

To: All Colleagues

9th January 2018

Dear Colleagues

General Data Protection Regulations [GDPR]

The LMC has received many emails from practices in anticipation of the GDPR; this is European Union legislation which comes into effect on 25th May 2018, with the intention of strengthening and unifying the law relating to data held by organisations about individuals. The Government has announced the GDPR will be incorporated into UK Law and will continue to apply after Brexit. The current relevant legislation, the Data Protection Act (DPA) 1998, will be completely repealed.

The GDPR will have a substantial impact on health and social care organisations and the IT Sub-Committees at both the GPC and RCGP have been negotiating the specific impact on General Practices. Unfortunately, there has been a delay in issuing guidance. However, a substantial 'Primary Care suite' of advice should be available by February. The LMC has contacted all CCGs to try and liaise with them in term of offering updates to practice so this can be co-ordinated; practices may have already been contacted by organisations offering to provide training, this often looks expensive and may not be sufficiently tailored to the needs of GP Practices. The LMC recommends practices wait before committing themselves to such expense and is hoping to identify relevant training.

In the interim GPC has recommended all practices review their current approach as data controllers; the BMA has published guidance on this which I enclose.

It is likely practices which are already compliant with current IG Governance and Security will be well-placed to manage the additional GDPR requirements. There are further details in the Christmas (December 2017) edition of the LMC Line.

I should also mention one outcome of the GPPR, which is likely to cause considerable frustration amongst colleagues. It appears likely that the current statutory £50.00 fee, which I am aware many colleagues believe is already inadequate, for subject access requirements under the current arrangements will no longer be chargeable. However, I am not aware what alternatives will be confirmed.

Once the LMC has further guidance, I will circulate this to all practices.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely



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Chief Executive

Enc:

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