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| Newsletter | February 2025 |
| In This Issue   * LMC Meeting - 10th February 2025 * Local GP Collective Action Survey * Virtual Wards * LMC Elections 2025 * ‘Lilac’ Palliative Care Cards * Medical certificate of cause of death (MCCD) * GLP1s * Accelerated Access to Prospective GP Records * New to Partnership Scheme   GPC Advice   * Update from GPC * National Collective Action Tracker Survey   LMC Meetings  GP constituents are always welcome to attend meetings of the LMC as observers. Meetings are held alternatively online via Microsoft Teams or in The Boardroom of Rotherham Hospital. Please contact the LMC office if you wish to attend  NEXT LMC MEETING:  10th March 2025  From 7.30 PM  LMC Officers  Chair,  Dr Julie Eversden  julie.eversden@nhs.net  Vice-Chair,  Dr Richard Fulbrook  r.fulbrook@nhs.net  Medical Secretary  Dr Neil Thorman  [Neil.thorman@gmail.com](mailto:Neil.thorman@gmail.com)  LMC Office  Greg Pacey  [rotherhamlmc@hotmail.com](mailto:rotherhamlmc@hotmail.com)  [www.rotherhamlmc.org](http://www.rotherhamlmc.org)  Disclaimer  The content of this newsletter is confidential and intended solely for GPs and Practice Managers in Rotherham. | LMC Meeting - 10th February 2025 The LMC discussed a range of issues, in addition to the subjects mentioned in this newsletter, including: CAIP, Orthopedic Interface, Obesity Tier 2 Services, Quality Contract SIS changes, Optometrists LES Specification and Ocular Hypertension. Local GP Collective Action Survey There has been a disappointing response so far to our December survey, with only Dinnington, Gateway, Morthen Road, Swallownest, Village Surgery and Wickersley Health Centre practices replying.  So, we’ve developed a very brief tick box questionnaire for all GPs to complete. This will help to inform us what local practices are doing, which is important for our local negotiations at a Rotherham and South Yorkshire level.  Many thanks for taking the time to do this as we know everyone is very busy, so we very rarely ask for GP surveys!  Here is the link (or there is a QR code for quick mobile access)  [**https://forms.office.com/e/V0qrhNxJ6L**](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.office.com%2Fe%2FV0qrhNxJ6L&data=05%7C02%7C%7C329d40dea86c4910858208dd4b5ccfde%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638749584200466155%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=z2qAidosgeG6ocY3v%2BYl4XaEIFsUdiMpV%2F5EjFSUcdk%3D&reserved=0)   Virtual Wards We recently met with Rod Kersh, Consultant Community Physician, to discuss Virtual Wards, and the perceived reduced availability of ACPs to help with Care Homes among other issues.  We emphasised that it was imperative that phone waits are short (ideally less than 5 minutes) for the Care Co-ordination Centre / Transfer of Care Hub. Rod agreed to look at implementing a maximum waiting time target and implementing other methods to gather patient information to reduce waiting time.  It was also agreed to put some communications out to their teams to confirm that District Nurses can refer into the Virtual Ward.   LMC Elections 2025 The election has now closed, and ten GP nominations have been received for LMC Membership for the new three-year term commencing 1st April 2025. Therefore, as there are ten places available there is no need for a formal election. We are very pleased to have a representative from each PCN.  The following GPs were duly elected to the committee:  Dr A Barmade, Dr V Campbell, Dr B Chandran, Dr J Colquitt,  Dr J Eversden, Dr N Ravi, Dr A Shahzad, Dr J Stringer, Dr S Sukumar & Dr Thullimalli.  This year we will lose three LMC Officers and long-serving LMC Members, who have decided not to stand for re-election. Their individual contribution to the LMC in promoting and defending the work of Rotherham GPs has been invaluable and they will be difficult to replace. In particular:  **Dr Andy Davies** has been with us since 2013, and LMC Chair for five years from 2019 guiding us through the difficult days of the pandemic.  **Dr Richard Fulbrook** has been with us since 2016 and kindly stepped up to the role of LMC Vice-Chair for the last year, despite his impending retirement.  **Dr Neil Thorman** has been with us since 2007, and he has been LMC Medical Secretary for most of that time. His experience and knowledge of medical politics will be difficult to match.  This amounts to a huge loss of experience for the LMC, and from April we will have a slightly different team of LMC Officers going forward but hope to continue to serve and represent you all with enthusiasm and diligence. We’ll let you have more details about the new team in April. ‘Lilac’ Palliative Care Cards **Dr Hendry has confirmed that it is acceptable to either use the lilac cards as usual and fill them in by hand, OR to use a computer generated version using Ardens template to populate patient and drug details on white paper (lilac paper isn’t needed), then countersign by the prescriber.