

The PBSGL team is part of the CPD Connect service within NHS Education for Scotland. The team is comprised of a Module Development Lead, PBSGL admin team, and writers/editors who work in general practice. A new GP Assistant Director joined the team in August 2022.

Membership statistics

Total Membership

Total active membership at the end of March 2023 was 3,061 in 575 active groups managed by the PBSGL Scotland programme. These numbers include:

- GP members: 1,654
- GPST members: 804
- Nursing members: 351
- Pharmacy members: 234
- Other members: 18

Facilitators

There were 623 active facilitators at 31st March 2023. The PBSGL team trained 126 peer facilitators in 2022-23.

Module Production

Pre-covid, the aim was to produce 12 modules per year, but the team consistently was able to publish 14-16 modules per year, for a number of years. During the initial stages of the pandemic, module production progress was largely unaffected, but eventually slowed over the lengthy duration of the pandemic because our writing and editing team are all practising clinicians with competing priorities. This has taken some time to build up again, as with most areas of the healthcare system.

Despite this, the team published 6 modules in 2022-23. These are:

1. Wellbeing in Primary Care
2. Protection of Vulnerable Adults
3. Musculoskeletal Problems in Primary Care—Short Cases
4. Short cases in Nutrition
5. Dizziness in adults
6. Climate Change and Primary Health Care

A further 4 modules are nearing the end of the writing stage:

1. Postural Hypotension mini module
2. Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Myalgic Encephalomyelitis
3. Type 2 Diabetes
4. Short Cases in Dermatology

And these modules have all commenced or are planned for the writing phase during 2023 based on the votes from last years annual survey*:

1. Abnormal Biochemistry
2. Short cases in Paediatrics
3. Diagnosis and management of frailty
4. Dementia and cognitive decline
5. Chronic pelvic pain including endometriosis
6. Multimorbidity and Polypharmacy
7. Health anxiety – diagnosis and treatment

**correct as at 1st April 2023 but that by the time of publication of report the status of each would have progressed*

The team have spent a lot of time discussing new ways of working that could speed up the module production process and enhance the existing service. To support this work, a membership survey has been created and will be launched early 23-24 to better understand the learning needs and preferences of our membership.

Recruitment of new writers is also underway to increase capacity for module production.

Professional Development for the Module Production Team

A series of professional development events were held to support and develop the existing module production team (editors and writers), and continue to foster a sense of community. This took the form of a series of workshops run throughout the year covering topics relevant to module production. The team had the opportunity to actively contribute to topic selection and content.

Miscellaneous

1. The Scottish Government have continued to invest in CPD for GPNs and GPs in the first five years of their career (First5s) on a non-recurring basis. A significant portion of both funding streams was used to support increased involvement in PBSGL for these professional groups.
2. We remain committed to a collaborative approach consistent with NES' values (Our Way) and to the history and practice of PBSGL in Scotland through the leadership of the inter-professional PBSGL senior team.
3. A podcast series is in production with the intention of launching this later in 2023.
4. The following paper was published in 2022 and whilst not directly related to PBSGL, the findings are useful when designing any educational resources for First5 GPs. First5 GPs currently receive Scottish Government funding for their PBSGL membership fees.

Lindemann RF, Robson G and Cunningham DE [Commercial business and partnership aspects of general practice: the learning needs of First5 general practitioners in NHS Scotland—a qualitative study](#)
BMJ Open