



Physician Associates - update for PPG Network June 2024

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Physician Associates – Update on Healthwatch activities

Healthwatch England called a virtual **roundtable** on 15 April 2024 of all local Healthwatch who had raised the question of Physician Associates. This was to take feedback from local Healthwatch on the regulation and deployment of Physician Associates.

This roundtable informed Healthwatch England's consultation response to the General Medical Council (GMC) consultation on the **new regulatory regime** and wider policy work in this area.

The GMC consultation ended on 20 May 2024.

The Healthwatch England consultation response was in the form of a **briefing** and was a joint response from:

- **Healthwatch England**
- **The Patients Association**
- **National Voices**




Healthwatch England briefing

Healthwatch England shared a draft of the briefing with local Healthwatch and sought further feedback from us, which Healthwatch Haringey provided.

The final briefing will be shared publicly in July 2024.

The final briefing may include the following topics:

- The accessibility of the GMC consultation for patients and patient representative organisations' opportunities to engage.
 - Patient and public awareness of new roles, including PAs.
 - Patients' awareness of the medical professional they are interacting with, and their role and responsibilities as part of a multi-disciplinary team.
 - Patient awareness of supervision arrangements for PAs
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Physician Associates – In the news

For more on the GMC consultation see the Healthwatch Haringey website

Physician Associates Healthwatch Haringey Actions and GMC consultation

<https://www.healthwatchharingey.org.uk/news/2024-03-28/physician-associates-consultation-out-now>

Cautious backing for rise in number of physician associates – BBC

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-68194718>