**  It is recommended to only pre-fil thePre-emptive medication section, not the syringe driver section as the syringe driver section needs to be completed at the time it is needed – NOT in advance, due to safety issues. Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD) The LMC recently met with the Medical Examiner’s Office (MEO) and Fiona Hendry and there are still sometimes a few issues causing delay. The MEO are going to write a further flowchart to help and until this is ready, please note that the GP need only have seen the patient once in their lifetime and be able to formulate a cause of death (as long as the coroner referral stipulations don't apply). The MEO is happy to help with the process, advise regarding the cause of death and facilitate in the rare situations when its necessary to find a hospital Doctor.  **Medical examiner service contact details: Email rgh-tr.medicalexaminerservice@nhs.net Phone 01709 425098 / 01709 426410**  **MES Booklet:**   GLP1s The LMC noted new guidance issued to online pharmacies regarding prescription of GLP1s which may have a potential effect on primary care workload. GPs should not ignore requests for information, and should get consent before sharing information, but can charge for a report. We have written a template letter if you wish to use this on our website.   Accelerated Access to Prospective GP Records Following several reports from practices feeling pressured to enable prospective access to records, the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) has issued a position update which can be accessed here.   New to Partnership Scheme Dr Esme Lawy, SYWTHub fellow writes:  *I am in conversation with various people across the SY LMCs about setting up a New to Partnership scheme of education and support. In the meantime, we are taking expressions of interest from interested new partners or those seriously considering partnership. Please follow the link or scan the QR code for more information:*  [**https://yhtraininghubs.co.uk/south-yorkshire/south-yorkshire-schemes/new-to-gp-partnership-programme/**](https://yhtraininghubs.co.uk/south-yorkshire/south-yorkshire-schemes/new-to-gp-partnership-programme/)    **Continued . . . . . . .** **GPC ADVICE**   Update from GPC It may appear quiet on the GPCE front, while we are focused on negotiations with Government, DHSC and NHSE, which we anticipate will conclude in February. The Secretary of State, Wes Streeting wrote to me last week, and I shall be meeting the Minister for Primary Care, Stephen Kinnock later this week.  Government is well aware of the upcoming Special England LMC Conference on Wednesday 19 March to focus on potential ‘*escalatory steps needed to ensure the survival of what still remains of English general practice’* (further details below), and the lack of GP employment opportunities. The Special Conference is also to consider the 2025-26 offer from the DHSC / NHSE. The key milestone however, was always going to be the Spring 2025 three year spending review – Treasury's instruction manual for planned costs between now and 2028. This is where, together with the [NHS Ten Year Plan](https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-term-plan/), we need to see practice resource restoration set out and a new substantive contract for practices across England, as iterated in our manifesto [Patients First](https://www.bma.org.uk/our-campaigns/gp-campaigns/contracts/patients-first). National Collective Action Tracker Survey Thank you to those who have participated in the National collective action tracker surveys from so far.    The February survey will open on Monday 17 February and close at 5pm on Sunday 2 March. The [survey link](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.surveymonkey.com%2Fr%2FBMA_Feb_GP_Action_Tracker&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cb3e61d559a6e48b0fd5108dd4c487657%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638750596302299530%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=t7j%2FeaBbpv89o9%2BW6hExSUXc8ueG56PQLebbuw0p%2BmY%3D&reserved=0) will be shared via the bulletin, social media and SMS messages will be sent to GP partner members on Monday, asking them to provide information of the collective actions that they are undertaking.  We appreciate your efforts in participating, especially given current workloads and the understandable sense of survey fatigue.    The more responses we receive, the better we can understand the collective actions being taken across the country. This data is crucial for effectively advocating for change with the government. To gain further insight, we have added a question to the tracker survey asking about any factors that may be preventing practices from taking any or more action. This will help us identify and address potential barriers. |
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