

SHEFFIELD LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

Newsletter

August 2017

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

COMPLIANCE WITH CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (CQC) REGISTERED MANAGER REQUIREMENTS

REQUESTS FOR MEDICAL EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF BENEFIT CLAIMS AND APPEALS

HEPATITIS B VACCINES SHORTAGE

CHAIR OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS COMMITTEE (GPC) UK

NHS PROPERTY SERVICES (NHSPS) ISSUES: UPDATE

THE ROLE OF LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEES (LMCS)

SUSTAINABILITY AND TRANSFORMATION PLAN (STP) GUIDANCE

TAKING REVALIDATION FORWARD ACTION PLAN

CONSULTATION: ITEMS WHICH SHOULD NOT BE ROUTINELY PRESCRIBED IN PRIMARY CARE

DIGITAL CHILD HEALTH EVENTS PROJECT - ONLINE SURVEY

SWITCHING TO A CAREER AS A GP

PRIMARY CARE WORKFORCE FUNDED INITIATIVES

CELEBRATING GENERAL PRACTICE 2017

COMPLIANCE WITH CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (CQC) REGISTERED MANAGER REQUIREMENTS

CQC registered general practices must have a registered manager (RM), except where the service provider is an individual who manages the service day-to-day and who is fit to carry on the service. Some single handed GPs will meet this criteria and will not need a RM. *Any GP practice registered with CQC as a partnership, or as an organisation, is required to have a RM.*

A practice must apply to register a manager within 12 weeks of the previous manager leaving. Where this does not happen the registered provider is in breach of Section 33 of the Health & Social Care Act. In these circumstances *the CQC can issue a fixed penalty notice (£4k fine) or a prosecution (unlimited fine).*

We recently received a letter from Beverley Cole, Head of General Practice – North Region, CQC informing us of CQC's current actions with regard to registered general practices without a RM. A letter is being sent to all providers without a RM, the process being as follows:

- Each CQC region will validate its list to make sure the provider needs a RM - any that should not be on the list will be excluded.
- An inspector will check the system to make sure that no application is currently being processed for a RM - if there is they will be excluded.
- CQC expects practices to have had a phone call once the lists are validated before a letter goes out.
- Once a response to the letter is received, this will be considered by CQC's legal team and managers, at which point a decision will be made as to further action to be taken.

It is *important that practices respond promptly and fully* to any such communications. Further information is available on CQC's website at:

- <http://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/gp-services/nigels-surgery-51-role-registered-manager>
- <https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/notifications/changes-registered-details-registered-manager-activity>.

REQUESTS FOR MEDICAL EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF BENEFIT CLAIMS AND APPEALS

Further to the article in the July LMC newsletter, it has been brought to our attention that some Sheffield patients are being encouraged to request medical evidence from their GPs by Fightback4Justice, who state that the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) do not contact GPs and Consultants during the appeal process, and often not at all during any stage of the application.

It is our understanding, following our negotiations with the DWP that systems are in place for the Centre for Health and Disability Assessments (CHDA) and Jobcentre Plus to obtain medical evidence when this is required.

As noted in our recently revised guidance, there is no obligation on GPs to provide medical evidence directly to patients: [http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/Benefit%20Claims%20&%20Appeals%20\(revised%20Jun17\).pdf](http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/Benefit%20Claims%20&%20Appeals%20(revised%20Jun17).pdf).

If practices are aware of cases where medical evidence was not requested and should have been, it would be appreciated if anonymised details could be emailed to manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk in order for us to monitor the situation and re-open negotiations with the DWP if necessary.

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HEPATITIS B VACCINES SHORTAGE

All GPs should have recently received a letter from Dr Mary Ramsay, Head of Immunisation, Hepatitis, Blood Safety and Countermeasures Response at Public Health England (PHE) noting that general practice will not be able to order any adult Hepatitis B vaccine stock until further notice.

Further copies of the letter can be accessed via:

[http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/Hepatitis%20B%20Vaccine%20Shortage%20\(PHE%20Aug17\).pdf](http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/Hepatitis%20B%20Vaccine%20Shortage%20(PHE%20Aug17).pdf).

As noted in the letter, the situation is under constant review and PHE is developing patient and public facing materials.

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CHAIR OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS COMMITTEE (GPC) UK

As a Leeds GP and Deputy Chair of the GPC, Dr Richard Vautrey has always taken a personal interest in local issues, and has been extremely supportive of Sheffield LMC, particularly via his input into our citywide events. Therefore, we were delighted to hear that Dr Vautrey has been elected to the post of Chair of GPC UK.

We look forward to Dr Vautrey's continued support locally, as well as his leadership nationally.

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NHS PROPERTY SERVICES (NHSPS) ISSUES: UPDATE

In July Ian Hume, General Practitioners Committee (GPC) Premises Lead wrote a letter offering an update on the ongoing issues faced by practices in NHSPS premises, which can be accessed via:

[http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/NHSPS%20Issues%20\(BMA%20letter%20Jul17\).pdf](http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/NHSPS%20Issues%20(BMA%20letter%20Jul17).pdf)

The content is of particular importance to practices that have outstanding concerns with their lease negotiations, transitional funding or current charges.

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THE ROLE OF LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEES (LMCs)

LMCs have a statutory role in representing GPs.

Due to debate arising in Wessex around who represents GPs, Wessex LMC issued guidance *The Role of LMC*, which they are happy for other LMCs to share: <http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/Role%20of%20the%20LMC%20.pdf>

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SUSTAINABILITY AND TRANSFORMATION PLAN (STP) GUIDANCE

The British Medical Association (BMA) has published a range of new documents on STPs, which include:

- Delivery costs extra: can STPs survive without the funding they need?
- Glossary of terms used;
- A short briefing on Accountable Care Systems (ACS).
- A summary of the contents of each individual plan;
- A list of questions to ask local leaders;

For more information, please visit the BMA's STP website: www.bma.org.uk/stp.

