



Primary Care Networks

Key summaries and references

The aim of this document is provide you with the most up-to-date information on changes to the national GP contract and the new Network Service Contract. This is a working document aligned to resources published by key stakeholders.

Helen Kilminster (Practice Pharmacy Group Chair)



Available Resources

Please check out our Primary Care Network Hub via <http://pcpa.co/PCNGuides> for more information.

NHS England

The following links are to the Network Contract Service Specifications and the Network Contract Guidance. These are key documents, which you may want to refer to for more detail. More digestible resources are available and we have selected a few for you.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/network-contract-directed-enhanced-service-description-2019-20/>

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/network-contract-directed-enhanced-service-description-guidance-2019-20/>

BMA Guidance

It is important to understand the fundamental key elements of the Network Contract and how that may affect you. The BMA have published their own version of Network Contract into a more condensed handbook.

<https://www.bma.org.uk/-/media/files/pdfs/collective%20voice/committees/gpc/gpc%20england/pcn%20handbook.pdf?la=en>

King's Fund

Primary Care Networks have been operating in various models for the past few years. To understand the purpose of these networks or neighborhood teams Primary the King's Fund publication explains the why. It is important to acknowledge that not all practices may choose to join a Primary Care Network.

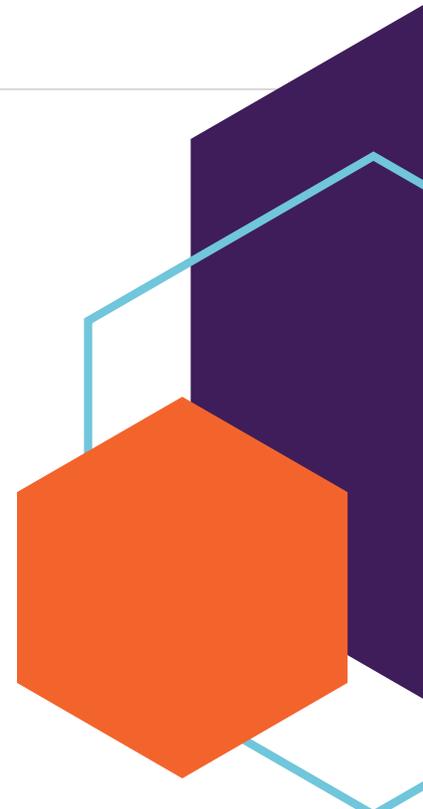
<https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/primary-care-networks-explained>

Ockham Healthcare

Established in 2015, Ben Gowland founded this organisation to promote innovations and best practice in General Practice. The weekly podcasts are an alternative way to keep up-to-date with changes around Primary Care Networks. There are blogs too if you prefer.

<https://ockham.healthcare/nikki-kanani-returns-answering-your-practical-questions-about-primary-care-networks/>

Mar 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline data of current workforce in primary care
30 Apr 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any existing NHSE wave funding must have made appointments for pharmacists. Start date can be after 30.04.2019
15 May 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All PCN to submit registration information to their CCGs
31 May 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCGs confirm networks and agree any variation
Early Jun 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHSE +CGPE+CCGs+LMC resolve any issues
01 Jul 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network Contract goes live
Jul 2019-Mar 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 1 workforce funding, ongoing £1.50 from CCG allocations
Sep 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline of NHSE wave funded pharmacists to PCN workforce
Mar 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing MOCH projects will end
Apr 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Network Service roll out



Key dates & timescale

Primary Care Network Contract Summary

- The Network Contract is the new Directed Enhance Service (DES)
- The contract will go live **1st July 2019**
- Registered and CCG approved PCNs will be covering approx. 30-50k patients, there will be expected variations e.g. rural sites and super partnerships
- All Networks will have a **Network Agreement**, NHSE will share a template to demonstrate how practices will work together, how funding will be allocated and how services and workforce will be *shared*.
- Core PCN funding from CCGs £1.50 per registered patient to support development of PCN
 - Back payment of months April/May/June/July, by 31.07.19
- Network Participation Payment = £1.76 per weighted patient each year
- National variation of maturity seen in PCNs
- Year One main focus is to organise structure and plan objectives for delivering the Network Contract

