

SHEFFIELD LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

Newsletter

February 2016

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

LMC NEWSFLASH: GENERAL PRACTICE IN CRISIS?

AN URGENT PRESCRIPTION FOR GENERAL PRACTICE

ELECTED MEMBER VACANCY ON SHEFFIELD LMC

SHEFFIELD LMC'S ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (CQC) INSPECTIONS: FEEDBACK TO CQC

PATIENT ONLINE ACCESS

ZIKA VIRUS GUIDANCE

PRIMARY CARE SUPPORT ENGLAND USER PANEL

QUALITY AND OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK (QOF) BUSINESS RULES FAQs

PATIENT GROUP DIRECTIONS AND PATIENT SPECIFIC DIRECTIONS

SESSIONAL GPS E-NEWSLETTER: JANUARY 2016

DEEP END CONFERENCE

LMC NEWSFLASH: GENERAL PRACTICE IN CRISIS?

Since the last LMC Newsletter, all represented GPs and Practice Managers should have received two LMC Newsflashes regarding the following event:

General Practice in Crisis?

Supporting Sheffield GPs:

National & Local Solutions

Thursday 10 March 2016

7 pm

(light refreshments from 6.15 pm)

The Megacentre

Copies of the Newsflashes can be found at:

http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Newsflash/GeneralPractice_inCrisis_4-2-16.pdf

http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Newsflash/GeneralPractice_inCrisis-Update9.2.16.pdf

We hope that all Sheffield GP practices will ensure that they are represented at this event, which will be looking at much needed national and local solutions to the unprecedented pressure that general practice is currently facing. We would also strongly urge GP Trainees to attend.

As noted in the Newsflashes, places are limited. Therefore, it is **essential that you register to attend**. To register please email the LMC via administrator@sheffieldlmc.org.uk confirming your full name, practice address (if applicable) and number of places you wish to reserve.

As you will see from the second Newsflash, as well as being able to question the speakers on the night regarding their presentations, we would like to give attendees the opportunity to submit questions in advance, in order to ensure that we cover the topics you want to hear about. Therefore, if you have a question, a proposal, or some insight or information that you feel it would

be good to share, please submit this to the LMC office via: administrator@sheffieldlmc.org.uk.

-000-

URGENT PRESCRIPTION FOR GENERAL PRACTICE

The General Practitioners Committee (GPC) is highlighting the challenges facing general practice 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.

The pack includes information on recent surveys, heatmaps of what is happening in each area and information for patients, as well as the following guidance:

- New guidance on:
 - Contacting your local paper;
 - How to lobby your MP.

- 2015 guidance:
 - A step-by-step guide to setting up a GP network;
 - Guiding principles for GP networks;
 - Collaborative GP Networks: basic legal structures;
 - Quality first: Managing workload to deliver safe patient care;
 - Responsive, safe and sustainable: Towards a new future for general practice.

The above guidance can also be accessed via:

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

The LMC's citywide meeting on Thursday 10 March 2016 aims to look at national and local solutions to help relieve the current pressures general practice is facing. Therefore, we would encourage practices to:

- review the Urgent Prescription for General Practice pack;
- consider what actions could be taken locally;
- register to attend the LMC's citywide meeting;
- submit questions to the LMC office for the Q&A session.

-000-

ELECTED MEMBER VACANCY ON SHEFFIELD LMC

This month we said farewell to Dr Heike Kruger, following her move to a Barnsley practice. We wish Heike all the very best with her new post.

As a result of this, there is an opportunity for Sheffield GPs to consider being co-opted to an elected member vacancy on the LMC. The co-option will run for the remainder of the current electoral term, ie until 30 November 2016.

All eligible GPs (on the Medical Performers List and contributing to

the LMC's levies) are encouraged to consider joining the LMC.

Meetings of the full LMC are usually held on the second Monday of the month at 7.45 pm in the Lecture Theatre at Tapton Hall (occasionally dates are changed to avoid bank holidays, staff leave etc).

In addition, members are encouraged to represent the LMC on other committees and this additional meeting attendance is funded by the organisers of the committees or the LMC.

The LMC's primary function is to represent Sheffield GPs and, therefore, it is extremely important that local GPs have a means of debating the important topical issues and influencing or making policy in order to represent the breadth of general practice in Sheffield.

The LMC is also a very useful forum for keeping up-to-date with all that is happening in Primary Care and a chance to meet colleagues with differing views and experience across the city.

Further details of the work of the LMC can be found in *A Guide to Your Local Medical Committee*, which is available via the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Downloads/LMC%20Guide.pdf>

If you are interested in joining the LMC, or would like more information about what being a committee member involves, please do not hesitate to contact:

Margaret Wicks
LMC Manager
manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk
(0114) 2588755.

-000-

SHEFFIELD LMC'S ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Sheffield LMC's Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2015 were emailed to all represented Sheffield GPs on Monday 18 January 2016,

along with a report on the accounts authored by David Savage, Accountable Finance Officer.

Of particular note are:

- the current recruitment process;
- succession planning for the LMC Executive;
- the impact of the above on the Statutory Levy.

As ever, David is happy to answer any queries or requests for information from Sheffield GPs via:

secretary@sheffieldlmc.org.uk.