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TAKING REVALIDATION FORWARD ACTION PLAN

The *Taking Revalidation Forward Action Plan* sets out how the General Medical Council (GMC) and others will implement the recommendations of Sir Keith Pearson's report *Taking Revalidation Forward*.

Delivery of the plan will be coordinated by a group of stakeholder organisations chaired by the GMC. There are a number of work streams, each one covering a priority area from Sir Keith Pearson's report:

- Making revalidation more accessible to patients and the public;
- Strengthening assurance where doctors work in multiple locations;
- Tracing the impact of revalidation;
- Reducing burdens and improving the appraisal experience for doctors;
- Reducing the number of doctors without a connection;
- Supporting improved local governance;

Further information can be accessed via: <http://www.gmc-uk.org/publications/31197.asp>.

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CONSULTATION: ITEMS WHICH SHOULD NOT BE ROUTINELY PRESCRIBED IN PRIMARY CARE

The British Medical Association (BMA) has issued a press release in response to the publication of NHS England's action plan aimed at decreasing "wasteful drug use". The press release can be accessed via: <https://www.bma.org.uk/news/media-centre/press-releases/2017/july/bma-responds-to-nhs-england-action-plan-on-wasteful-drug-use>.

The BMA will be responding formally to the consultation and is encouraging others to share any concerns. More information can be found via: <https://www.engage.england.nhs.uk/consultation/items-routinely-prescribed/>.

The consultation closes on **21 October 2017**.

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DIGITAL CHILD HEALTH EVENTS PROJECT - ONLINE SURVEY

NHS Digital, in collaboration with the Professional Record Standards Body (PRSB), is developing the information sharing requirements for the community child health record, which includes the Healthy Child Programme as part of NHS England's Digital Child Health Strategy.

The development of a standard will mean that information can be effectively shared electronically with health care professionals and made available to parents/carers through the personal electronic child health record (known as the e-red book). This will help ensure that key clinical information is available online when needed.

NHS Digital has commissioned the PRSB to consult with parents, carers, health and care professionals, industry and clinical informaticians on their draft requirements. An online survey is seeking views on the information content of the child health record to ensure that all data items are meaningful, relevant, complete and feasible to record/incorporate into clinical information systems: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W7LSKBL>.

The survey should take approximately 20 minutes to complete and **will close at 5 pm on 21 August 2017**. Should you have any questions, please contact informatics@replondon.ac.uk.

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SWITCHING TO A CAREER AS A GP

Health Education England (HEE) has recently seen an increase in the number of enquiries about how to become a GP from trainees across all specialities, consultant, trust and staff grade doctors. The changes in the NHS over recent years means that more and more services are, and will be, provided by GP-led multi-professional primary care teams. The Primary Care Workforce Commission report, *The future of primary care, creating teams for tomorrow*, gives more insight into these developments: <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/documents/The%20Future%20of%20Primary%20Care%20report.pdf>.

HEE recognises that it is not easy to find information when you have moved on from the normal training cycle. With that in mind, some case studies and FAQs have been published on the GP National Recruitment Office (GPNRO) website, which can be shared with colleagues, peers or friends who may be interested in switching to a career as a GP:

- <https://gprecruitment.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/GPCSR>
- <https://gprecruitment.hee.nhs.uk/Recruitment/Retraining-FAQs>

Anyone wishing to be put in contact with someone who has retrained as a GP should email gprecruitment@hee.nhs.uk.

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PRIMARY CARE WORKFORCE FUNDED INITIATIVES

Article submitted by Sanni Khan, ATP Lead/Administrator, Foundry Medical Group (FMG)

We're pleased to share a selection of primary care workforce development training schemes from Health Education England (HEE):

- Health Care Assistant (HCA) Apprenticeship scheme - a chance to receive funding up to £6800 for employing a HCA Apprentice by September 2017. Can be a current member of staff or an external applicant.
- General Practice Ready scheme - HEE offers an £8000 incentive for practices considering appointing a newly qualified General Practice Nurse (GPN) by February 2018.
- Return to Practice scheme - Can you support Return to Practice nurse students with HEE's newest initiative?
- Advanced Training Practice (ATP) scheme - FMG want your practice to join the ATP scheme and help 'grow your own nurses for the future'.

For full details on the funded schemes visit FMG's website: <http://www.foundrymedicalgroup.co.uk/>.

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CELEBRATING GENERAL PRACTICE 2017

Article submitted by Antonia Ford, Faculty Administrator, Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP)

Come and join us for a celebration!

After holding such a successful event last year RCGP SYNT are holding again their Celebrating General Practice event on Saturday 11 November at the Mercure St Pauls, Sheffield. Just like last year we want the evening to be full of entertainment, fun, laughter, good food and dancing. Places are free for RCGP members, and there has already been a lot of interest, so don't delay booking your free place. We would also love your practice team to join us, husband, wives, partners and friends are also welcome too.

Booking is really easy, all you have to do is click on the link and join us at Celebrating General Practice 2017: <http://www.rcgp.org.uk/learning/north-england/south-yorkshire-north-trent-faculty/celebrating-general-practice-11-november-2017.aspx>

We hope to see you there!

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Please forward any articles for inclusion in the LMC newsletter to
manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk

Articles for the September edition to be received by Friday 8 September

Submission deadlines can be found at

<http://www.sheffieldlmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/VB%20and%20Newsletter%20Deadlines%202017.pdf>