**Draft text for use on referral letters during collective action**

GP referrals are often rejected because they are converted to advice and guidance (A&G) and sometimes because the patient is out of area. The following template wording is suggested as an addition to referral letters sent during the current period of collective action:

**Suggested text:**

A referral letter providing the necessary and relevant information for an appropriate request for a secondary care service is in line with the NHS Standard Contract 2024/25 Service Conditions:

Acceptance and Rejection of Referrals 6.13

Subject to SC6.3 and to SC7 (Withholding and/or Discontinuation of Service), **the Provider must:**

6.13.1 **accept any Referral of a Service User** made in accordance with the Referral processes and clinical thresholds set out or referred to in this Contract and/or as otherwise agreed between the Parties and/or as specified in any Prior Approval Scheme, and in any event where necessary for a Service User to exercise their legal right to choice as set out in the NHS Choice Framework”

[https://www.england.nhs.uk/nhs-standard-contract/24-25/](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.england.nhs.uk%2Fnhs-standard-contract%2F24-25%2F&data=05%7C02%7CSam.Dowling%40lmc.org.uk%7C6c62dabc536147ff7ea208dccdb051f2%7C5670c82635004dfd9a7fc45939b3c53f%7C0%7C0%7C638611404418884034%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZuE4KXsXU1kXnRMnwAw37ZJLEoCl6TNGvOJ5VePSNk0%3D&reserved=0)

**Please do not offer Advice and Guidance in response to this referral because this will not be accepted nor acted upon.**

**The completion of a local referral form or proforma is neither a contractual nor a professional obligation.**

Your FT Medical Director is aware of the collective actions being undertaken by GPs and **any rejection of this referral will be sent to your Medical Director for further action with a copy to the ICB Medical Director and possibly the patient**.  You may wish to seek advice from your FT Medical Director before attempting to reject this referral.

More information about the current GP contract dispute, collective actions by GPs, and the challenges facing general practices can be found at:

[GPs Are On your Side (bma.org.uk)](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bma.org.uk%2FGPsOnYourSide&data=05%7C02%7CSam.Dowling%40lmc.org.uk%7C6c62dabc536147ff7ea208dccdb051f2%7C5670c82635004dfd9a7fc45939b3c53f%7C0%7C0%7C638611404418892499%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=QWK1%2BKNAR2cjlRLgQidRgmNW2OeLXVGFrASGnDLAQRI%3D&reserved=0)