

Newsletter

October 2023

In This Issue

- LMC Meeting 9th October 2023
- PCCAD / Opel Reporting
- AccurX Triage Switch-On
- MGUS Update
- RAAC (Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete) in GP Premises
- Journey Matters
- Primary Care Together

GPC Advice

- Accelerated Access to Records Programme Update
- CNSGP Indemnity Guidance for GPs
- Undergraduate GP Placement Survey
- EC04 Flex Forms
- DVLA Medical Forms
- Wellbeing Resources

LMC Meeting 9th October 2023

The LMC discussed a range of issues, including: Spirometry, DVT Specification, eCDOP Reporting, Thyroid Low Risk Cancer Patients, Pain Clinic Referrals, Quality Contract, Migraine Management in Primary Care, IMOC Traffic Light Drug List and Women's Health Hub.

PCCAD / Opel Reporting

There was further discussion about the provision of support for practices who are under pressure, and the definition of what support might be required. The bottom line was that there currently isn't any funding available for this.

The LMC are seeking feedback from practices. It would be really helpful to hear of your experience of using it, and what you think of the PCCAD questions - in particular any ideas for tweaking / changes to improve the objectivity/ ensure they reflect the pressure on appts - whether being filled out by a practice using partial or total triage or not, and also any thoughts on the escalation framework and what support you would like to see available (presuming some money was available) and how it might be provided fairly.

We would welcome any comments on the process. Simply email Greg Pacey at the usual email address rotherhamlmc@hotmail.com

AccurX Triage Switch-On

This is part of a national NHSE programme. However, many Rotherham practices were unaware this had happened. Any patient with an NHS App can now contact their GP surgery directly. We are concerned that claim arrangements for a \pounds 13.5k Transition Payment which is to support work like this has not yet been confirmed

Akaki Jamburidze, the lead person for this, is happy to visit surgeries to help go through the issues if needed. He can be contacted on MS teams or email at:

akaki.jamburidze@nhs.net

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:

13th November 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

MGUS Project

James Taylor, Consultant Haematologist at TRFT, has confirmed the new system will commence 1st November 2023. Haematology will automatically pick up the high risk MGUS patients from our primary care blood tests and invite them to an OPA, and for low-risk patients, we will get a message on ICE to repeat the bloods at an appropriate interval and we can send them the patient leaflet. For intermediate risk, the haematologists may ask us for more background information about patient symptoms or family history via email / A&G.

RAAC (Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete) in GP Premises

Practices will have received a letter from NHSE requiring assurance that your buildings are free of RAAC.

Whilst practices must ensure that premises are safe, we do not agree with the recommendation that practices must necessarily engage a professional to provide this assurance. Where doubt exists, this may be necessary, but in other cases - such as where it can be demonstrated that buildings were built after RAAC was an acceptable building material or were original building plans and schedules can be checked - it may be that practices will feel able to assert that there building is safe in RAAC terms without needing further professional support.

This link gives some information on actions to take in considering the risk of RAAC benign present. (under the FAQ "Does my building contain RAAC?").

https://www.rics.org/news-insights/current-topics-campaigns/raacadvice-and-faqs

Journey Matters

Journey Matters is a part of the **Active Travel England** initiative and offers a free way to see if cycling is for you. They loan both pedal bikes and electric bikes for free to those who are over 18 and live, work or are being educated in Rotherham for between one and three months.

If you'd like to refresh your skills, boost your confidence, or start your bike journey from scratch, they have a choice of women's only, mixed or individual training sessions held in Rotherham and the surrounding areas. They can also get your bike checked over and adjusted by one of their expert mechanics.

Visit The Journey Matters Hub at any of the public events listed **here** and starting from October every Thursday outside the **Riverside House** 9AM -1PM or go to **https://www.journeymatters.co.uk** for more details and application links.

LMC Office

Greg Pacey rotherhamlmc@hotmail.com www.rotherhamlmc.org

Disclaimer

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

Primary Care Together

Dr Rhona Glover, a GP working at High St Surgery in Rawmarsh and also SY Primary Care Workforce & Training Hub representative writes:

We're delighted to announce a new project 'Primary Care Together - helping you survive and thrive' from South Yorkshire Primary Care Workforce & Training Hub. The programme is designed to help support Primary Care clinicians and improve retention. It is open to clinicians working within General Practice in South Yorkshire at all stages of their career (except those on early years Preceptorships/VTS/New to Practice Fellowships etc). There are a variety of initiatives on offer, and some will even **pay you to attend!**

Please see the website to find out more and sign up.

South Yorkshire Primary Care Together Helping you Survive and Thrive – South Yorkshire Primary Care Workforce and Training Hub (pcwth.co.uk)

GPC ADVICE

Accelerated Access to Records Programme Update

Following on from the <u>guidance that GPC England (GPCE) shared with</u> <u>practices</u> last Friday, Practices are strongly advised to carry out a practice Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) if they have not already done so, and may wish to use the <u>BMA's DPIA</u> as a template. This can be found <u>here</u> alongside a suite of resources (listed below) which practices can use in helping to prepare for prospective records access to their patients;

- FAQs for AAtR programme implementation
- Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)
- <u>Template text message for practices</u>
- <u>Example webpage for practice website (linked to from text message)</u>
- Sample Draft Email to ICB Primary Care IT Teams
- Application form for online access to the practice online services

CNSGP Indemnity Guidance for GPs

In response to queries regarding the scope of CNSGP cover, please use the following link **CNSGP Indemnity Scheme for General Practice**. Colleagues will need additional cover from their medical defence organisations for performance issues (such as those relating to NHS England and the GMC) together with support with coroners' queries, and matters referred to the Ombudsman. Colleagues should also confirm that their medical defence organisation also covers them for non-NHS services delivered individually, or by their practice. Non-NHS clinical services (e.g. DVLA, local authority safeguarding etc) are not covered by CNSGP.

Undergraduate GP Placement Survey

Medical Schools are currently struggling to identify adequate placement providers in general practice. University of Liverpool is running a **survey** which aims to identify the factors which affect a practice's decision to host undergraduate medical students. The data will be used by medical schools to identify drivers and barriers to medical student placements in general practice, to allow tailoring placement requirements appropriately and identify strategies to help practices overcome potential barriers. If you are interested in participating, please read the **Participant Information** sheet and complete the online survey **here** (it is fully anonymous and should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete). Please contact Dr Kathryn J Harrison (**docthark@liverpool.ac.uk**) for any queries.

ECO4 Flex Forms

GPs may be asked to complete an ECO4 Flex form, when a local authority has referred a patient that it considers to be living in fuel poverty or on a low income and vulnerable to the effects of living in a cold home. The form asks the GP to consider the patient's medical health conditions and then recommend one of two routes; households identified as vulnerable to the cold or an individual suffering from severe or long-term ill health. This work is not covered within the core GMS contract and completing the form will require GPs to undertake a proper review of the patient's notes. As such they are entitled to charge, as it is not a prescribed form under Sch. 2 of the GMS regulations.

DVLA Medical Forms

Following an LMC query, colleagues should note that completing DVLA medical forms is not within the scope of the CNSGP medical negligence scheme in relation to any complaints or concerns that may arise from this work. This is private work, for which a fee is changeable, and colleagues should check with their Indemnity Organisation that they are covered separately for this work under their own or a practice-based policy

Wellbeing Resources

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.