



STAND WITH YOUR SURGERY

SGPC have released their Stand with your Surgery campaign as part of a programme of activity to highlight the pressures currently faced by General Practice and to advance the case for restoration of our core funding.

We encourage practices and individual GP's to do what they can to highlight this to patients and support the BMA in their efforts to promote these arguments.

The SGPC blog on this can be found [here](#).

We would also highlight an excellent Talking General Practice podcast with Dr Iain Morrison, Chair SGPC. [GPonline](#), [Apple podcast](#), [Spotify](#).

The Stand with your Surgery campaign [website](#) explains the arguments and has links to infographics and other resources for practices.



LMC and SGPC are constantly advocating for more direct investment in GP. So many of the current challenges we face relate back to this inadequacy of our core funding. Resolving this will require significant movement from Government. The argument in favour of this is strong and growing but an informed General public aware of these issues will be an important element in this debate.

Cardiovascular DES

The new Cardiovascular DES was released this month by Scottish Government. SGPC have worked closely in the development of this DES to ensure the ask of General Practice is reasonable and the funding represent fair value. A set of principles to guide the funding of enhanced services has been established and this is something we can apply moving forward in Lothian.

We frequently complain about enhanced services that represent a poor return for work done. The message that 'GP is open for business' is an important one from SGPC but that is only the case when the ask is reasonable and the remuneration is fair.

There is a lot of attention on this DES and SGPC are keen to encourage practices to consider signing up to it. This does not replace the call for funding restoration but offers interim investment while we strive for the primary goal.

GLP1 for weight loss

As we have discussed previously work continues across Lothian to make GLP1 medications available to support weight loss. A short life working group has been created to deliver this and the LMC is part of that group due to our concerns about potential impact on General Practice.

We have and will continue to be clear that this work cannot come to General Practice at a time when we have no capacity. The current position is that this will be delivered by the Dietetic service although at a level below the full SMC approval criteria. Prescriptions for these medications should not be issued by GP's for the weight loss indication.

As a important part of health promotion weight loss is an area that could be delivered in a GP setting either in whole or as part of a SCA. Any new work would require funding and while our current position is to reject any new unfunded work we would be open to discuss a funded proposal or enhanced service in the future.

The main immediate hurdle is likely to be a lack of prescribers in Dietetics. No ask has been made of General Practice as yet but is something we are vigilant about. It is important to remember that prescribing is never just a simple signature - it is the prescriber who is ultimately responsible and as such is not a trivial task

Data collection - Non-staff expenses

By now practices should have received a letter from Government seeking data on non-staff expenses over recent years. As many will be aware this has arisen from discussions between SGPC and Government over the potential for a Phase 2 light approach.

The details of what this may look like are at an early stage but the principle being explored is the reimbursement of non-staff costs. The issue of the Lothian SLA charges have created a great deal of attention on the risk posed to practices by premises costs.

This is a really important exercise which could, if delivered, offer considerable advantages to practices. This is a by product of our work on the Lothian SLA but it is important to note that this would apply to **all** practices.

It is essential that there is a good and thorough response to the request and we would encourage all practices to submit a response.

GP Coaching Service

The GP Support & Advisory service have shared an opportunity for GP's to access support via the NHS GP coaching service.

Places are limited and applications are open now and close on 20/05/25.

Please click the [link](#) to find out more.