

# Newsletter

May 2020

Sheffield  
LMC



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**NEWSFLASH: PRIMARY CARE AND COMMUNITY HEALTH SUPPORT FOR CARE HOME RESIDENTS**

**COVID-19 RESOURCES: SHEFFIELD LMC WEBSITE**

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS (T&CS) FOR LOCUM SHIFTS**

**CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (CQC) REGULATORY APPROACH**

**SHEFFIELD HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SWABBING SERVICE**

**GP SPECIALITY TRAINING**

**REACHING OUT TO BAME WOMEN EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

**NHS PENSION SCHEME DEATH IN SERVICE GUIDANCE**

**IMPROVING VACCINE UPTAKE**

**REVISED LMC GUIDANCE**

**COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS (CHP): ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS**

**NHS PROPERTY SERVICES (NHSPS): SERVICE CHARGE DISPUTE**

### **NEWSFLASH:**

#### **PRIMARY CARE AND COMMUNITY HEALTH SUPPORT FOR CARE HOME RESIDENTS**

On Monday 11 May we issued a Newsflash to all represented Sheffield GPs and Practice Managers, outlining concerns regarding a Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) communication to Primary Care Network (PCN) Clinical Directors (CDs) over the Bank Holiday weekend, which had not been shared with the LMC, despite reassurances to the contrary, and with a tight deadline for submissions.

Further copies of the Newsflash can be accessed [here](#).

-000-

#### **COVID-19 RESOURCES: SHEFFIELD LMC WEBSITE**

Documents added to our updated on the [COVID-19 page of our website](#) since the April LMC newsletter include:

- Advice on New Burial & Cremation Processes (Sheffield Medical Referees & Bereavement Services).
- COVID-19 weekly updates from Sheffield LMC – 16, 23 & 30 April and 6 May 2020.
- Practice Income During COVID-19.

-000-

#### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS (T&CS) FOR LOCUM SHIFTS**

We have received several communications from our constituent GPs regarding concerns about the cancellation of pre-booked locum shifts. We would like to remind GPs about the importance of:

- agreeing suitable T&Cs before booking locum shifts at GP practices;
- being familiar with the T&Cs of larger organisations such as Sheffield GP Collaborative and Primary Care Sheffield (PCS) prior to booking out of hours or HUB shifts.

The British Medical Association has issued BMA Locum Practice Agreement [guidance](#).

-000-

**CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (CQC)  
REGULATORY APPROACH**

The CQC has issued an [update](#) to primary care on their regulatory approach during the current pandemic.

CQC colleagues who cover Sheffield will be contacting every practice by email to explain the changes and are contactable if you have any queries via [Katherine.Haggart@cqc.org.uk](mailto:Katherine.Haggart@cqc.org.uk) and [Julie.Devitt@cqc.org.uk](mailto:Julie.Devitt@cqc.org.uk).

-000-

**SHEFFIELD HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE  
SWABBING SERVICE**

The Sheffield Health and Social Care Swabbing Service is a collaboration between Primary Care Sheffield (PCS), Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Sheffield City Council (SCC), drawing in expertise and resource from Sheffield Children's and Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

This service has now been extended to offer swabbing services for those working in / or their household members for even more sectors. To view the full list of updated sectors please visit:

<http://www.primarycaresheffield.org.uk/coronavirus/sheffield-health-and-social-care-swabbing-service/>

All requests for swabbing are now received via an online form managed by SCC:

<https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=158696799675>

-000-

**GP SPECIALITY TRAINING**

Following discussions between a number of bodies such as the British Medical Association (BMA), Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) and Health Education England (HEE), it has been agreed that a remote CSA assessment will be available for GP trainees who were due to CCT in August. GP trainees will therefore be able to CCT and gain their full MRCGP this summer, despite the COVID-19 situation.

For more information on how CCT will work, please see the recently issued [joint letter](#) and the [full statement](#) by the co-chairs of the GP trainees committee.

