

SHEFFIELD LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

Newsletter

September 2015

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HEALTHWATCH SHEFFIELD: ENTER & VIEW VISITS

Healthwatch Sheffield is an independent organisation under the auspices of Healthwatch England, which represents the views of local people in assessing the standard of provision of care in local healthcare organisations, such as Hospital Trusts, GP and dental surgeries, pharmacies, Care Homes etc.

Sheffield LMC representatives recently met with the Chair and Co-ordinator of Healthwatch Sheffield to discuss the processes surrounding Enter and View visits to GP practices.

Under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, practices must allow authorised representatives to carry out Enter and View visits. Trained representatives observe activities on the premises, as long as this does not affect the provision of care or the privacy and dignity of people using the service.

The purpose of the visits is to share good practice and improve services to the residents of Sheffield.

We were assured that Healthwatch's role is of a critical friend, rather than that of a Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection.

Visits largely concentrate on access, patient experience and the ambience / welcome of the practice. They have no interest in assessing clinical competence.

Following the visit, Healthwatch Sheffield writes a report. The practice has an opportunity to add a Service Provider Response to the report, which Healthwatch cannot alter.

Further information about Enter and View visits can be found at: <http://www.healthwatchsheffield.co.uk/enter-view>

As stated above, practices must comply with Enter and View requests. As such, the LMC would encourage practices to see them as an opportunity to demonstrate and share good practice.

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DEATH IN SERVICE: GP LOCUMS

Following a recent case of a GP locum's family not qualifying for death in service benefits, the LMC has produced a guidance document highlighting this issue and linking to more detailed guidance on the NHS pension scheme for GP locums.

A copy of the LMC's guidance can be accessed via:

http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/OG15/Death_in_Service-GP_Locums.pdf

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MANAGING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S IDENTIFIED HEALTH NEEDS

In 2012 guidance was published for schools and other settings entitled *Managing Children and Young People's Identified Health Needs*.

It has been brought to the LMC's attention that this guidance requires updating, in view of the publication of a number of subsequent guidance

documents, such as the Department of Health's *Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions*.

Sheffield City Council (SCC) is in the process of reviewing the *Managing Children and Young People's Identified Health Needs* guidance. However, until such time as updated guidance is issued, the LMC would recommend that practices continue to refer to the 2012 guidance and, as ever, bring any specific problems or concerns to the attention of the LMC via email to manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk.

The LMC's guidance on this issue has been updated and can be accessed via:

<http://www.sheffieldlmc.org.uk/lmc%20guidance/Children's%20Identified%20Health%20Needs.pdf>

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SUBJECT ACCESS REQUESTS FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES

Following further negotiations with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), the British Medical Association (BMA) has updated and reissued its guidance on how to respond to Subject Access Requests (SARs).

One of the key points from the ICO's previous advice was that insurance companies that process full medical records are likely to breach the Data Protection Act (DPA) principle which states that information must be 'adequate, relevant and not excessive' in relation to the purpose for which it is processed.

The ICO's view, however, does not mean that GPs can refuse to respond to SARs for insurance purposes outright. The ICO has stated that when a SAR from an insurance company is received, GPs should contact the patient to explain the implications of such a request and the extent of the disclosure.

The BMA's revised guidance gives more detailed advice on how practices should manage this process, along with a template letter to send to patients. In addition, there is also a

section on SARs from third parties for non-insurance purposes.

A copy of the revised guidance can be downloaded from the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffieldlmc.org.uk/OG15/FocusSubjectAccessRequestsInsurancePurposes.pdf>

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MENINGOCOCCAL B VACCINATION

The Men B vaccination was added to the Childhood Immunisation Programme in England from 1 September 2015.

The programme is for all infants born on or after 1 July 2015, and consists of 3 doses (at 2, 4 and 12 to 13 months), with a catch-up element for children born on or after 1 May 2015, who can be vaccinated up to 2 years on an opportunistic basis.

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has recommended 3 doses of prophylactic paracetamol (2.5ml of infant paracetamol 120mg/5ml suspension) following the vaccinations at 2 and 4 months. 5 ml sachets and dosing syringes are available to order via ImmForm.

Many practices have been asked by parents to provide this vaccine privately to children outside the cohort. The General Practitioners Committee (GPC) has advised that, although practices would be able to offer this on private script, they would not be able to claim the cost of the vaccine, nor would they be able to charge the patient for providing it (as per Schedule 5 of the GMS Regulations 2004, which lists the limited circumstances in which GPs may charge fees for providing treatment to their NHS patients).

The GPC recommends that practices advise their patients requesting this to attend another practice, who are then able to charge for providing the vaccine.

