



LMC LINKS

Sept 2013

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Up & Coming Events

Sessional GP's Conference
Friday 11th October – see the
BMA website

THE EXTRACTION OF NHS DATA

You will have seen the recent medial coverage of the extraction of NHS data. Further supporting documents on care.data have now been published and are available at the link below:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/tsd/care-data/>

The documents include:

- An updated joint statement between the RCGP, BMA, NHS England and HSCIC
- Updated GP Guidance
- A GP practice toolkit, including a checklist
- Updated GP FAQs
- Updated patient FAQs

Practices will soon receive an email containing links to these resources and guidance, plus a separate communications pack with patient information materials. We are currently expecting these communications to be sent to practices within the next two weeks. Once received, practices should display the poster and make leaflets available in the practice without delay as extractions will begin approximately 8 weeks after they receive the materials. FAQ 6 provides some further guidance on what practices should do to raise awareness. The guidance also explains how to manage patient objections to the disclosure of their personal confidential data.

Additional supporting activity to help raise awareness is being planned by NHS England at a regional and national level and we will provide further details of this as soon as possible.

The Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) are providing a helpline for GPs with queries and can be contacted on **0845 300 6016** or by emailing **enquiries@hscic.gov.uk**, quoting 'care.data - GP' in the subject line. The helpline can also be used where practices need further guidance in responding to queries from patients that are not answered by the patient FAQs.

The General Practitioner Committee of the BMA (GPC) are

Contact us

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0161 873 9553/9559

Email:

vsimenoff@nhs.net or

LMC.office@trafford.nhs.uk

Visit our website

www.salfordandtraffordlmc.org.uk

happy to receive any concerns or comments from GPs for If you have any queries you would like us to raise on your behalf please let us know so that we can pass them on to them.

ACCESSING THE I.T. HELPDESK.

IT support has now moved to the Greater Manchester commissioning support unit. Telephone lines get busy so an electronic portal has been set up – to register for access to the portal and get a password please call:

For Salford practices: 765 6685

For Trafford practices: 765 6689.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Unfortunately at the time of sending this newsletter there is no definitive solution for Occupational Health Services for GPs - although we have been led to believe that this is imminent.... This is a national problem requiring a national solution.

In the meantime interim local arrangements are being discussed. If you are aware of any GP colleague who needs referral, please get in touch with Dr Iain Maclean, Joint Chair of this LMC, who will advise of the latest situation and offer appropriate advice. His email address is iain.maclean@nhs.net or on his mobile 07957606097. If Dr Maclean is unavailable any Executive Member, or Mrs Simenoff will be able to assist you. Unfortunately this interim measure is for GPs only and does not extend to practice staff.

TAKING THE CQC SERIOUSLY.

We are aware of an English GP who was reported to the GMC recently for failing to meet CQC standards. We inform you of this to ensure that all practices take seriously their duty to work towards meeting these standards and of the potential severity of failing to co-operate. Thankfully in this case the hearing simply determined that the practice needs to work closely with CQC to develop and implement the necessary protocols, but the stress on the lead GP was enormous. If you, or your practice manager, would like any advice on working with and dealing with the CQC please get in touch.

HEALTHIER TOGETHER IN A NUTSHELL

A number of Managers and GPs have been involved in working groups considering the reconfiguration of services across Greater Manchester – this is being led by the Area Team in conjunction with all the CCGs across GM. Whilst considering the reconfiguration of secondary services the groups found they also needed to consider the impact this would have on the provision of primary care.... This led to work on what is being termed as Out of Hospital Care. There has been talk of developing a new contract for GPs across GM, but our constituents should note that neither the Area Team or the CCGs have the mandate for this to happen –we suspect that the consultation will ask the public how they would like their primary care services to look – with access a particular issue - and it is likely that this information will be used in future negotiations.

You can be assured that as an LMC we are well aware of the stresses and strains on General Practice and the people who work in it, as well as the finance that supports it, and we have flagged up from the beginning of our discussions that General Practice will only be able to consider taking on additional work with additional resources: people; finance to pay for them; extended premises to accommodate them. We are concerned by the belief that as money is released from secondary care it will pay for primary care provision – something has to pay in the interim, and there has to be an assured mechanism that secondary care does not simply increase its services to replace lost revenue.

We raise these issues on every possible occasion. Some of this message is getting through and work is stretching across organisations such as the Local Education Boards, which oversee GP education, to ensure that future arrangements take into account the need for more GPs. There are also now “demonstrator” sites across Greater Manchester which aim to show how it will be possible to move money away from secondary care and use it to provide care “Out of Hospital”.

