

Newsletter – January 2014

LMC Meeting 13th January 2014

At our last LMC meeting we discussed a range of issues including; medicines management, winter surge plan buddying arrangements, a revised Aural Care LES, practices' Christmas Eve activity, epilepsy patients referred for counselling, health checks and the role of advanced nurse practitioners

“Securing the future of general practice in South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw”

A conference organised by the South Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire LMCs with support from the NHS England South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw Area Team.

Thursday 27 February 2014
12.15pm-4.45pm
New York Stadium,
Rotherham

Topics include:

- *General practice at a crossroads (which way forward?)*
- *The “Call to Action” and NHS England’s Strategic Framework for General Practice*

- *Creating collaborative organisations*
- *Understanding the implications of recent changes to the GMS contract*

This event is for GPs and practice managers represented by Rotherham, Sheffield, Barnsley, Doncaster and Nottinghamshire LMCs. Lunch is included and there is no charge to attend this event but places are limited so please register your interest by emailing

amy.bolton@nottslmc.co.uk

Chantry Bridge Medical Practice

We have been advised that there are plans to close the practice as patient numbers have not reached a stage which makes it viable to continue.

Coroner’s Enquiries

From 1st April 2013 GPs were mandated to tell their Responsible Officer (RO) if they were named as a properly interested person (PIP) in an inquest.

From July 2013 the regulations were amended so that GPs need only tell the RO if they have been criticised by the coroner in any way e.g. care to a

patient, professionalism, probity etc.

However, some GPs are still telling the RO if they are a PIP, and some are not telling the RO if they are criticized. “Forgetting” to do this will be a breach of the performers list regulations and a probity issue in itself.

The coroner has agreed to inform the RO directly, but this does not cancel the doctor’s duty to inform directly.

Also, the Coroner will soon be forwarding guidance on “reports” that may be requested. A records printout or a multi-page report is not necessary, only a single page summary of *fact* to prevent having to call a GP as a witness to save time.

PMS letter from NHS England

NHS England has sent out a letter to its Area Teams on PMS agreements, available online. The letter confirms arrangements for the uplift for PMS practices relating to locum employer pension costs, which for those practices who have not already received it will need to be backdated to April 2013. This confirmation comes after a long period of lobbying by the GPC for this issue to be resolved.

The letter also refers to announcing wider steps on PMS in around a month's time, linked to applying equitable funding to PMS practices. Again, the GPC has been pushing for some time for a resolution to this issue, in order to provide more certainty to practices about their funding in the coming years. We will provide more information about this when it is available.

PAT Testing Funding for Rotherham Practices

Practices will be aware that this was the responsibility of the PCT and so now becomes the responsibility of the CSU.

In the past, the IT equipment used in general practice was supplied by the PCT and they arranged the necessary PAT testing for these items, with practices paying for any other items that needed testing in the practice e.g. clinical equipment, kettles etc. However some practices have now been informed they are to be responsible for the PAT testing of the IT equipment, but this has not been communicated to general practice or agreed by them - and funding for it has not been agreed. This issue has been raised and escalated by Barry Wiles at Clifton Medical Centre to the local CSU for resolution.

Care.Data

The GPC has recently issued an update on this issue and Dr David Black, Medical Director of the Area Team wrote to all GPs recently.

During January 2014, every household in England will receive a leaflet from NHS England aimed at supporting practices with their public awareness raising activities. Further copies can be downloaded via:

http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/thenhs/records/healthrecords/Documents/NHS_Door_dop_26-11-13.pdf

Once the leaflet has been delivered to households, patients will have a minimum of four weeks to read the leaflet and register their objection at their GP practice, if they wish to do so before the first extract begins. Extractions will begin in March 2014.

Further copies of the FAQs can be downloaded from the BMA website at:

<http://bma.org.uk/-/media/Files/PDFs/Practical%20advice%20at%20work/Ethics/Care%20data/caredataguideforgpsfaqs.pdf>

Or further info is available directly from the HSCIC Contact Centre, which is acting as a helpline for GPs:

Tel: 0845 3006016 or email: enquiries@hscic.gov.uk

Performers List Changes

Dr Alexander Brown was included in the Medical Performers List as a GP Registrar from 27th November 2013. He is undertaking a placement in GP Practice at Parkgate Medical Centre.

Dr Ramanamurthy Bhupathiraju will commence as a salaried GP at St Ann's Medical Centre with effect from 21st January 2014.

Dr Hannah Davidson will commence as a salaried GP at St Ann's Medical Centre with effect from 20th January 2014.

LMC Meetings

GP constituents are reminded that they are always welcome to attend meetings of the LMC as observers. The Committee meets on the second Monday of every month (except August) in the Board Room at Rotherham General Hospital

**NEXT
LMC MEETING
MONDAY
10th FEBRUARY
COMMENCING
AT 7.30 PM**

OFFICERS OF THE LMC

**Chairman
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**Medical Secretary
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If you have any questions or agenda items, or wish to submit articles

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