

SHEFFIELD LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2010

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GPS & THE WHITE PAPER IN SHEFFIELD: HOW TO MAKE IT WORK

As you will be aware from NHS Sheffield's e-bulletin w/e 10-12-10, a citywide meeting has been scheduled as follows:

**Thursday 13 January 2011
7.15 pm
(refreshments from 6.30 pm)**

**The Megacentre, Bernard Road,
Sheffield S2 5BQ**

The White Paper *Liberating the NHS* heralds the abolition of primary care trusts by empowering GPs through commissioning consortia to take control of NHS expenditure.

This meeting is an important opportunity to have your say on the direction of travel, and hear what

local clinical leaders are proposing for the future. The meeting is being led by the clinical leads of all four PBC consortia, the LMC and the PCT clinical executive.

To register to attend please email Roni Foster-Ash at NHS Sheffield via:
roni.foster-ash@sheffieldpct.nhs.uk

The LMC Executive would encourage practices to ensure that they are represented at this meeting. Further details will be issued shortly.

LMC NEWSFLASH: WHITE PAPER EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE – GPC GUIDANCE NOVEMBER 2010

Since the last LMC Newsletter, all represented GPs and Practice

Managers should have received an LMC Newsflash noting the availability of the following General Practitioner Committee (GPC) guidance:

- The form and structure of GP-led commissioning consortia
http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/OG_10/Form_&Structure.pdf
- Shadow consortia: Developing and electing a transitional leadership
http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/OG_10/shadow_consortia.pdf

The Newsflash offers a brief introduction to the guidance documents.

Further copies can be downloaded from the LMC website via:

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Newsflash/WP%20Equity%20%20Excellence%20Liberating%20the%20NHS%20GPC%20Guidance%20Nov10.pdf>

HEALTHY LIVES, HEALTHY PEOPLE: OUR STRATEGY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH IN ENGLAND

On 30 November 2010 the Government published a White Paper on public health, which sets out a new approach to public health, with responsibilities, freedoms and funding devolved where possible.

The core elements of the new system will be set out in the forthcoming Health and Social Care Bill and will, therefore, be subject to Parliamentary approval.

A copy of the public health White Paper can be downloaded from the Department of Health (DH) website at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/@ps/documents/digitalasset/dh_122347.pdf

A number of consultation questions are set out in Chapter 4 and summarised in Chapter 5.

The consultation on these questions closes on **8 March 2011**.

PUBLIC HEALTH SUPPORT FOR GP COMMISSIONING

The GPC and the British Medical Association (BMA) Public Health Medicine Committee have published a new guidance document on how both groups of clinicians can most effectively work together in the commissioning environment proposed in the NHS White Paper.

The main topics covered include:

- Health Care Public Health and GP Commissioning.

- Effective GP Commissioning by active GPs.
- Public Health should not all go to Local Authorities.

A copy of the guidance can be downloaded from the LMC website at:

http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Other%20Guidance/whitepaperpublichealthsupportdec2010_tm41-202541.pdf

SESSIONAL GPs: GP COMMISSIONING & IMPACT OF THE NHS WHITE PAPER

The GPC has published a new guidance document in its series on the NHS White Paper.

The guidance outlines to sessional GPs the changes proposed in the NHS White Paper, explains how and why they could become involved in these changes, and discusses other potential impacts on the working lives of sessional GPs.

A copy of the guidance can be downloaded from the *Other Guidance* section of the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Other%20Guidance/sessional%20GPs.pdf>

GROUPWISE/NHSNET EMAIL ADDRESSES

Further to the article in the October 2010 LMC newsletter, this is a reminder that the GroupWise system will close on 31 December 2010.

The LMC still has **9** practice manager and **141** GP GroupWise email addresses on its databases and distribution lists.

Any GP or practice manager who has received this newsletter via a GroupWise email address, or via NHSnet but diverted from a

GroupWise email address, will cease to receive such communications after 31 December 2010, unless the LMC is made aware of an alternative email address.

In these circumstances, it would be appreciated if an alternative email address could be provided to the LMC office as soon as possible.

This could be an active NHSnet email address or a private email address if this is preferred.

Please let us know your preference via email to:

administrator@sheffieldlmc.org.uk

Any practices requiring assistance with the transfer to NHSnet can contact:

IT Support Desk
NHS Sheffield
Tel: (0114) 3051030
Email: it.support@sheffield.nhs.uk

MIXTARD WITHDRAWAL

*Article submitted by
Dr Jenny Stephenson*

Mixtard is being withdrawn in December. If practices need ADVICE on changing to a suitable alternative, please contact:

Sue Beveridge
Diabetes Specialist Nurse
Northern General Hospital
Tel: (0114) 2174445
Fax: (0114) 2266930.

Details required are:

- the patient's name, address, NHS number, DOB, BMI, GP and practice, most recent HBA1c;
- current Mixtard dose and whether by pen or syringe;
- whether the patient is monitoring their sugars.

INFLUENZA UPDATE

The LMC has recently received the following update from the Public Health Directorate at NHS Sheffield:

- Consultation rates and hospital admissions for influenza like illness are rising steadily across the country and there have been a number of H1N1 related deaths.
- The picture in Sheffield is similar, with a number of outbreaks of flu in primary schools and activity up in primary care.
- There have also been a number of hospital admissions with confirmed H1N1 influenza, some of whom have been seriously ill requiring ICU care.
- The age profile of admissions is similar to that experienced last winter with H1N1 infections.
- Those affected are predominantly younger adults, young children and those with pre-existing ill health.
- Pregnant women are over represented, as they were with swine flu.
- The Department of Health has issued advice to GPs that they should consider prescribing antiviral drugs, where necessary in at risk groups, in line with NICE guidance:
http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_122573.pdf.
- At present there is no intention to carry out widespread confirmatory swabbing. A very limited number of swabs may be requested in specific instances, to confirm the diagnosis. If this is required, individual GPs will be contacted directly by the South Yorkshire Health Protection Unit.

