

# SHEFFIELD LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

# NEWSLETTER

## JANUARY 2013

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### **LMC NEWSFLASH: GP CONTRACT ROADSHOW**

Since the last LMC Newsletter, all represented GPs and Practice Managers should have received an LMC Newsflash noting that the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) negotiators are visiting various locations in the UK to inform GPs of the proposed contract imposition and what it will mean in practice. This will include where we are now, how we got here and what can be done about it.

The GPC selected Sheffield as one of these locations and Sheffield LMC has made the following arrangements:

**GP CONTRACT ROADSHOW**  
WHAT CONTRACT CHANGES WILL  
MEAN FOR YOU

**Thursday 7 February 2013**  
**7.00 pm**  
Tea, Coffee & Biscuits from 6:30 pm

The Devonshire Suite  
DoubleTree by Hilton Sheffield Park  
Chesterfield Road South  
Sheffield S8 8BW

Sheffield LMC Executive would urge all practices to ensure that they are represented at this event, which will be an important opportunity to hear from Richard Vautrey, Deputy Chair of the GPC, and to ask any questions relating to the new contract.

The event is free to attend, however, as this is a regional event, places are limited.

**To reserve a place** please contact the LMC office, confirming name(s) of attendee(s) by emailing:

[administrator@sheffieldlmc.org.uk](mailto:administrator@sheffieldlmc.org.uk).

Further copies of the Newsflash can be downloaded from:

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Newsflash/GP%20Contract%20Roadshow%207%20Feb13%20%282%29.pdf>

If you are unable to attend the Sheffield event, full details of all the GPC Roadshow dates, times and venues can be found at:

<http://bma.org.uk/events/tag/gp-contract-roadshows>

### **GP CONTRACT CHANGES 2013/14**

On 6 December the GPC received a letter containing details of the proposed imposition of changes to the General Medical Services (GMS) contract 2013/14 for England, which was shared with the profession the following day.

Analysis of the imposition documentation has taken place and on 9 January 2013 the GPC issued tools and guidance for practices, with the intention of helping GPs to understand the potential impact of the proposed changes.

The information, available at <http://bma.org.uk/gpcontract> includes:

- A step-by-step guide setting out all the detail GPs need to assess how the changes will affect them, how these changes came about and an analysis of what they mean.
- A ready reckoner to estimate how much practice funding will be affected by the Quality and

Outcomes Framework (QOF) proposals.

The British Medical Association (BMA) has until 26 February 2013 to respond to the government's consultation in detail.

On 14 January 2013 the GPC emailed GPs seeking their views via a survey, which will help to shape the BMA's response. The survey can be viewed and completed online at:

<http://www.demographix.com/survey/s/6VQM-4EGE/72LVTJPV/>

Sheffield LMC Executive would encourage all practices to:

- familiarize themselves with the latest information from the GPC;
- complete the GPC survey;
- attend a GPC Roadshow.

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### **CONSULTATION ON QOF INDICATORS**

As part of the QOF process, the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) is encouraging stakeholders to comment on potential new indicators for consideration for the 2014/15 QOF.

There are 14 potential new indicators across the following six domains:

- Hypertension
- Dementia
- Coronary heart disease (CHD)
- Diabetes (including tightly linked measures)
- Peripheral arterial disease (PAD)
- Stroke and TIA

The results of the consultation will be considered by the Primary Care QOF Indicator Advisory Committee in June 2013, following which recommendations will be made as to which indicators should be included on the NICE menu for consideration for the 2014/15 QOF.

Further information on how to submit comments can be found at:

<http://www.nice.org.uk/aboutnice/qof/ConsultationQOFIndicators.jsp>

**The consultation closes at 5.00pm on Monday 4 February 2013.**

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### **ELECTION OF SHEFFIELD LMC EXECUTIVE**

The first LMC meeting of the 2012-2016 term of office took place in December 2012.

The LMC currently has 20 elected members, 5 co-opted members and 1 observer.

Dr Thomas Kadicheeni was welcomed to his first LMC meeting and the LMC Executive was elected as follows:

Chair: Dr Mark Durling

Vice Chair: Vacancy

Secretary: Dr David Savage

Executive Officer: Dr Tim Moorhead

In view of his commissioning commitments and potential conflicts of interest, Tim Moorhead has been elected on the basis of a reduced sessional commitment and an amended portfolio.

Further information about the work of the LMC can be found at:

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

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Reports/SLMC%20Activity%20Update%20Oct-Nov12.pdf>

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### **ATTENDANCE AT SHEFFIELD LMC MEETINGS: OBSERVERS**

Sheffield LMC's constitution states:

*"Observers: The Committee may in its absolute discretion invite such persons as it thinks fit to attend the whole or any part of any Committee meeting"*.

