes-framework</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dispensing practices to send second 2019/2020 DSQS return</td>
<td>by 20th March 2020</td>
<td>Completed forms to <a href="mailto:england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net">england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CQRS declarations for payment in the same month</td>
<td>9th of each month</td>
<td>via CQRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maternity, paternity, parental or sickness absence</td>
<td>Last working day of each month</td>
<td>Kernow practices only via <a href="mailto:england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net">england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net</a> and other practices via their CCG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Items for all Practices

**CQC to stop routine inspections to focus on supporting providers to deliver safe care during Covid-19 pandemic**

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has announced that it will be stopping routine inspections from this week. [https://www.cqc.org.uk/news/releases/cqc-stop-routine-inspections-focus-supporting-providers-deliver-safe-care-during-cov-0](https://www.cqc.org.uk/news/releases/cqc-stop-routine-inspections-focus-supporting-providers-deliver-safe-care-during-cov-0)

**Infected Burns impacting specialised capacity - Message for Primary Care**

Dear Colleagues,

As a result of patients trying to avoid ED and primary care the burns networks have noticed an increased in infected burns presenting. The networks were keen to raise this with primary care. I think this is a reminder of how important primary care will be during these difficult times to keep our patients safe particularly as they avoid attending health settings. We are experts at remote consulting, and I hope that patients benefit from the confidence in this mode of consulting.

Dr Liz Thomas
Deputy Medical Director, NHS England and NHS Improvement (South West)

**Letter to all ROs in England - update on appraisal and revalidation**

Please find attached a letter from Professor Stephen Powis on changes to professional standards processes in the context of the Covid-19 outbreak.
Guidance to recognise serious pathology as a cause of musculoskeletal symptoms requiring urgent or emergency referral to secondary care
Please see attached document ‘Serious pathology MSK guidance V1.5.doc’

- **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**

  **QOF 2019/20 Year End – Action Required**

  NHS England and Improvement has issued, on 19th March 2020, a third letter on the general practice response to Covid-19 in which it is confirmed that calculations for QOF 2019/20 will be made as usual. This data submission will be followed by a piece of analysis to understand the impact of Covid-19 and a one-off financial adjustment for Practices who earned less in 2019/20 than 2018/19 as a result of Covid-19 activities.

  To aid this analysis and to enable any one-off payments to be made at the earliest opportunity it is important that Practices undertake the usual activities (detailed below) to ensure QOF calculation and payment. It is also important that Practices undertake and accept CQRS service offers for 2020/21 to ensure ongoing payment of QOF aspiration and other practice payments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Agree to participate in QOF 20/21 on CQRS.</td>
<td>27 March 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact your commissioning organisation if you have not been offered QOF 20/21.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Complete all the relevant actions in the QOF 2019/20 year-end checklist on this <a href="https://www.england.nhs.uk/medical-revalidation/ro/info-docs/roan-information-sheets/">website</a>.</td>
<td>31 March 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Manually input achievement for the required manual indicators for QOF 19/20
   - QI001
   - QI002
   - QI003
   - QI004

Guidance is available on this website.

If you do not complete all actions above, your standard aspiration payment calculation could be affected and payment for April 2020 may be delayed.

If you have any QOF queries, please email england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net

NHS England will make sure that funding does not influence clinical decision making by ensuring that all GP Practices in 2020/21 continue to be paid at rates that assume they would have continued to perform at the same levels from the beginning of the outbreak as they had done previously, including for the purposes of QOF, DES and LES payments.