

ROTHERHAM LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2010

Care Quality Commission (CQC) Registration

Following some confusion about the CQC registration timetable, the GPC has confirmed that NHS GP practices do not yet have to comply with CQC standards.

NHS GP Practices will begin to be invited to apply for registration with CQC from 1 October 2011 and all will need to be registered from 1 April 2012.

In the application practices will need to declare compliance with 16 standards. Monitoring of compliance with the CQC standards will not commence until 1 April 2012.

It is worth noting that PCTMS practices should be registered with CQC because PCTs needed to be registered from 1 April 2010.

The GPC will be producing a guide on how to complete the application form for CQC registration and on how practices can comply with each of the CQC standards. They aim to publish this guide in spring 2011.

The CQC should be sending their first letter to all primary medical services providers about registration this month and will be publishing an introductory guide to registration. In the

meantime, information already published can be found on the CQC website at: -

<http://www.cqc.org.uk/guidanceforprofessionals/primarymedicalservices.cfm>

GP Commissioning in Rotherham

At the time of writing, applicants for the eight Commissioning Executive vacancies are being interviewed. The appointments will be announced shortly, together with those for the GP Reference Group.

Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Licence Medical Requirements.

Following discussions between Rotherham MBC and the LMC, the RMBC Licensing Manager has asked that the LMC circulate a letter to all GPs outlining three options: -

- 1) Alter the current system so that GPs continue to complete medicals. However, the certificate of fitness and the medical will be referred to an in-house Occupational Health Unit for an assessment of fitness to be made.
- 2) Alter the current system so that all medicals are conducted by Occupational Health.

- 3) Alter the current system to allow drivers to choose either Occupational Health or to a number of GPs who would be prepared to complete the medical forms.

The LMC advises GPs to consider the options carefully as you are potentially being asked to confirm occupational fitness and suitability not just medical information as in an HGV medical.

Hospital Red Alerts

A year ago, you may remember GPs were inundated with alerts. The resulting efforts to reduce the volume have since been successful. NHS Rotherham is now advising the LMC that when an alert is now issued, it really does mean what it says. GPs are asked to show a degree of understanding and compassion in dealing with the Hospital when an alert is now issued!

RDASH Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust re: mental health services re-design in Rotherham

Dr Riadh Abed, Medical Director, attended the last LMC meeting to outline changes and answer questions from members.

The key change would be that the existing Community Mental Health Teams

(CMHTs) would be re-configured into multi-disciplinary borough-wide specialist teams, which will include an Access Team and four treatment teams. Referrals will be assessed by the Access Team and referred to the most appropriate service. It was envisaged this process would commence February 2011.

The changes will mean approximately 70% of current patients will require transfer to a new care coordinator within the new structure. A communication plan for GPs is set to commence now in advance of the planned February 2011 implementation. A letter will be issued to GPs for each patient informing them of their new Care Coordinator.

Revalidation Update

The LMC can confirm that some GPs are now undergoing the revalidation pilot. As NHS Rotherham has become an early adopter of the new system, the RCGP have offered their appraisal toolkit free to all Rotherham GPs (i.e. irrespective of whether you are a member of RCGP or not) until April 2012. GPs can initiate the service by clicking on the 'revalidation' button on the website at: - www.rcgp.org.uk

The December 2010 edition of the BMA's revalidation newsletter *Revalidation Update* has recently been issued, covering topics such as:

- GMC consultation response.
- Responsible Officer regulations passed.
- Interim report on pilots.

A copy of the newsletter can be downloaded at: -

http://www.bma.org.uk/images/revalidationnewsletterdecember2010_tcm41-202250.pdf

Sessional GP Conference 2011

The BMA is holding a one day educational conference for Sessional GPs on Friday 11 March 2011 at BMA House, London.

This conference will provide salaried and locum GPs with expert advice, support and information on the key issues affecting their career, as well as offering the helpful opportunity to network with Sessional GP colleagues from around the country and discuss shared issues and concerns.

Further information, including the conference programme and information about how to register is available on the BMA website at: -

http://www.bma.org.uk/whats_on/employment_related_courses/sessgp2011.jsp

Sessional GPs

The GPC has published a new guidance document in its series on the NHS White Paper. The guidance outlines to Sessional GPs the changes proposed in the NHS White Paper, explains how and why they could become involved in these changes, and discusses other potential impacts on the working lives of Sessional GPs. The document is available at: -

http://www.bma.org.uk/images/whitepapergpcguidance7dec2010_tcm41-202282.pdf

Health & Social Care Act 2008 Code of Practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance

This has been published on the Department of Health website, for reference, download or printing at: -

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_122604

Attendance at Meetings

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 in the Board Room at Rotherham General Hospital

OFFICERS OF THE LMC

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

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