GPs are being asked to:

- Ensure that they make every effort to maximise the uptake of the seasonal flu vaccine among high risk patients - those with chronic respiratory, heart, renal and liver disease, diabetes, immunosuppression, pregnant women and those living in long stay residential care, as well as over 65s.
- Consider immunising those people who are the main carer for an elderly or disabled person, as per DH guidance.
- Be particularly vigilant for outbreaks of flu in residential and nursing homes. In these semi closed settings flu is likely to spread rapidly once introduced, and is often associated with high morbidity and mortality. Please alert the Health Protection Unit at the earliest opportunity if you suspect a flu outbreak in a care home.

If you have any queries, please contact:

Dr Rosy McNaught
Tel: (0114) 2428850.

REVALIDATION UPDATE

The December 2010 edition of the BMA's revalidation newsletter *Revalidation Update* has recently been issued, covering topics such as:

- BMJ Learning to launch revalidation toolkit.
- Health Select Committee Inquiry into Revalidation.
- GMC consultation response.
- Committee/devolved nation update.
- Responsible Officer regulations passed.
- Interim report on pilots.

A copy of the newsletter can be downloaded from the BMA website at:

http://www.bma.org.uk/images/realisationnewsletterdecember2010_tcm41-202250.pdf

CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (CQC) REGISTRATION

Following some confusion about the CQC registration timetable, the GPC has confirmed that NHS GP practices do not yet have to comply with CQC standards.

NHS GP Practices will begin to be invited to apply for registration with CQC from 1 October 2011 and all will need to be registered from 1 April 2012.

In the application practices will need to declare compliance with 16 standards. Monitoring of compliance with the CQC standards will not commence until 1 April 2012.

It is worth noting that PCTMS practices should be registered with CQC because PCTs needed to be registered from 1 April 2010.

The GPC will be producing a guide on how to complete the application form for CQC registration and on how practices can comply with each of the CQC standards. They aim to publish this guide in spring 2011.

The CQC should be sending their first letter to all primary medical services providers about registration this month and will be publishing an introductory guide to registration. In the meantime, information already published can be found on the CQC website at:

<http://www.cqc.org.uk/guidanceforprofessionals/primarymedicalservices.cfm>

CERVICAL SCREENING IN PREGNANCY

Further to the article in NHS Sheffield's (NHSS) e-bulletin w/e 22 October 2010, noting that regional best practice guidance had been issued regarding the Cervex brush

being contraindicated for use after the first 10 weeks of pregnancy, please note that the Sheffield Cervical Cytology Guidelines have been updated accordingly.

A copy of the amended guidelines (dated August 2010) can be downloaded from NHSS's Intranet at:

https://portal.sheffield.nhs.uk/unique_sig3447f5028db0f806965d4dcbfb850c2e6f831f50e3d73b38f1f60086a96b9ea7/uniquesig0/policies/resources/cytologyguidelines.pdf

SESSIONAL GP CONFERENCE 2011

The BMA is holding a one day educational conference for sessional GPs on Friday 11 March 2011 at BMA House, London.

This conference will provide salaried and locum GPs with expert advice, support and information on the key issues affecting their career, as well as offering the helpful opportunity to network with sessional GP colleagues from around the country and discuss shared issues and concerns.

Key themes at the conference will be:

- How to develop your career as a salaried or locum GP.
- How to meet the challenges of appraisal and revalidation.
- The different issues to consider when setting up and working as a locum GP.
- The impact of the NHS White Paper on sessional GPs, and the opportunities it provides.
- Employment rights for sessional GPs.
- How to get access to professional support, and the differing roles of organisations that provide this.
- Representation of sessional GPs.

The fee for attending the conference is £76.38 (inc VAT) for BMA members and £235 (inc VAT) for non-members.

Further information, including the conference programme and information about how to register is available on the BMA website at

http://www.bma.org.uk/whats_on/employment_related_courses/sessgp2011.jsp

THE CAMERON FUND: THE GPS' OWN CHARITY

The Cameron Fund is Sheffield LMC's chosen charity for 2010 and a donation has been made to the Fund in response to their Christmas Appeal.

The Cameron Fund provides help and support solely to GPs and their dependants.

It aims to meet needs that vary considerably, from the elderly in nursing homes to young, chronically sick doctors and their families and those suffering from unexpected and unpredictable problems such as relationship breakdown or financial difficulties following the actions of professional regulatory bodies.

If any GPs or their dependants are in need of help or would like to make a donation to the Fund, please contact:

Jane Cope
The Cameron Fund
Tavistock House North
Tavistock Square
London
WC1H 9HR
Email: janecope@cameronfund.org.uk
Tel: 020 7388 0796.

LMC OFFICE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OPENING TIMES

Please note the following changes to the LMC's normal office opening times:

Friday 24 Dec: 9 am – 1 pm
Monday 27 Dec: Closed
Tuesday 28 Dec: Closed
Wednesday 29 Dec: 9 am – 5 pm
Thursday 30 Dec: 9 am – 5 pm
Friday 31 Dec: 9 am – 1 pm
Monday 3 Jan: Closed

Please forward any articles, comments etc for inclusion in the LMC newsletter to the LMC office via:

Email:
administrator@sheffieldlmc.org.uk

Fax: (0114) 258 9060

Post:
Sheffield LMC
Media House
63 Wostenholm Road
Sheffield
S7 1LE

Articles for the January 2011 edition of the LMC newsletter to be received *by Monday 10 January 2011.*