-000-

CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (CQC) INSPECTIONS: FEEDBACK TO CQC

Further to the article in the January LMC newsletter, a meeting has been scheduled between LMC and CQC representatives on 17 March 2016.

If any Sheffield practices that have been inspected have not yet fed back to the LMC on their experience, we would ask that any issues you would like the LMC to raise with CQC are forwarded to the LMC office via: manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk.

The aim of the meeting is to give CQC an accurate picture of practices' experiences and to look at how practices' concerns can be addressed.

-000-

PATIENT ONLINE ACCESS

Article submitted by Kay Renwick, Implementation Lead – Patient Online, NHS England

The Patient Online Programme is a NHS England National Programme designed to guide and support GP practices to meet the contractual obligations outlined in the 2015/16 National Health Services (GMS Contract and PMS Agreement) Amendment Regulations 2015.

As detailed in last year's contract, practices must continue to offer online access to patients who request access for:

- booking, cancelling and amending appointments;
- ordering of repeat prescriptions;
- accessing their summary information – allergies, adverse reactions, medication.

This year's regulations state that from April 2015, practice must also:

- provide patients with online access to their coded records;
- ensure that the appointments available online meet the demand of their patients.

Patient Online continues to work in partnership with the British Medical Association (BMA) and the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP), and have developed guidance and materials to support GP practices in relation to Patient Online Access. Topics covered include registration, ID verification, proxy access, coercion and children's online access. The guidance can be accessed via:

<http://elearning.rcgp.org.uk/course/view.php?id=180§ion=0>

Additionally, the programme has developed a Resource Guide in relation to increasing online Transactional Services and enabling Detailed Coded Record Access, which can be accessed via:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/pe/patient-online/>

To date practice staff have attended Patient online User Groups organised by Yorkshire and Humber CSU and facilitated by the Patient online Team. Evaluations completed by attendees have been extremely positive; consequently a further **User Group has been arranged for Monday 22 February at 10 am at Prince of Wales Road**. It is advised that all practices ensure they take advantage of the additional support offered; therefore any practice who would like to attend the User Group, please register your interest via: elizabeth.beardsley@nhs.net

If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact:

Kay Renwick
kay.renwick@nhs.net
or
Taz Aldawoud
taz.aldawoud@nhs.net

-000-

ZIKA VIRUS GUIDANCE

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/support-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>

-000-

PRIMARY CARE SUPPORT ENGLAND USER PANEL

On 1 September 2015 Capita became responsible for the delivery of NHS England's primary care support services.

The new name for the service from 1 September is Primary Care Support England (PCSE).

Further information about the changes can be found at:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/primary-care-comm/pcs-services/>

A PCSE User Panel has been set up to give users the opportunity to share experiences and feedback on future services. The level of involvement is

optional and there is no obligation to take part in any particular activity.

The range of activities is likely to include surveys, polls, phone interviews and workshops, as well as testing early versions of services.

If you are interested in being involved in areas of service development and design, further information about how to sign up to become a member of the User Panel can be found at:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/primary-care-comm/pcs-services/join/>

-000-

QUALITY AND OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK (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 has published some FAQs following these changes:

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

-000-

PATIENT GROUP DIRECTIONS AND PATIENT SPECIFIC DIRECTIONS

The GPC guidance *Patient Group Directions and Patient Specific Directions in General Practice* has been redrafted to clarify the position of Patient Specific Directions, ie they do not necessarily have to be in written form, but can also be a verbal instruction.

A copy of the new guidance can be accessed via the *Other Guidance* section of the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/OG09/Patient%20Group%20Directions.pdf>

-000-

**SESSIONAL GPs E-
NEWSLETTER:
JANUARY 2016**

The January edition of the Sessional GPs e-newsletter is available on the BMA website at:

<http://bma-mail.org.uk/t/JVX-3Z8IY-1BJCJOU46E/cr.aspx>

The main articles include:

- Time for Government to deliver.
- Thinking about becoming a locum?
- Top tips for dealing with mental health disorders.
- Do you want to make a difference to the lives of sessional GPs?
- Sock marks and suspected sickies.
- Do you know the principles of a good job plan?

-000-

**DEEP END
CONFERENCE**

*17 March 2016
The Bridge Hotel, Wetherby*

*Details submitted by
Dr Tom Ratcliffe, Health Education
England (Yorkshire & Humber)*

Health Education England, working across Yorkshire and the Humber, are keen to support increased GP training in areas of high socioeconomic deprivation, mainly located in our region's large towns and cities, where access to primary care and recruitment and retention of GPs is a particular challenge.

We are supporting a new group, Yorkshire and Humber GPs at the Deep End, which has been inspired

by a similar project in Scotland that you may have heard of.

The group met for the first time last October to discuss the issues faced by "Deep End" practices.

Following on from this, the group will be holding a conference on 17 March 2016. We would like to invite you to attend.

This conference will be of particular interest to GPs working in areas of high deprivation or with vulnerable patient groups who currently train or have an interest in becoming a training practice.

Further details of the conference can be found at:

<http://yorkshiredeependgp.org/conference-17th-march-2016/>

-000-

Please forward any articles, comments etc for inclusion in the LMC newsletter to the LMC office via manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk

Articles for the March edition to be received by Friday 11 March

Submission deadlines can be found at: http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Newsletters14/VB_and_Newsletter_Deadlines.pdf