

ROOTHERHAM LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2011

IN THIS ISSUE: -

Contract Agreement 2011-12

Clinical Waste Pre-Acceptance Audits

CQC Registration

Good Practice Guidelines for GP electronic patient records

GPC Regional Representative

Rotherham LMC Buying Group

Seasonal Flu Vaccination Programme for 2011/12

Taking on New Practice Partners

Contract Agreement 2011-12

As you will be aware from the March 2011 edition of the LMC newsletter, negotiations between the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) and NHS Employers (NHSE) have concluded and agreement has been reached with the Health Departments in England, Scotland and Wales.

In addition, the following detailed guidance has recently been published and can be downloaded from the *Publications* section of the LMC website:

Quality and Outcomes Framework guidance for GMS contract 2011/12

<http://www.rotherhamlmc.org/Publications/QOF%20Guidance%202011-12.pdf>

Patient participation directed enhanced service (DES) for GMS contract

<http://www.rotherhamlmc.org/Publications/Patient%20Participation%20DES%20for%20GMS.pdf>

GP Extended Hours Access Scheme Directed Enhanced Service – 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012

<http://www.rotherhamlmc.org/Publications/GP%20Extended%20Hours%20DES%202011-12.pdf>

The Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2011 came into force on 1 April 2011 and can be downloaded from the Department of Health (DH) website at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_cons_um_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_125866.pdf

The Primary Medical Services (Directed Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) Directions 2011 came into force on 1 April 2011 and can be downloaded from the DH website at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_cons_um_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_125877.pdf

Clinical Waste Pre-Acceptance Audits

The Environment Agency has now re-published its sector guidance 5.07 for operators of waste disposal facilities. The guidance requires all producers of healthcare waste, including GP practices, to complete an audit of their clinical waste. The deadline for this was originally set for October 2010, but was extended due to the need for further consultation with the waste management industry. GP practices must now provide the relevant information to their waste contractor by **1 July 2011**.

Practices can either collect the data themselves or employ a third party to do so. Alternatively, the practice's waste contractor may offer to complete the audit but may charge for this service.

The GPC has recently produced a self audit tool and guidance to help practices provide the information themselves if they

wish to do so. Copies can be downloaded from the *Publications* section of the LMC website at:

Pre-acceptance Healthcare Waste Self-Audit Tool

[http://www.rotherhamlmc.org/Publications/Focus_on_clinical_waste - self audit tool\[1\].doc](http://www.rotherhamlmc.org/Publications/Focus_on_clinical_waste - self audit tool[1].doc)

Please note that a word version of this document is also available in the *Publications* section of the LMC website, which practices can complete electronically.

Clinical Waste Audits Guidance

http://www.rotherhamlmc.org/Publications/Focus_on_Clinical_Waste_Audit.pdf

CQC Registration

CQC have told the GPC that their local compliance officers will be in a position to engage with practices in May/June 2011 once the dentist's registration has finished and the compliance officers have had adequate training.

The Commission will be holding regional events across the UK in June-July 2011 at which they will explain the application for registration process. These events will be open to all GPs.

We realise that there are CQC registration toolkits being produced by commercial companies. The feedback received on the GPC draft toolkit has been positive. In particular it has been said that its suggestions should already be in place in most practices. Please send any queries to wjones@bma.org.uk

Good Practice Guidelines for GP electronic patient records

Version four of the Good Practice Guidelines has now been published. This latest version supersedes version 3.1, and will act as a reference and

source of information for all those involved in developing, deploying and using general practice IT systems.

From the following link you can access the PDF of the full guidance, a shorter quick reference guide, and the Equality Analysis document:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_125310

GPC Regional Representative

The LMC would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr Trish Edney on her re-election to the post of GPC Regional Representative for the Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield region.

Operation Placebo

This was a 12 month pilot study of the eligibility of foreign nationals by practices for NHS treatment - which came to an end in March 2011. Of 560 applications for eligibility only 280 were accepted – although no data was kept regarding names, numbers of applications and so on.

Woodstock Bower Practice has suggested taking on the vetting process as a further pilot in Rotherham on behalf of other practices. They are currently seeking training advice from the UK Border Agency - which will probably be available in May 2011. The pilot will be funded by the NHS Rotherham. Further details will be available in due course.

Rotherham LMC Buying Group

All Rotherham GP Practice Managers should have recently received an email communication announcing the launch of the Rotherham LMC Buying Group from 1st May 2011.

In the midst of the recession, when practices are already suffering the effects of several years without any significant uplift in NHS income, we hope that this will be a welcome, money saving initiative.

Once practices have joined the buying group they will receive a welcome pack containing details of our suppliers and other relevant information, such as a user name and password giving access to the Federation of LMC Buying Groups website and other benefits.

Any practices requiring further copies of the distributed information, can download this from the *Buying Group* section of our website as follows:

- Announcing the Launch of the Rotherham LMC Buying Group
http://www.rotherhamlmc.org/Buying_Group/Buying%20Group%20Launch.pdf
 - Factsheet
http://www.rotherhamlmc.org/Buying_Group/Buying%20Group%20Factsheet.pdf
 - Joining Form
http://www.rotherhamlmc.org/Buying_Group/Buying%20Group%20Joining%20Form.doc
-

Seasonal Flu Vaccination Programme for 2011/12

The Chief Medical Officer (England) has sent a letter to PCTs and GPs confirming that the arrangements for procurement of vaccines for 2011/12 will remain the same as last year, and urging practices to start ordering their vaccines now, if they have not already done so.

In the letter the government requests that practices order sufficient vaccine to cover 75% of their patients aged 65 or over, and at least 60% of patients under 65 in clinical risk groups (including pregnant women).

The GPC has been informed that, so far, practices have not increased their vaccine orders to take into account the localised shortages experienced last winter, and despite a rising number of patients in the at-risk groups.

We would encourage practices to review their flu vaccine orders, to ensure that they have ordered sufficient number of vaccines for their patients in the at-risk groups.

A copy of the letter can be downloaded from the DH website at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_cons_um_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_125100.pdf

Taking on New Practice Partners

GP practices may consider a number of different factors when deciding whether to take on a GP partner or salaried GP. To assist practices in this process the GPC has produced guidance *Focus on Taking on New Practice Partners*.

This guidance looks at:

- the cost of employing a salaried GP, including National Insurance contributions and employer's superannuation;
- the impact of the tax burden for existing partners earning over £100,000;
- the benefits of taking on a new partner.

A copy of the guidance can be downloaded from the Publications section of the LMC website at:

[http://www.rotherhamlmc.org/Publications/Focus_on_Taking_new_partners_-March_2011\[1\].pdf](http://www.rotherhamlmc.org/Publications/Focus_on_Taking_new_partners_-March_2011[1].pdf)

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

Chairman
Dr Adrian Cole
Tel: 0844 8151956

Vice Chairman
Dr Chris Myers
Tel: 0845 1240887

Medical Secretary
Dr Neil Thorman
Tel: 01909 770213
Neil.thorman@gmail.com

LMC OFFICE: -

Greg Pacey
Secretary & Treasurer
99 Green Lane,
Wickersley,
Rotherham.
S66 2DD
07986 401764
Rotherhamlmc@hotmail.com
www.rotherham.lmc.org

NEXT

LMC MEETING

MONDAY

9th MAY

COMMENCING

AT 7.30 PM