Additional Roles Reimbursement scheme aims to see expansion of workforce and skill mix

- Pharmacists (from 2019/20) 70% funding
- Social prescribing link workers (from 2019/20) 100% funding
- Physiotherapists (from 2020/21) 70% funding
- Physician associates (from 2020/21) 70% funding
- Community paramedics (from 2021/22) 70% funding

New network services

2019 – Extended Hours access integrated into networks

2020

- Structured Medication review
- Enhanced health in care homes
- Anticipatory care (with community services)
- Personalise care
- Supporting early cancer diagnosis

2021

- Cardiovascular Disease prevention and diagnosis, through case finding
- Action to tackle inequalities

Advice for current pharmacists working in General Practice.

- Join local circulations for PCN newsletters and PCN events if available
- Ask your practice about PCN plans
- Look the Network Service Contract, we expect PCN Workforce to be delivering the Network Service specifications.
- Job description for PCN pharmacists may vary amongst different locality due to variation in population health needs.
- Consider if you should like to take a Senior role to mentor pharmacists in the PCN.
- Think long term. This work will develop organically and will vary in each PCN.

If you're an existing NHSE wave funded pharmacist?

Here are a couple of options:

1. You can continue the taper funding programme. If you are entering the fourth unfunded year, practices are expected to finance.
2. Consider transfer to PCN Workforce in July 2019 (Transfer deadline Sept 2019). This is additional to PCN reimbursement scheme. If more than one pharmacist transfers across to PCN Workforce, note funding changes for Year 2 and is based on weighted capitation.

You will be included in baseline data set for existing workforce, however if transferred to PCN workforce this is classed as an exception rule.

What happens to current unfilled approved NHSE wave funded posts?

If funding was approved by 31.03.2019, the tapered funding as set by pilot scheme will be honored. However pharmacist appointments must be made by 30.04.2019. New appointment may have a start date after 30.04.2019.

Primary Care Website

From 31.03.2019 the website www.primarycare.nhs.uk has closed.

The **General Practice Indicators (GPI)** and the **GPIT Digital Maturity Index Assurance Indicators** will both be moving into a new website: www.primarycareindicators.nhs.uk. This website will include a new national quality improvement dashboard which will be further developed in time to include additional presentation of measures and indicators at Primary Care Network (PCN) and Integrated Care Systems (ICS) levels.

As from 1st of April please register to obtain a new user account so you can login and access content in the new primary care indicators website: www.primarycareindicators.nhs.uk. We anticipate General Practice Indicators and GPIT Digital Maturity indicators being visible within as from 1st of May 2019.

If you experience any difficulties with registration or for any future support using the GPI or GPIT indicators please contact the new website enquiry support help desk by email to nelcsu.npphdsd@nhs.net.

We expect you may still have lots of questions about what does all mean.

NHS England has created various FAQ links.

For FAQ specifically regarding pharmacists.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/gp/gpfv/redesign/primary-care-networks/briefing-on-clinical-pharmacists-and-the-network-contract-des/>

For all other FAQ from NHS England.

PCN FAQs

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/gp/gpfv/redesign/primary-care-networks/pcn-faqs/>

PCN DES Spec

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/network-contract-directed-enhanced-service-des-specification-2019-20/>

PCN DES Guide

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/network-contract-directed-enhanced-service-des-guidance-2019-20/>

PCN DES registration form

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/network-contract-directed-enhanced-service-des-registration-form/>

PCN DES MOU

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/network-contract-directed-enhanced-service-network-agreement/>

PCN DES network schedules

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/network-agreement-schedules.docx>

PCN DES VAT info

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/the-network-contract-des-and-vat-information-note/>

