

Newsletter – April 2014

LMC Meeting 14th April 2014

At our last LMC meeting we discussed a range of issues including; PMS reviews, smoking cessation LES, hospital letters to GPs, anti-coagulation LES, IUCDs, RDASH review, and CQRS extraction data changes.

New LMC Member

The LMC appointed Dr Krishna Kararaneni (from Crown Street Surgery) as its new member to replace Dr Clitheroe at its meeting in April.

PMS Reviews

There has been further discussion about this locally. The PMS premium is to be evaluated initially, although that will be difficult since no figures exist from the early days of PMS. Looks like it may well be based on national figures calculated centrally. PMS key performance indicators (KPIs) are to be identified with discussion with practices and then further discussion around how the premium can be reinvested. We have been advised that local issues would be considered. The whole process is to be completed by April 2017.

Smoking Cessation LES

Members were reminded that funding for this was removed from GP prescribing budgets and passed to public health at RMBC. RMBC had chosen to commission a private company to run the service which will provide help to a dramatically reduced subset of smokers. The LMC anticipate that many practices will not feel able to act as providers to this service, particularly given the high level of bureaucracy associated with the new voucher scheme.

Since the budget now rested with Rotherham MBC, patients were advised to contact their RMBC Borough Councillor if they had complaints about the lack of smoking cessation support now available at practice level.

Unplanned admissions LES

Revised guidance on the unplanned admissions enhanced service is now available at:-

<http://www.nhsemployers.org/your-workforce/primary-care-contacts/general-medical-services/gms-contract-changes/contract-changes-201415>

Following pressure from the GPC, the revised guidance clarifies..that:

- Care plans for patients initially added to the case management register have to be in place by the end of September 2014, not June 2014 as was originally specified. This recognises the difficulty with producing care plans for these patients for the end of June and ensures consistency with the payment structure in place for the enhanced service.

- Patients initially added to the case management register have to be informed of their named accountable GP and care co-ordinator by the end of July 2014, not June 2014 as was originally specified. The July deadline for the named accountable GP applies only to patients added to the register who are under the age of 75, as patients aged 75 and over will have been informed of their named GP by the end of June (existing patients) or within 21 days of registration (new patients), as per the requirements of the GMS and PMS regulations for a named GP aged 75 and over.

GPC contract 2014/15

Several guidance documents have been recently published to reflect the changes to the GP contract for 2014/15 coming into force from 1 April. The BMA website has been updated to incorporate these changes, and now includes the new joint GPC, NHS Employers and NHS England guidance document on the contract agreement, NHS England guidance on how the agreement will be applied to PMS practices and a checklist for practices on actions that they should take now to meet the requirements of the contract.

The information is available on the BMA website at.

http://www.england.nhs.uk/w_p-content/uploads/2014/03/gp-cont-change-fin.pdf

<http://www.nhsemployers.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/GMS-contract-guidance-audit-requirements-2014-15.pdf>

GPC Regional Elections

The ballots in this constituency have now been dispatched. Voting is open until Friday 25th April, by which point ballots must be returned to ERS - there is a pre-paid envelope provided.

Any GPs who have not received a ballot paper, can contact Rachel Juby on 020 7383 6375 or by email at rjuby@bma.org.uk who will arrange for a replacement to be sent.

GPC News

The April edition is available to read on our website at: -

<http://www.rotherhamlmc.org/guidance.htm>

LMC Buying Group

Rotherham LMC joined the LMC Buying Groups Federation in March 2011. All practices were given the opportunity to 'opt-in' to membership at that time and about two thirds of practices have now done so. Any practices who have not yet signed up can do so at any time.

Membership entitles you to discounts on products and services provided by the Buying Group's suppliers: www.lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk/suppliers. Membership is free and there is no obligation on practices to use any of the suppliers. However practices can save thousands of pounds a year just by switching to Buying Group suppliers. To view the pricing and discounts on offer you need to log-in to the Members section of the Buying Group website: www.lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk/members. If you are unsure if your practice is a member or if you wish to join the Buying Group then please email info@lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk

To find out more about the Group you can visit our website.

Not convinced the Buying Group can save your practice money? Well why not challenge their procurement consultant Gary Burns to do just that. The LMC Buying Groups Federation's initiative - 'Challenge Gary' - aims to show member practices how

much money they could save just by swapping to buying group suppliers.

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
12th MAY**
**COMMENCING
AT 7.30 PM**

OFFICERS OF THE LMC

Chairman

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If you have any questions or agenda items, or wish to submit articles

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