

Reference: FOI.ICB-2223/202

Subject: Medical Practices and Management

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>'Separate to core GMS (General Medical Services) / PMS (Personal Medical Services) and APMS (Alternative Provider Medical Services) payments, the ICB (Integrated Care Board) allow primary care medical practices to sign up to local enhanced services (LES) as well as the national Direct Enhanced Services (DES). For LES the specifications are reviewed and agreed annually through our ICB governance and committee structure.'</p> <p>1a. Who writes the LES specifications?</p> <p>1b. Do LES's specify management policies to prevent local practitioners working differently to those contracted by the ICB</p>	<p>a. The LES specifications are written collaboratively between clinical leads and managers at BNSSG ICB (Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board) (Formerly CCG), the specifications are subject to an annual desktop review by leads and managers and this work is held by the LES Review steering group. The outputs of this group are shared through appropriate governance.</p> <p>b. LESs will refer to applicable local policies such as prescribing or shared care where relevant.</p>
<p>The ICB does not hold specific policies for MSK services, with the exception of policies related to access and funding, which are available on the ICB website - https://bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/about-us/governance/interventions-not-normally-funded-innf/commissioning-policy-directory/</p>	<p>BNSSG ICB does not hold the commissioning policies for other ICBs and it is the decision of each commissioning body with clinical input to agree these policies for their relevant population.</p>

<p>2a. The term “hold” is a little confusing. I am trying to ascertain who originates the policy for MSK management of services. From my investigations it seems ICB’s in England originate policies which are often different, for example I could not get a GP referral to a consultant without having a cortisone injection but this is not the policy if I live in Bath. Could please confirm if this assumption is correct or not?</p>	
<p>Your email states you do not hold some information requested to complete your responses, could you please explain what parts you could not give complete answer(s), could it perhaps be concerned with management and control of policies?</p>	<p>The ICB only holds policies which relate to access and funding of MSK services. Therefore, any other policies relating to MSK services would need to be requested from the services directly.</p>
<p>In your email of 13 Jan 2023 you confirmed your responses would be included as part of your investigations being conducted for Dr Fox.</p>	<p>We believe that the email referred to in this question may have been sent to you from the BNSSG ICB Customer Services team. Please contact them directly for information regarding their response: bnssg.customerservice@nhs.net</p>

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 13 March 2023 and has been approved for release by David Jarrett, Director of Integrated and Primary Care for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.