



Leylands Medical Centre Monthly Roundup: January 2026

 Happy New year everyone. Here's to a happy and healthy 2026

Your Monthly Catch-Up on What's Happening in Primary Care.

New and updated guidance

Child maltreatment (NICE CG89): updated to define “independently mobile” in the context of bruising; review local safeguarding policies and training so thresholds for concern in non-mobile children match the revised wording.

Source: [Child maltreatment: when to suspect maltreatment in under 18s](#)

The Leylands view:

The child maltreatment guideline refers to children not being independently mobile in the context of its recommendations on bruising, lacerations, abrasions or scars, and thermal injuries. Previously it did not define 'independently mobile', and this led to variation in how people were interpreting the term. In turn, this affected how child maltreatment was being classified and addressed. NICE decided to add a definition of the term while leaving the wording of the recommendations unchanged.

except from the guidance:

A child should be considered independently mobile if they can do any of the following:

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- *crawl*
 - *bottom shuffle*
 - *pull themselves up into a standing position using an object, for example, furniture*
 - *move into a standing position unaided*
 - *cruise (that is, move from place to place holding onto an object, for example, furniture)*
 - *climb, for example onto furniture or stairs*
 - *walk using a push-along walker*
 - *walk unaided.*
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Children under 12 weeks typically lack the muscle strength, coordination and neurological maturity needed for independent mobility. However, age alone should not be used to determine whether a child is independently mobile.

Immunisation & vaccines

Uncertain or imperfect immunisations? Here's what to do: updated UKHSA flow-chart

Source: [Vaccination of individuals with uncertain or incomplete immunisation - GOV.UK](#)

Introduction of MMRV (MMR + Varicella) into the childhood schedule - from 1 January 2026, babies born on/after 1 January 2025 receive MMRV at 12 and 18 months; there is a defined catch-up for children born July–Dec 2024 and a wider preschool catch-up 2026–2028. No need to verify previous chickenpox infection if parents respond to the MMRV offer.



Source: [Vaccine update: issue 367, December 2025](#)

The Leylands view:

Varicella immunisation in the childhood schedule is long overdue and brings the UK in line with many other countries.

Flu vaccination - please remember to vaccinate opportunistically when you can

Work continues on childhood vaccine uptake - recruitment is underway to the LTC admin team to help co-ordinate this, and also via the PCN working with the VCS.

*A recent review by Tom showed that the majority of children that were overdue childhood immunisations **had recently been seen by a doctor or nurse** - please have this discussion with new parents at every opportunity*

Safety alerts & BNF changes

Mesalazine — new warning about very rare idiopathic intracranial hypertension (IIH); counsel patients on symptoms (progressive severe headache, visual disturbance, tinnitus, neck/back pain), maintain vigilance, and consider discontinuation and urgent assessment if IIH is suspected.

Source: <https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/mesalazine-and-idiopathic-intracranial-hypertension>

Rybelsus® (semaglutide tablets) — transition to new formulation with lower mg strengths but higher bioavailability; once live in your systems, start new patients on the new strengths, systematically switch existing patients to bioequivalent doses (1.5, 4, 9 mg), document the switch, and reinforce “one tablet per day only” to avoid overdosing.

Source: <https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/rybelsus-r-semaglutide-tablets-transition-to-new-formulation-and-risk-of-medication-error>

The Leylands view:

we will pick up with the nursing and pharmacy teams about the switch for Rybelsus.

Mesalazine for info only - specialists should counsel at initiation.

Digital & political developments

Online access during core hours: from 1 Oct 2025, GP practices must keep online consultation systems open from 8:00–18:30; phone and walk-in options remain.

[NHS England » Online consultations – frequently asked questions and support resources](#)

The Leylands view:

Edging forward to go live date for triage first approach. Currently work ongoing on FAQ's booking mechanics and templates. Watch this space. All the partners are working extra days during the first few weeks to support the change 🤗👉🔧

If you want to chat further about any of the topics above and how they might affect impact Leylands, feel free to bring up at PLT, or approach one of the Partners or Tom