At the December LMC meeting it was noted that it is some considerable time since represented Sheffield GPs have been invited to observe at an LMC meeting.

With a new committee recently elected for the 2012-2016 term of office, it was considered timely to extend this invitation.

Any GPs wishing to attend a meeting of the full LMC as an observer would be very welcome to do so.

Due to the limited space at the meeting venue and the occasional need to change the date, time or venue of meetings, we would ask that interested GPs contact the LMC office to make arrangements via:

[manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk](mailto:manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk).

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### **REORGANISATION OF COMMUNITY NURSING TEAMS**

As reported in the last edition of the LMC's Activity Update, Primary and Community Services representatives attended a meeting of the full LMC in 2012, following which a number of concerns raised at the meeting were followed up. Of particular concern were changes in community nursing teams and communications with practices.

Reassurances have since been received that it is the Primary and Community Services aim that either the service manager or the nurse team leader will discuss with the GP practices any proposal to move the community nursing team and arrangements will be put in place to ensure communication between practices and community nursing teams continues effectively.

Despite these reassurances, a number of practices remain concerned that they are not being adequately consulted and that channels of communication will deteriorate. In order to assist the LMC's negotiations, it would be appreciated if any practices that have any concerns in this regard could inform the LMC office of their circumstances via email to: [manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk](mailto:manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk).

## **LEGAL AID CUTS AND VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE**

Further to the article in the December LMC newsletter, we have now received confirmation from Taylor&Emmet Solicitors that other areas have raised concerns regarding the request for an examination and short medical report on patients who are claiming to be victims of domestic violence.

As in Sheffield, Taylor&Emmet have been made aware that such requests fall outside of normal NHS contractual work.

In view of this being a national problem, Taylor&Emmet have contacted Resolution – First for Family Law, the representative body for family lawyers in England and Wales. Their director of communications has offered to discuss this issue with Sheffield LMC and Resolution will be making contact with the BMA.

Further updates will be issued as negotiations progress.

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## **LOCUM SUPERANNUATION**

The government is proposing that from April 2013 GP practices will pay locums' employer pensions contributions, which are currently paid by Primary Care Organisations (PCOs).

The GPC understands that the intention is that the funds would be moved into global sum.

This change would be introduced via amendments to the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations, which are currently being consulted on by the government.

The GPC is very concerned about the implications both for practices and for GP locums and the BMA will be responding to the consultation to express these concerns, as well as raising it via GPC negotiations with the Department of Health (DH).

The draft Regulations are available on the NHS Business Services Authority website at:

<http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/3778.aspx>

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## **HPV PRIMARY SCREENING FOR THE NHS CERVICAL SCREENING PROGRAMME (NHSCSP)**

*Article submitted by  
Dr Jenny Stephenson*

'HPV Primary Screening' refers to the Laboratory doing the test for HPV first, before considering if cytology is then required.

From the sample taker's and the woman's point of view there will be no change: the sample will be taken in the same way and sent to the laboratory for testing.

Instead of doing cytology using microscope, the first line test will be the HPV test.

If the test is negative, the woman will be returned to normal recall.

If the test is HPV positive, the sample will have cytology and any abnormal cases will be referred for colposcopy.

Sheffield is one of the six sites to be chosen to do this (before National roll-out), with a probable start date of April 2013.

The Laboratory will keep us all informed.

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## **CQC REGISTRATION: CONSULTATION ON FEES**

The BMA has responded to the Care Quality Commission's (CQC's) recent consultation on fees. A copy of the BMA's response can be downloaded at:

<http://bma.org.uk/-/media/Files/PDFs/Working%20for%20change/Shaping%20healthcare/Quality%20and%20regulation/CQCFeesConsultationResponseDec2012.pdf>

## **TIME TO THINK DIFFERENTLY PROGRAMME**

The King's Fund has recently launched their *Time to Think Differently* programme.

A central aim of *Time to Think Differently* is to stimulate debate about the changes needed for the NHS and social care to meet the challenges of the future.

The King's Fund has created some online content on the trends that will influence the way health and social care is delivered in future.

Over the next few months the King's Fund will be looking at the challenges that lie ahead and discussing potential solutions and providing the opportunity for individuals and organisations to feed into this debate through their website.

Further information can be found at:

<http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/time-to-think-differently?gclid=CL3Ow9PXq7QCFebLtAodrBEA8A>

Please forward any articles, comments etc for inclusion in the LMC newsletter to the LMC office via:

Email:

[manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk](mailto:manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk)

Post:

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**Articles for the February  
edition to be received  
by Friday 8 February 2013**