



Representing GPs in the Yorkshire & Humber Region



Update from Zoe Norris, Sessional GP representative for Yorkshire & Chair of Sessional Subcommittee GPC UK

Included within this newsletter are updates for your information. The sessional subcommittee welcomes your feedback so do get in touch via sessionalgps.gpc@bma.org.uk if there are things you want covered or more information on. Alternatively you can contact me via twitter @dr_zo

I would also like to take this opportunity to encourage all sessional GPs to get in touch with your LMC if you haven't already and find out what they do and how to get involved.

The BMA has set up a steering group to try and improve the service they offer to sessional GPs. This is a welcome development and is being led at high level by BMA treasurer Andrew Dearden with input from the sessional exec, myself and Matt Mayer, Member, sessional GP subcommittee.

The steering group's aim is:

- to improve the representation of sessional GPs by the BMA
- to increase relevance of the BMA to GPs overall

It will meet monthly

There is a planned 3 year strategy to review products and services for GPs and actions are agreed around events targeted at sessional GPs. This will include a marketing campaign with nationwide roadshows to try and reach sessionals more effectively, coupled with educational provision and LMC involvement.

Other updates

- Capita/pensions

Capita only hand over pension contributions annually to NHS pensions, so asking for interim summaries may well give totally blank statements from the previous 12 months. Why this isn't done monthly is being looked at and revised.

The PCSE website should have an updated page for locum GPs with information on about what to do regarding pension contributions. No time scale for this.

A move to BACS for all pension payments is still planned – this will require forms A&B plus proof of BACS transfer to be posted to Capita/PCSE. Timescale is April 2017 onwards.

There will be a review of the overall Capita process involving the sessional subcommittees Dr Krishan Aggarwal – this will be between the transformation team at Capita and GPC. It is important to note that this will look at solving future NOT current problems. Unfortunately work has been delayed as Capita has pulled all its transformation team to deal with the current issues. Likely timescale - April 2017 onwards.

We discussed financial recompense for locums along the lines of that being pursued for partners. Suggest that if there is evidence of loss or income, or additional work that has been done, this needs to be documented and evidenced with times/dates but compensation likely to be well down the line and may well be nationally agreed or legal action will be undertaken. We agreed the more pressing issue was to find out what contributions have been recorded for each GP, and to extend the 10 week deadline for pensions contributions in light of the Capita issues. This is NHS Pensions territory – the most effective way of doing this is via NHSE. I am asking for 6 monthly pension statements to be provided free of charge for all sessional GPs until the situation is resolved, and removal of the deadline for pension contributions. We are starting discussions with NHSE and NHS Pensions to achieve this.

- Workforce survey

5000+ GPs took part and the headline outcomes will be presented at GPC at its November meeting. There will also be a survey just for sessional GPs coming out next year.

In anticipation of this survey I urge all sessional GPs to make sure their LMC (as well as the BMA if you are a member) has up to date email contact details.

I also encourage all sessional GPs to get in touch with their LMC if you haven't already to find out what they do and how to get involved

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Zoe

Dr Zoe Norris,
Yorkshire Sessional GP Representative,
Chair of Sessional Subcommittee GPC UK