Further information about the meningococcal vaccine, including a protocol for healthcare professionals

for Men B and paracetamol use is available via:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/meningococcal-b-menb-vaccination-programme>

The service specification for this vaccination is available via:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/gp-contract/>

Public Health England's July/August 2015 edition of Vaccine Update contained useful information, including a parent information leaflet. Copies can be downloaded at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vaccine-update-issue-231-july-to-august-2015>

General information about all the vaccination programmes is available on the BMA website at:

<http://bma.org.uk/practical-support-at-work/gp-practices/service-provision/vaccination>

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FRIENDS AND FAMILY TEST (FFT) FAQs

Concerns have been brought to the LMC's attention regarding FFT data submission, ie some practices not submitting data and others submitting data for the wrong period of time.

NHS England published a series of FAQs on the FFT, which have been regularly updated to reflect changes to the FFT and its roll out to different providers of NHS healthcare.

The latest version of the FAQs, highlighting the dates of the changes can be accessed via:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/fft-imp-guid-faqs-14.pdf>

In addition to the FAQs above, joint BMA, NHS Employers and NHS England guidance on data submission can be accessed via:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/fft-gp-data-sub.pdf>

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NHS FLU FIGHTER CAMPAIGN

The NHS Employers' website contains a number of free resources for the NHS Flu Fighter campaign, such as letters that can be sent to staff to encourage them to have the flu vaccine, induction slides for new starters and a comprehensive communications toolkit to support local flu campaigns:

<http://www.nhsemployers.org/campaigns/flu-fighter/nhs-flu-fighter/resources>

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PROFESSIONAL VALUES AND FITNESS TO PRACTISE CONSULTATION

A consultation on the General Medical Council's (GMC) draft guidance for medical students and medical schools on professional values and fitness to practise runs from 19 August to 10 November 2015.

The GMC has reviewed its existing guidance and produced two revised draft documents for consultation:

- *Medical students: Professional values*
This sets out the standards of professional behaviour the GMC expects from medical students.
https://gmc.e-consultation.net/econsult/uploaddocs/Consult624/Medical%20students_professional%20values_FIN_AL.pdf
- *Medical students: Professionalism and fitness to practise*
This provides a framework for medical schools on supporting and managing students whose professionalism and fitness to practise is a cause for concern.
https://gmc.e-consultation.net/econsult/uploaddocs/Consult624/Medical%20students-%20professionalism%20and%20fitness%20to%20practise%20FIN_AL.pdf

The GMC is seeking views on their overall approach, as well as the scope, detail and style of the two

draft guidance documents via 31 questions on the structure and content of the framework.

Responses can be forwarded to the GMC by completing:

- an online questionnaire available at:
https://gmc.e-consultation.net/econsult/consultation_Dtl.aspx?consult_Id=624&status=2&criteria=I.
- and emailing the consultation document available via the link below to studentftp@gmc-uk.org:
<https://gmc.e-consultation.net/econsult/uploaddocs/Consult624/Medical%20students%20-%20professional%20values%20consultation%20English%20writeable%20distributed.pdf>

The GMC will analyse the responses and consider any changes to the guidance in light of these comments.

The final version of the guidance is due to be published in early 2016 so that medical schools and students can start using it in autumn 2016.

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SESSIONAL GPs E- NEWSLETTER

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

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

The main articles include:

- Are you in the midst of summer madness?
- Thinking about resigning?
- How I made sport my day job.
- Why you should join your local sessional GPs group.
- Are you a prudent prescriber?
- 10 tips for getting paid on time.
- Moving house or in need of a will?

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ROUNABOUT CHARITY SHOP

*Article submitted by Ruth Gage,
Fundraising Co-ordinator,
Roundabout*

On Tuesday 9 June Roundabout's first charity shop opened its doors.

The shop:

- is located in Roundabout's Homeless Prevention Service premises – 22 Union Street, Sheffield;
- is open weekdays 10 am to 4.30 pm;
- sells a range of clothes, books, DVDs, CDs, homeware and plenty more;
- offers volunteering opportunities for Roundabout's clients and ex-clients to enable them to gain new skills and experience in retail.

The money raised from the shop will go towards funding the Homeless Prevention Service, which is a drop-in advice service for young people aged 16-25 to get advice if they are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Donations of items to sell are very welcome – please take items along to the shop.

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

**Articles for the October edition
to be received by
Friday 9 October**

**Further submission deadlines
can be found at:**
http://www.sheffieldlmc.org.uk/Newsletters14/VB_and_Newsletter_Deadlines.pdf