

Newsletter September 2023

In This Issue

- LMC Meeting 11th September 2023
- eCDOP Reporting
- Chicken Pox Proposal for Immuno-Suppressive Children
- Fit 4 Health
- Transfer of Prescribing from Private Providers

GPC Advice

- Accelerated Access to Records Programme Update
- Relaunch of Return to Practice Programme
- Wellbeing Resources

LMC Meeting 11th September 2023

The LMC discussed a range of issues, including: Discharge Medications, Dopplers, Adult ADHD, Secondary Care catch-up strategy, referrals for incontinence specialist nurses, Innovation Fund proposals and Dexa scans.

eCDOP Reporting

The report is required within seven days following the death of a child. It was thought the current form is onerous – taking up to three hours of GP time to complete. There were numerous issues regarding its completion within the timescales, including GP annual leave / sickness and it was noted that much of the data was probably available at RMBC.

The LMC noted this was probably non-contractual work, which fell within the RMBC collaborative arrangements, and they will contact RMBC to review the process.

In the meantime, the following suggestions are made regarding how to respond:

- Charge a fee for the work under the Collaborative Arrangements with RMBC.
- Offer a briefer GP report covering the main points but not following the eCDOP reporting, obviously allowing for any child protection issues.
- Use GP ARRS Assistants to do the bulk of the work before GP approval

Chicken Pox Proposal for Immuno-Suppressive Children

In Sheffield, both adults and children without immunity to chicken pox are vaccinated with chicken pox vaccine prior to immunosuppression therapy. Adults go to the STH Private Travel Clinic, and Sheffield GP's are asked to vaccinate children. Sheffield's proposal is that the vaccination for this indication is classified as Amber across the ICB for GP's to administer at the request of the specialist at STH.

LMC Meetings

GP constituents are always welcome to attend meetings of the LMC as observers. Meetings are currently held online via Microsoft Teams until further notice. Please contact the LMC office if you wish to attend

NEXT LMC MEETING:

17th July 2023

From 7.30 PM

LMC Officers

Chairman, Dr Andrew Davies ajldavies@hotmail.com

Vice Chairman, Dr Julie Eversden julie.eversden@nhs.net

Medical Secretary Dr Neil Thorman Neil.thorman@gmail.com

LMC Office

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Disclaimer

The content of this newsletter is confidential and intended solely for GPs and Practice Managers in Rotherham.

It was noted that the although the patient cohort was small (c.5 p.a) LMC Members thought this increased the risk of error in Rotherham as there is no Chicken Pox vaccination programme, and therefore there are issues with sourcing, storing and managing such a programme as well as maintaining GP competence to deliver it. Members favoured a centralized service for Rotherham.

The LMC are in contact with the Medicines Management Team about this. In the meantime, GPs are advised not to get involved with this work.

Fit 4 Health

It has been confirmed to the LMC that the Fit 4 Health service is no longer provided - though may be reinstated in a different form at a later date.

There is a virtual seminar for GPs scheduled for 29th September 2023 which will initiate the redesign process entitled 'Exercise in Clinical Pathways'.

Workshop Details:

Date: 29-09-2023 Time: 1300 - 1500 Location: Teams

As a quick recap, the workshop will focus on what a good model for physical activity integration into clinical care for people with LTCs could look like and how it would sit within other LTC care, wider prevention activity and peer support. We propose using this workshop to help us to understand what we would need, so we can create a specification for a model, test and develop that with wider stakeholders and potential patients, and in order that we can then look to securing appropriate funding to sustain a long-term programme. This will be an excellent opportunity to gain deeper insights into the subject matter, learn valuable skills, and engage in meaningful discussions with fellow participants.

Kindly confirm your attendance. As your participation is crucial for us to ensure that we can accommodate everyone effectively. If you have any specific questions or requirements, please respond **caesar.daras@rotherham.gov.uk**

Microsoft Teams meeting Click here to join the meeting Meeting ID: 375 738 086 234

Passcode: JdRfkM

Transfer of Prescribing from Private Providers

The LMC considered a document raised at the recent IMOC meeting by Sheffield for adoption across South Yorkshire. LMC Members thought this was a well-written and balanced document.

The guidance states "There is no definitive national guidance available with regards to handling of requests from private providers to NHS GPs to provide and prescribe under shared care arrangements".

As such, LMC advice is that GPs should not be entering shared care arrangements with private providers.

GPC ADVICE

Accelerated Access to Records Programme Update

GPC England continues to support patients taking a proactive role in the management of their own health. This could be facilitated through access to a patient's own electronic health records. Following the imposition of the 2023/24 GMS contract, the Accelerated Access to Records Programme is currently scheduled to go live for all patients on 1 November 2023. From that date, patients in England will be given prospective access to information entered into their GP record.

However, GPC England believe there are patient safety and information governance concerns that remain outstanding, and which need to be addressed. For this programme to be successful and fulfil its potential we believe it should not be rolled out in a 'big bang' style on 1 November. Practices need to be given the appropriate time and resources to safely plan this in each practice across England, and we continue to press for this as well as further modifications.

Rollout dates

We are aware that EMIS have shared training dates to facilitate their 'bulk upload' and they are encouraging EMIS practices to use the new functionality which has been paid for by NHS England. Earlier this year, many practices wrote to system suppliers to turn this functionality off.

We will publish comprehensive advice and guidance for all practices and will continue to set out concerns and solutions to Government ministers. We will also be engaging with EMIS and TPP to ascertain how they can best support GPs with respect to bulk uploads in the lead up to and after the proposed switch on date.

We would therefore reassure practices that they have time to consider matters, and contractors do not need to make any quick decisions before our guidance has been published.

Relaunch of Return to Practice Programme

NHS England have relaunched the GP Return to Practice (RtP) Programme, implementing recommendations from the NHS England/HEE review of the programme that was completed earlier this year alongside the BMA and RCGP. It introduces the following improvements to the programme:

A more flexible and streamlined programme offering personalised pathways built around the individual needs of each GP

A less confusing programme for GPs with the closure of the multiple schemes that currently sit under the programme

A move away from a "one size fits all" and the expectation that all domestic returners must undertake assessments and placements, particularly those GPs with breaks of less than 5 years

Widening eligibility for the RCGP managed Portfolio Route to include some domestic returners that have been working in other clinical fields

Offering mentorship to returning GPs either as additional support or instead of assessments/placements

The option for GPs to access support to return under a defined scope of practice The option for returning GPs to undertake the programme whilst employed providing access to employment rights such as sick pay and annual leave for the first time

Increased financial support with the monthly bursary for GPs rising to £4000 per month backdated to 1 April 2023

A move to a self-declaration process for occupational health meaning that the majority of returners will no longer be required to arrange an occupational health check

A reduction in bureaucracy and paperwork and a new online application system

Full details of the programme can be found here on the Health Education England website.

Wellbeing Resources

Self-care is more important than ever for the demoralised and over worked GP profession. If you are feeling under strain the BMA can help, read an account on how the BMA supported an overworked doctor and find out how the BMA can support you during #StressAwarenessMonth.

A range of wellbeing and support services are available to doctors, from our 24/7 confidential counselling and peer support services to networking groups and wellbeing hubs with peers, as well as the NHS practitioner health service and non-medical support services such as Samaritans.

The organisation Doctors in Distress also provides mental health support for health workers in the UK, providing confidential peer support group sessions. See our poster with 10 tips to help maintain and support the wellbeing of you and your colleagues. Please visit the BMA's wellbeing support services page for further information and resources.