

LMC LINKS

July 2012
Volume 1, Number 6

In This Issue

1. • Measles Outbreak
2. • Buying Group Newsletter
3. • BMA Website Changes
4. • Domestic Violence RCGP Guide
5. • The Health Ombudsman
6. • Medical Death Certificates - Guidance
7. • Scam Warning and a Giggle
8. • New Continuing Professional Development guidance launched.
9. • Planning for the future
- 10.

Measles Outbreak

A reduction in the uptake of Measles vaccination has resulted in outbreaks in the north west. The Health Protection Unit believes that there may even have been a case where there was cross-infection in a GP waiting room. With that in mind they have asked us to encourage all our practices to:

- Try to see suspected measles cases at the end of surgery
- Try to ensure immunisation of practice staff

Should your staff wish to use it, we believe this forms part of the occupational health schemes provided to both Salford and Trafford GPs. If you need further information on what is on offer please get in touch with the LMC office

Buying Group Newsletter

Saving you both time and money!

The latest LMC Buying Group newsletter is available at:

<http://esend-mailer.co.uk/t/P5E-SUDX-BF3GA395E2/cr.aspx>.

The Buying Group's aim is to save practices both time and money - something we know is in short supply. If you have not yet used the LMC Buying Group we would suggest that you have a look. If you have used it before we welcome your feedback, and suggest a look at the new suppliers mentioned in the newsletter.

If you have used Challenge Gary, and saved the

Up & Coming Events

BMA Employment Seminars – Watch this space!

Contact us

Salford & Trafford LMC

5th Floor Sentinel House

Albert Street

Eccles

M30 0NJ

practice some money, please let us know that too.

BMA Website changes

We are aware that the BMA has recently launched a new version of its website. It is possible that you will find that links you have saved, or been sent previously, no longer function. We will do our best to advise as new links become available.

In the meantime you may find it useful to know that CQC registration guidance is now at

<http://bma.org.uk/practical-support-at-work/doctors-as-managers/managing-your-practice/cqc-registration>

Please note that the BMA web team are still migrating documents from the old website onto the new. If there are any guidance / documents that you are having trouble finding, please let us know and we will try our best to find the new link for you.

Domestic Violence - RCGP guide

The Royal College of General Practitioners has recently published guidance for General Practice on dealing with the difficult and complex issue of domestic violence. We attach the link, and the information within it as an example of good practice you may wish to work towards

http://www.rcgp.org.uk/pdf/DV_practice_guidance_June_2012.pdf .

For practical local information Salford practices may find the following helpful

<http://www.partnersinsalford.org/cspebulletin-march12.htm>

For practical local information Trafford practices may find the following helpful

<http://www.traffordpct.nhs.uk/your-local-nhs/safeguarding/safeguarding.aspx>

The Health Ombudsman

The Health Ombudsman has stated that their office

Tel 0161 212 6510 or
0161 212 6511

Email: vsimenoff@nhs.net or
LMC.office@salford.nhs.uk

Visit our website

www.salfordandtraffordlmc.org.uk

will be vigorously investigating complaints where patients have been removed without just cause. Of course they cannot know if there is just cause until they have investigated, which means that all such complaints are being taken very seriously by the HO. The points to remember are:

1. Make sure that any patient removals have followed the practice's established process and are reasonable
2. Ensure that all poor behavior leading to the removal is fully documented
3. Demonstrate that reasonable efforts to resolve the situation without removal have been taken where that is appropriate
4. Remember that the HO has the power to declare a suggested compensation payment. The HO has no legal power to enforce such a payment so it is not strictly speaking "a fine". Should a practice choose not to pay the suggested compensation then the HO has the power to call the practice before the Commons health select committee where you may be grilled.

Should this unfortunate event happen to you, your practice would need to ensure a communications trail and evidence that it would be happy defending in public. If you can do that then you should have nothing to fear.

It would be unfortunately if the HO were to be used by abusive patients as a way of reinforcing and condoning their abuse. Should this be the case it is vital to ensure you protect your practice by following procedure to the letter and documenting everything.

Medical Death Certificates - Guidance

Do you have queries about completing a death certificate, wonder if you can put the cause of death as "old age" or "natural causes", or have other queries regarding the Coroner? If so you may

Contact us

Salford & Trafford LMC

5th Floor Sentinel
House

Albert Street

Eccles

M30 0NJ

Tel 0161 212 6510 or

0161 212 6511

Email: vsimenoff@nhs.n
et or
LMC.office@salford.nhs
.uk

Visit our website

www.salfordandtraffordlmc.org.uk

find the following helpful.....

http://www.gro.gov.uk/images/medcert_July_2010.pdf

Scam warning and a giggle!

I hope you are all aware of the scam where you are rung up and told that the person calling is from Microsoft and they have noticed that your computer is running slow..... If you have ever wondered how to deal with such a call, the following approach, whilst unusual, certainly did the trick!!!

Caller: I am ringing from Microsoft. Are you sitting at your computer? I have noticed it is running slow, and we need to sort it out.

GP: I think it is running fine

Caller: How do you know?

GP: I will ask it (He promptly does, as in "dear computer, how are you today, are you running ok?")

Caller: Can it talk?

GP: Well it has got speakers....

At which point the caller hung up!!!

For further, slightly less flippant information on scams see:

<http://www.oft.gov.uk/business-advice/protect-your-business-from-scams/>

New Continuing Professional Development guidance launched.

The GMC has developed new guidance on continuing professional development. They hope doctors will use it to reflect on how their learning and development improves the quality of care they provide to patients and for the service in which they work.

The guidance describes:

- How doctors should plan, carry out and evaluate their CPD activities
- The importance of taking account of the needs of patients and the healthcare team when doctors consider their own learning needs
- How doctors should reflect on the *Good Medical Practice* domains when evaluating their CP needs
- The relationship between CPD and revalidation
- The use of appraisal, job planning and personal development plans in managing CPD and to record CPD activities
- The responsibilities of others, such as employers and Colleges, in supporting doctors' CPD.

You will find out more at:

http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/continuing_professional_development/cpd_guidance.asp

Planning for the future

If your PCT currently offers training for you or members of your staff, we would encourage you to take up that training as soon as possible. These training budgets are highly unlikely to be replicated after March 2013 when PCTs are disestablished and it is most likely that the responsibility for funding these courses will fall on the practice. You may wish to prioritise mandatory training such as Health and Safety and Fire training to ensure all your staff are up to date.