

GPs and LMCs in England

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**General Practitioners  
Committee**

08 June 2010

Dear Colleague

**Implementation of the 2010/11 GMS contract uplift**

We wrote to you on 11 March setting out the Doctors' and Dentists' Review Body's (DDRDB) recommendation on contractors' income. The Review Body had recommended a 1.34% gross uplift in the overall value of GMS contract payments, intended to result in no increase to contractor GPs' net incomes after allowing for movement in expenses.

We informed you that the UK governments had not accepted the DDRDB's recommendation of a 1.34% gross uplift and had instead imposed a gross uplift of 0.8% for 2010/11. This is intended to have the effect of delivering no increase to average net income, after assuming an efficiency saving of 1% of practice expenses.

The GPC and NHS Employers did not reach an agreement prior to the DDRDB's announcement on how any uplift would be distributed across the contractual streams in 2010/11. Since the DDRDB's report, the GPC has remained unwilling to negotiate any differential distribution of an uplift too small to cover practices' rising expenses. As a result, we have been forced to accept the DDRDB's recommendation that the overall uplift be applied as follows:

- o half of the overall gross uplift across the contract to global sum, correction factor, QOF, enhanced services and locum payments, in proportion to their current relative spend
- o half of the overall gross uplift to global sum payments with no corresponding increase to correction factor payments
- o released correction factor payments (through corresponding reductions in the Minimum Practice Income Guarantee (MPIG)) to be reinvested in the global sum

The effect of this proposal is to award a greater uplift to practices that do not rely on correction factor payments. Every GMS practice will receive a national minimum uplift of 0.41% to their global sum equivalent (global sum plus correction factor payments). In addition, a further 0.41% will be applied to global sum payments only. The effect is that the price per weighted patient, used in the global sum calculation, will increase from £63.21 in 2009/10 to £64.59 in 2010/11. The value of QOF points will increase from £126.77 in 2009/10 to £127.29 in 2010/11. Practices will receive payments backdated to 1 April.

The Department of Health will alter the SFE to automatically increase by 0.41% the price paid for most of the directed enhanced services (DESSs). The Department of Health leaves it to PCTs to consider the implications of the award for other enhanced services but PCTs are being encouraged to increase prices in line with the DES uplift.

**Chief Executive/Secretary:** Tony Bourne

**British Medical Association**  
bma.org.uk

**PMS GPs**

The DDRB's recommendations only apply directly to General Medical Services but Primary Medical Services contracts tend to follow the DDRB's recommendations. A letter sent from the Department of Health to SHAs today (gateway ref: 14380) addresses this issue. We would hope that Primary Care Organisations will follow the DDRB's lead and uplift PMS baseline funding at least in line with the minimum uplift received by GMS practices. PMS GPs should receive the uplift allocated to QOF and enhanced services funding.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Finlan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underlining the name.

Chris Finlan  
Joint Head  
NHS GPs Division