

Newsletter – February 2016

LMC Meeting 8th February 2016

At our last LMC meeting we discussed a range of issues, including excessive GP surveys, micro-management of new LESs, flu vaccinations in care homes and acute kidney injury guidelines.

Safeguarding children toolkit for GP Practices

The LMC have been in discussion with Dr Oughton about this recent communication to practices.

Our advice is that those practices who wish to respond to it may do so, but we advise that the survey is not mandatory nor a statutory requirement. The LMC remain unconvinced of the value of the survey.

LMC Elections 2016

Ten GP nominations have been received for the ten LMC Member places available for the next three year term commencing 1st April.

Consequently the following members have been automatically elected:-

Drs: Chandran, Cole, Davies, Fulbrook, Kasaraneni, Martin, Muthoo, Myers, Sukumar and Thorman.

Sheffield LMC Seminar “General Practice in Crisis”

Thursday 10 March 2016
7 pm prompt
(Light refreshments available from 6.15 pm)

**The Megacentre,
Bernard Road, Sheffield,
S2 5BQ**

General Practice is facing a time of unprecedented pressure. Sheffield LMC is organising this event in order to bring GPs, GP Trainees and Practice Managers together to receive an update on the national picture and to discuss much needed national and local solutions.

Dr Richard Vautrey, Deputy Chair of the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) will be attending to give a national update.

There will be a Q&A session, with a panel comprising of GPC and LMC Executive representatives, as well as a number of other organisations

As places are limited, it is essential that you register to attend. To register please email administrator@sheffieldlmc.org.uk

confirming your full name, practice address (if applicable) and number of places you wish to reserve.

Urgent Prescription for General Practice

The GPC is highlighting the challenges facing general practice in its latest campaign and offering solutions to government.

One element of this publicity campaign is the Urgent Prescription for General Practice pack, hard copies of which are being sent out to all practices.

A range of resources can be accessed via:

<http://www.bma.org.uk/wor king-for-change/urgent-prescription-for-general-practice>

Indicators no longer in QOF

Practices in some areas have been asked again to accept requests within the Calculating Quality Reporting Service (CQRS) for the extraction of indicators no longer in QOF.

GPC advised LMCs in 2015 on this data extract, confirming their position that the decision to retire and amend these indicators was intended to reduce bureaucracy and allow practices to focus on the needs of patients. These indicators were successfully removed during negotiations

as being clinically inappropriate and unhelpful to practices. As such, there is no expectation that practices should continue to focus on achieving these targets, and GPs should instead continue to use professional judgment to treat patients in accordance with best clinical practice guidelines. It is for clinicians to decide how they record clinical consultations and what codes, if any, to use.

Practices should be reassured that the previous GP contract agreement still stands, and there is no contractual requirement for practices to record codes for former QOF indicators. However, practices are also asked to note the position outlined within the 2015/16 QOF guidance - that practices are encouraged to facilitate data collection of these indicators. The data is intended to inform commissioners and practices and provide statistical information. It is not intended for any performance management purposes.

Zika Virus

Public Health England, the BMA and the RCGP have issued joint Zika virus guidance for primary care.

The guidance offers information and advice for practices when approached by patients who have travelled, or may be planning to travel to affected countries, and focuses on risks for pregnant women.

A copy of the guidance can be accessed at:

<http://www.bma.org.uk/supp-ort-at-work/gp-practices/service-provision/zika-virus-infection>

Further information about the Zika virus and countries affected is available via:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/zika-virus>

QoF Business Rules FAQs

QOF Business Rules Version 33.0 were published in January. In addition to the usual changes where new codes have been added to clusters, some codes have also been removed from some QOF register clusters. This does not usually happen in-year but there were clinical reasons for doing so.

The changes affected heart failure, the asthma register and CKD register.

The updated Business Rules are available via:

www.hscic.gov.uk/qofbrv33.

NHS Employers have published FAQs following these changes:

<http://www.nhsemployers.org/your-workforce/primary-care-contacts/general-medical-services/faqs-and-queries/qof-faqs>

LMC Meeting

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**

14th MARCH 2016

**COMMENCING
At 7.30 PM**

OFFICERS OF THE LMC

Chairman

Dr Adrian Cole

Tel: 01709 565120

Adrian.Cole@GP-C87003.nhs.uk

Vice Chairman

Dr Chris Myers

Tel: 01709 560887

Christopher.Myers@gp-C87020.nhs.uk

Medical Secretary

Dr Neil Thorman

Tel: 01909 770213

Neil.thorman@gmail.com

If you have any questions or agenda items, or wish to submit appropriate articles for this newsletter

CONTACT US AT THE LMC
OFFICE c/o: -

Greg Pacey
Chief Executive
Rotherham LMC

rotherhamlmc@hotmail.com
www.rotherham.lmc.org