We have concerns that many GPs do not understand what is happening; do not feel engaged, or who feel that their voices are not being heard. We are therefore planning a “Healthier Together” open meeting for all our GPs and practice managers and further details will be released as soon as possible.

HELPING THE GPC TO NEGOTIATE ON YOUR BEHALF....

The newly elected General Practitioners' Committee of the BMA (GPC) Chairman's Dr Chaand Nagpaul recently wrote a [letter to the profession](#). Following on from this GPC is launching a survey

of English GPs on the impact of the imposed changes to their contract. The survey covers some vitally important areas such as workload, morale, funding and expenses. It also covers the levels of engagement with CCGs, the impact of the changes to the QOF, and GPs' view of the new DESs. The GPC will use the survey results in negotiations with Government to best represent the experiences and opinions of the profession.

We would be very grateful if you could spend a few minutes to complete the [survey](#) to help GPC represent your views to Government. The survey will close at 12pm on Monday 9 September.

Dr Nagpaul has also written a [blog](#), covering the above mentioned issues, which asks for the profession's input and views on the contract imposition and how the QOF changes have affected GPs.

The letter to the profession, the survey and blog are available on the BMA website www.bma.org.uk/gpc.

NEW SYSTEM FOR BOOKING LOCUMS...

eLocum24 is an electronic system which practices can use to book locums directly, but without the additional on-costs charged by agencies. This has been developed by a GP, Dr Imran Najmi. We are advised that there is no charge for practices to sign up.

We cannot endorse this system, but our thoughts are that it sounds like it could have cost benefits for practices. Equally we will be letting the locums know we have on our local locum list that this system is in operation and if they are interested they may wish to sign up too.

If you want to have a look at their website or sign up, it is www.elocum24.com.

If you have any queries Dr Najmi's email address is drimrannajmi@gmail.com.

GMMMG NOMINATED FOR HSJ AWARD

The Greater Manchester Medicines Management Group's (GMMMG) Joint Formulary has been shortlisted in the Quality and Productivity category of the Health Service Journal (HSJ) awards for its entry, "Delivering the impossible – prescribing consistently, cost effectively and to the highest quality standards to 2.8m

people across 12 NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and 13 NHS Trusts". The annual HSJ Awards are the biggest national awards in healthcare management.

The GMMM group now forms part of the Greater Manchester clinical Commissioning Support Unit (GMCSU) which submitted an entry into the HSJ awards on behalf of all the group's members.

The group has provided the support for clinicians to stop prescribing ineffective yet costly medicines and it has led to savings of £1 million per year across Greater Manchester.

Judging will take place in October, with the winners announced at an awards dinner in London in November 2013. We wish the team well.

CLOSING PRACTICE LISTS...

We hope it will not prove necessary, but if your practice is struggling to provide a service to the necessary quality under the weight of a growing list size you may wish to consider closing your list. If this applies to you we would suggest that you talk to a member of the Primary Care Medical Team at the Area Team of NHS England, and ideally invite them down to your practice first so that they can see for themselves the difficulties you are having. It is important to do this before you start the process of applying formally to close your list or writing saying that you want to.

These discussions should prove helpful to you in determining how you word your application and in cases where it is appropriate, will make you more likely be successful. There is a new process that the AT has to follow which gives them little discretion once the application has been made. For further advice please contact Mrs Simenoff at the LMC office on Vivienne.simenoff@trafford.nhs.uk or vsimenoff@nhs.net

SESSIONAL GPS CONFERENCE: THE JOURNEY FORWARD - FRIDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2013

Working as a sessional GP has its particular challenges and this one-day conference aims to offer expert advice, practical information and guidance to support all sessional GPs in making the most of their careers.

Addressing the issues that matter to sessionals - including pensions, appraisal and revalidation, negotiating skills, as well as making successful career choices - attendees will be able to personalise the programme by selecting from a wide range of breakout groups. The conference will also give attendees the

opportunity to network with their peers and discuss shared issues.

For the full programme see [the BMA website](#).

ENHANCED SERVICES

You should have received two emails from the GREATER MANCHESTER COMMISSIONING HUB using the email [enhancedservices1@nhs.net] on Wednesday 4th September regarding two enhanced services:

- SHINGLES (ROUTINE AGED 70) & SHINGLES (CATCH UP AGED 79) and
- CHILDHOOD SEASONAL INFLUENZA PROGRAMME

If you are not on their mailing list and want to be, please contact enhancedservices1@nhs.net

THANK YOU DR SALIM

After many years of being a Member Dr A Salim recently resigned from the Salford Subcommittee of the LMC. We wish him well in his future and thank him for his contribution.