

8 September 2016

## **GP Development Programme – Reception and Clerical Training Allocations in Month 5**

Please find below further details regarding the month 5 allocation distributed to CCGs for Reception and Clerical Training.

1. This money is this year's instalment of the new £45m fund for training practice staff for active signposting and document management. This was announced in the General Practice Forward View, and details are available at [www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/gpfv/gpdp/reception-clerical/](http://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/gpfv/gpdp/reception-clerical/). Active signposting and document management are promising innovations that release time for GPs. They are part of the 10 High Impact Actions to release time, announced in the Forward View and supported by a growing evidence base currently housed here – <http://bit.ly/gpcapacityforum>. The new Time for Care programme provides support for groups of practices to implement innovations that release time for care, and is supported by a £45m fund towards the cost of [online consultations](#) as well as this fund for [staff training](#).
2. In 2016/17, £5m is available, and £10m will be available in each of the subsequent four years. The funding will be allocated on a non-weighted per-patient basis. CCGs are welcome to top up the funding available for their practices.
3. As confirmed on the NHS England website, this funding is allocated solely for this purpose and should not be used for any purpose other than those stated in the criteria.
4. A low-burden approach will be taken to reporting spend of this fund and activity across the CCG with respect to the training. Details of this are expected to be announced by NHS England in coming weeks.

5. Relevant training for practice staff is currently available from a limited number of training providers across England. These have plans to grow their capacity rapidly, and we anticipate a vibrant market developing over the next two years. NHS England will not formally approve or accredit training products, but an online directory of providers will be published in the near future and kept updated as new offers become available. The staggered release of the £45m fund over five years will help to mitigate against the risk of demand outstripping supply. It also recognises the fact that some practices and areas will wish to take time planning to introduce these innovations.
6. The staggered release of funding means that most CCGs will wish to work with their practices and other CCGs in their STP footprint to plan how best to deploy the fund. In discussion with CCG leaders thus far, it seems that the most productive approach will be to share funding to allow successive cohorts of practices to receive their full five-year allocation at one time. This will allow avoid practices having to wait a number of years until sufficient funding accrues for them to purchase a training package. It will also create a critical mass of practices in an area for them to benefit from collaboration and sharing of learning among themselves.
7. NHS England will notify CCGs and practices when the new directory of training providers is launched. This will include information to support local discussions about choosing a training offer and implementing new ways of working within practices. This is expected by the end of September.