

Newsletter – April 2015

LMC Meeting 15th April 2015

At our last LMC meeting we discussed a range of issues including; commissioning of minor operations and phlebotomy, breast screening DNA policy, changes to Rotherham occupational health policy, flu vaccines and RFT dressings for wound care.

GP Contract 2015-16 and LES Specifications

Over the next few weeks the GMS contract documentation for 2015-16, including enhanced services specifications and QOF guidance, will be published by NHS England.

The clinical enhanced services specifications (for Childhood flu, Seasonal flu and Pneumococcal, Men C, Pertussis for pregnant women, Shingles catch up, and Dementia) are already available on the [NHS England website](#) and the BMA website will be updated shortly to reflect these changes and provide links to these guidance documents.

The GPC Chairman recently issued a newsletter highlighting the changes to the GP contract that came into effect on 1 April 2015. The main issues covered include changes to:

- Core contract payments;
- Alcohol Directed Enhanced Service (DES);
- Practice Participation DES;
- Maternity and paternity cover;
- Named GP for all patients;
- Changes to the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF);
- Avoiding Unplanned Admissions Enhanced Service;
- Publication of GP net earnings;
- IT requirements;
- Out of hours provision;
- Armed forces requirements;
- Vaccinations and immunisations.

Further copies can be downloaded at:

<http://bma-mail.org.uk/t/JVX-3AE4M-1BJCJOU46E/cr.aspx>

In addition, the GPC recently published a brief summary of the payments to GP contractors that changed from 1 April 2015 to reflect negotiated contract changes and the Government's acceptance of the Doctors and Dentists Review Body (DDRB) recommendation for contractor GPs. The main items are:

- DDRB Recommendation;
- Increase to global sum;
- QOF points;
- Out of hours 'opt out' deduction;

- Uplifts for Personal Medical Services (PMS) practices;
- Uplifts for Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) practices.

A copy of the guidance can be downloaded at:

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

Appraisal and revalidation guidance for sessional GPs

A recent GPC survey made it clear that many sessional GPs require further support with the appraisal and revalidation process. An example of the issues raised is sessional GPs reporting that they often encounter difficulties gathering appropriate supporting information on quality improvement activity and significant events, and had trouble collecting feedback from both colleagues and patients. In the light of these concerns, the appraisal and revalidation guidance for sessional GPs has been updated and is available via:

<http://bma.org.uk/sessionalgpappraisals>

The GPC has learned of reports in the media about the sale of patient data by the online pharmacy service Pharmacy2U.

The full details are not yet clear, but some reports suggest that personal details held by Pharmacy2U including names, addresses and dates of birth have been sold, without patient consent, to a marketing company.

The GPC is concerned by these reports and any potential breach of patient confidentiality. Their understanding is that the ICO and General Pharmaceutical Council are investigating the matter. The GPC will be monitoring developments but, in the meantime, practices should be aware of these reports. This may be of particular interest to EMIS practices, as EMIS has an integrated Pharmacy2U module.

CQC Registration Forms

The CQC is introducing new registration application and registration variation forms for providers. The new forms have been developed to take account of the changes to regulations from 1 April, including the [introduction of the fundamental standards](#).

This change will affect all health and social care providers, including those GP providers who use online services. Around two-thirds of GP providers currently use online services to apply to make changes to their registration.

The new forms will be made available to users of online services and any draft forms

will be deleted at this stage. More information here:-

<https://services.cqc.org.uk/public/new-forms-update>

The CQC has published a news article on its website, explaining the phased process by which they will begin accepting the new offline forms and stop accepting the old versions.

<http://www.cqc.org.uk/content/new-registration-application-and-registration-variation-forms>

MenC Freshers Programme

Following a rapid increase in MenW disease in England, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) recommended an emergency programme to vaccinate all 14-18 year-olds (school years 10-13) with a quadrivalent MenACWY conjugate vaccine to provide direct and herd protection to the whole population.

Following this recommendation, NHS England has made provisions in the MenC freshers programme to accommodate a change of vaccine from MenC to MenACWY mid-year. To ensure freshers receive the most effective vaccine and avoid the need to recall them at a later date, Public Health England (PHE) and NHS England are requesting a delayed start to the delivery of the MenC freshers programme until the new MenACWY vaccine is available.

This decision is based purely on clinical grounds to ensure that patients receive the most appropriate vaccine. This

delay will not change the agreed terms of the freshers programme or have any impact on the payment practices receive once the programme commences.

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

11th MAY

COMMENCING

AT 7.30 PM

OFFICERS OF THE LMC

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