



**Londonwide LMCs**

The professional voice of London general practice

27 November 2024

Redbridge GPs  
(via email)

Dear Colleague,

### **ADHD referrals**

You may have seen that NELFT has recently added a clause to its ADHD referral form stating:

*“Thank you for considering Redbridge Mental Health and Wellness Adult ADHD Service as a referral option for your patient. In the event the referred patient receives a diagnosis of ADHD and pharmacological intervention is required, continuation of stabilised treatment will need to occur under the terms set by NHS North East London Shared Care Agreement for Adults with ADHD. **By the submission of this referral, the Primary Care Practice is confirming their commitment to this arrangement.**”*

We, your Local Medical Committee, have recently written to NELFT noting that this clause means that in this case consent for shared care is not voluntary and does not have the agreement of all parties. It appears that the referral clause is based not on the patient’s best interest, but on the on convenience or the cost of the medicine and associated monitoring or follow-up. This goes against GMC guidance on shared care found in *Good Medical Practice* and *Good practice in prescribing and managing medicines and devices*.

Practices can delete the highlighted text from the referral and make it clear that they have done so. Please see overleaf some suitable text, which Redbridge practices may copy and paste onto their practice letter head and then send alongside ADHD assessment referrals made to NELFT.

Kind regards

**Dr Najib Seedat, Chair – Redbridge LMC**

#### **The professional voice of general practice in Redbridge**

Londonwide LMCs is the brand name of Londonwide Local Medical Committees Limited

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**Chief Executive:** Dr Michelle Drage

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Dear Sir or Madam,

Following advice from Redbridge LMC, I have crossed through the referral clause on the ADHD form relating to shared care. The adoption of shared care is voluntary, and our expectation is that the patient will be assessed for ADHD, by NELFT as requested in this referral.

The current referral clause contravenes *GMC Good Medical Practice* clause 2, and *GMC Good Practice in Prescribing and Managing Medicines and Devices* clauses 74, 75 and 85 and is not consistent with the *NHSE Responsibility for prescribing between Primary & Secondary/Tertiary Care guidance* clause 2.6.1.

\*If the patient is subsequently deemed to have ADHD and requires treatment, NELFT should prescribe and monitor ADHD treatments, as this GP practice is unable to undertake shared care for ADHD patients.

\*If the patient is subsequently deemed to have ADHD and requires treatment, the NELFT team should send the proposed share care agreement, alongside the clinic letter. The practice will then consider whether it can accept the responsibility of prescribing treatment for ADHD.

*(\*Practice to delete one of these statements)*

If this referral is rejected by NELFT, please kindly provide details of the reason for rejection and the name of the clinician who is responsible for this decision.

Yours sincerely,

GP  
Xxx Practice

#### References

[Domain 1 Knowledge skills and development - GMC](#)

[Shared care - professional standards - GMC](#)

[responsibility-prescribing-between-primary-secondary-care-v2.pdf](#)

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