

Newsletter – May 2014

LMC Meeting 12th May 2014

At our last LMC meeting we discussed a range of issues including; anti-coagulation LES payments, a 'Rotherham Federation', changes to the shared care contract, the bureaucracy surrounding the NHS Health checks, payments to practices and an occupational health service for GPs.

Adoption Health Checks

Practices are reminded that the collaborative arrangements in place with the former PCT now no longer apply and therefore we suggest that practices may seek to charge whatever they deem appropriate for the work via an agreed up-front fee.

Smoking Cessation LES

The LMC are continuing to try to engage with the local authority over significant concerns we have regarding the new SWYFT-provided Smoking Cessation Service. We understand that, as SWYFT have not engaged a 'prescriber' as part of their service, GPs will be asked, in some circumstances, to 'endorse' NRT vouchers provided by SWYFT.

The LMC feel the request to endorse their paperwork is flawed and should not be made of the many local practices which have had to choose to discontinue their 'in-house' smoking cessation service. There may be occasional circumstance where it is necessary for a GP to provide a prescription for a patient; LMC advice is that this should be done on a standard FP10 only.

Rotherham Federation

Dr Tooth has been progressing this and the current proposal was for a 'thin shell' federation which would hold contracts and distribute money to practices. The LMC would be involved in shaping contract negotiations, and advising on reasonable rates etc. The LMC are supportive of these proposals.

Bowel Scope Screening Programme

The South Yorkshire LMCs Liaison group met recently with Dr Stuart Riley, Gastroenterologist at Sheffield, to hear about the bowel scope screening programme for 55 year olds, which is due to be rolled out across South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw later this year.

It will dovetail with the existing bowel screening programme for the over 60s and in the longer term will be nurse led. Patients aged 55 will be picked off the Exeter System and sent an invitation for a one-off flexible sigmoidoscopy. If the patient declines, they can opt in up to the age of 60, when there is automatic progression to the FOB screening. We are advised that there will be minimal issues for primary care, mainly patients asking GPs whether they should accept the test offer. Further details will be sent to practices in due course.

NHS Property Services: guide for customers and tenants

NHS Property Services have launched new guidance for tenants, covering; the capital approvals process; support to estate strategies; lease documentations; billing arrangements; procurement; and disposal of properties.

A copy of the guidance can be downloaded from the NHSPS website (under the general publications tab) at:

<http://www.property.nhs.uk/about-us/publications/>

Regional GPC Representative

Dr Dean Eggitt, from Doncaster LMC, has been

elected as the regional BMA GPC representative for the next three years. He said:

Thank you to all of you that took the time to vote, and to those of you who showed your personal support. I am humbled and very grateful. I look forward to representing you nationally.

The current representative, Dr Trish Edney, will stand down in June and the LMC would like to thank Trish for all her efforts over the years in representing local GPs.

Chaand Nagpaul, Chair of the GPC -New BMA campaign – ‘Your GP Cares’.

This campaign, to highlight the pressures in general practice, is now live.

The BMA will be launching a full suite of campaign materials, including posters and leaflets, at the LMC conference on 22nd/23rd May. These will explain the campaign issues to patients. There are plans in the coming months to engage politicians, policy makers and patients further in the campaign, along with GPs themselves. More details to follow.

The success of ‘Your GP cares’ is heavily dependent on GP support. Now the campaign has launched can we please ask you to:

- join the campaign via the BMA website www.bma.org.uk/YourGPcares
- help raise awareness of the campaign with your colleagues
- if you have further case studies to illustrate the issues the campaign is highlighting please email

them to YourGPcares@bma.org.uk

GPC News

The latest edition is available to read on our website at: -

<http://www.rotherhamlmc.org/guidance.htm>

CARE.DATA

A six-month extension to the start of data collections from GP systems under the care.data initiative was announced in February.

Representatives from the GPC have met regularly with NHS England to discuss the actions to be taken between now and the autumn. The GPC is also committed to ensuring the benefits of the programme are understood and articulated, as well as the risks, and that these risks are appropriately mitigated.

NHS England has issued a letter to stakeholders which confirms that care.data will now proceed in the autumn with a phased roll-out of the GP data extraction process. This will involve a cohort of between 100 and 500 GP practices to trial, test, evaluate and refine the collection process ahead of a national roll out.

A copy of the letter can be downloaded from NHS England’s website at: <http://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/cd-stakeholder-lett.pdf>

Steps are being taken to make changes to the law that will further increase protections around confidentiality and ensure

greater transparency around the release of data by the Health and Social Care Information Centre.

LMC Meetings

GP 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 (except August) in the Board Room at Rotherham General Hospital

**NEXT
LMC MEETING
MONDAY
9th JUNE
COMMENCING
AT 7.30 PM**

OFFICERS OF THE LMC

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If you have any questions or agenda items, or wish to submit articles

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