

Prison Governors Association

Representing: The Prison Governors of the United Kingdom since 1987



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Dear Colleagues,

Head of Function Assessment

Members will be aware that results from the Head of Function Assessment have just been released. We are informed that approximately 130 colleagues were successful at this stage, due to constraints of GDPR, we are no longer able to write out directly to pass on our congratulations to candidates, instead we are reliant on 'National Assessments' conveying our thanks and informing those successful of their eligibility to join the PGA. We would be really grateful if you were able to pass on our thanks to any of the successful candidates who you are aware of by sharing with them this short note:

On behalf of the Prison Governors' Association National Executive Committee (NEC) we would like to congratulate you on successfully passing the Functional Head Assessment, having all completed similar assessments to become 'Governor Grades' we are acutely aware of how challenging the process is which you have just gone through. Regardless of what people may say, assessments are not getting any easier and with all the challenges you will have been juggling in work whilst preparing for the assessment you should be immensely proud of your achievement.

For some of you, you may have to successfully attend a silver command assessment before being able to apply for substantive positions. We have confirmed with the national assessment team that these will be taking place frequently throughout the year, and that there will be more than enough capacity for all successful candidates to take the assessment. For those who have already completed the silver assessment we wish you well in seeking promotion.

There are a number of trade unions which represent colleagues within HMPPS, and we actively encourage membership of a trade union to any colleague who is not already a member of one. We believe for colleagues who are Governor Grades that the PGA is best suited to represent their interests, and regardless of whether or not you have completed the silver assessment yet, through passing your functional head assessment you are now eligible to join the PGA.

When becoming a Governor Grade, you will be joining a small, distinct group of managers within HMPPS. The PGA are part of this small group, all our members have been where you are now, and we understand the challenges that our members experience – our membership is only open to colleagues who are qualified to be a Governor Grade. We would ask you to consider whether joining the PGA is for you.

If you require any further information about membership, please do get in touch by emailing PGA@justice.gov.uk. Further information about the PGA can be found on our website

Website – www.prison-governors-association.org.uk

Research: The effects of military service on prison service staff

We have been asked to circulate a request flier for voluntary participants into research by Laura Haas, who is currently undertaking a DPhil into the impact of military service on prison staff (unified grades and governor grades).

The relevant ethics code is included in the attach .pdf document.

Continuous Glucose Monitoring

Jo Gordon, Occupational Health Business Partner (Strategy and Policy) within MoJ, has requested that we share the following information with colleagues around Continuous Glucose Monitoring:

We would like to bring to your attention the fact that HMPPS staff who are diabetics and use the continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) technology are now permitted to take in a scanner device to monitor their blood sugar into a prison.

Commonly the CGM device is linked to a smart phone and as we are all aware these are not allowed into prisons. Abbott who make the Libre 2 CGM system also have a scanner device which after collaboration with HMPPS Cyber security is now able to be taken into an establishment.

Please contact me should you require more information or wish to discuss further (Jo.Gordon@justice.gov.uk).

3. Continuous Glucose Monitoring Scanner Device

- Mitigation of the potential risks of staff carrying the Abbott Freestyle Libre 2 constant glucose monitoring device.

The Freestyle Libre 2 device has been assessed as having a procedurally manageable risk to an establishment whilst in the possession of a member of the prison staff.

The security procedures recommended below must be in place to allow a member of staff to carry the Abbott Freestyle Libre 2 glucose monitor device whilst on duty in a prison: -

- It is recommended that staff keep the device with their personal belongings as this reduces the risk of it becoming lost or damaged.
- The device should not at any time be allowed into the possession of a prisoner or any person other than a healthcare professional.
- Staff must immediately report any instance of theft, loss, temporary loss or suspected compromise the device whilst in the prison.
- The line manager or the manager in charge, must also ensure that staff note and report any actual or potential security vulnerabilities or actual or potential threats to the device to the prisons security department immediately who should forward all information to cyberhq@justice.gov.uk.
- Should staff suspect the device has been in the possession of a prisoner then they should not rely on the device for insulin management until the settings have been confirmed by a medical professional.

Optima Health are aware of the Continuous Glucose monitoring scanner and will be able to make recommendations from this information for individuals who use this technology.



OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

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Thank you.

Andrea Albutt
President

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National Officer

Carl Davies
National Officer