In addition, Sandesh Gulhane, co-chair of the GP trainees committee has written a [blog](#) about how to achieve CCT amid COVID-19.

-000-

**REACHING OUT TO BAMER WOMEN  
EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

*Article submitted by Nicola Lambe, Chief Executive, Ashiana*

Hello, Ashiana are reaching out to you in the hope that you will support us to raise awareness and reach out to women who may be experiencing domestic abuse during these difficult times.

As you may know, during this period of restricted movement, women and children are at increased risk of domestic violence and abuse. They are also less likely to be aware of or access the vital support that they need, and BAMER women even more so due to issues including language barriers, having no access to phones, social media or other digital platforms, being unable to find safe spaces or time to talk and being unable to travel to or access usual safe spaces. Ashiana have been exploring ways to address this.

We expect to see an influx in referrals from women when movement restrictions are lifted, although for some women and children, we fear this will be too late.

We are extremely worried about the women and children who are not reaching out at the moment; they may be at higher risk of violence - we need to get our message out now.

Ashiana are launching a campaign entitled 'We Are Here For You' - which aims to reach out to women locally, using various outlets and platforms that we know women still have access to - in order to get the information that they need in the way and in the language that they need.

Campaign leaflets are available in various languages and can be accessed through our website: [www.ashianasheffield.org](http://www.ashianasheffield.org). Please share this information as widely as possible and feel free to display in areas where you think women may have access.

If you would like to discuss this further, we would love to hear from you. Please email me or call us on [n.lambe@ashianasheffield.org](mailto:n.lambe@ashianasheffield.org) / (0114) 2555740.

-ooo-

### ***NHS PENSION SCHEME DEATH IN SERVICE GUIDANCE***

Dr Krishan Aggarwal, British Medical Association (BMA) pensions committee deputy chair, has [written a blog](#) to provide guidance about the NHS pension scheme death in service arrangements.

The blog covers what death in service offers, what locums receive when not in service and three workarounds for locums in order to be able to achieve death in service.

-ooo-

### ***IMPROVING VACCINE UPTAKE***

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) recently published a [statement](#) on the importance of maintaining immunisation services to reduce the risk of vaccine-preventable disease during the COVID-19 outbreak.

In addition, the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) noted their support of the NHS England (NHSE) [campaign](#) to encourage update of immunisations, stating that “Practices should do what they can to encourage all those eligible for vaccinations, particularly children and vulnerable adults, to get protected as no one wants an outbreak of another infection against which we have effective vaccinations”.

NHSE recently [advised](#) that it may be necessary for Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and Primary Care Networks (PCNs) to facilitate the transfer of locally held vaccine stock from one provider to another to ensure the continued delivery of immunisation programmes. In addition, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has confirmed that it will not prevent the transfer of locally held vaccine stock from the NHS routine immunisation services during the pandemic.

-ooo-

### ***REVISED LMC GUIDANCE***

There have been a number of changes to the LMC Guidance section of our website, as some links within our guidance have been updated. Please see below links to the guidance that was updated in April:

#### **BMA Employment Services**

Updated link to BMA Employer Advisory Service information

[https://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/BMA%20Employment%20Services%20\(revised%20Apr20\)%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/BMA%20Employment%20Services%20(revised%20Apr20)%20(1).pdf)

#### **Death in Service: GP Locums**

Updated links to BMA guidance - *Death in service and your pension* and *The NHS pension scheme as a locum GP*

[https://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/Death%20in%20Service%20-%20GP%20Locums%20\(revised%20Apr20\)%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/Death%20in%20Service%20-%20GP%20Locums%20(revised%20Apr20)%20(1).pdf)

#### **Foster Parent Medicals**

Updated link to fostering arrangements guidance on Sheffield City Council (SCC) website and BMA guidance on setting fees

[https://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/Foster%20Parent%20Medicals%20\(revised%20Apr20\)%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/Foster%20Parent%20Medicals%20(revised%20Apr20)%20(1).pdf)

#### **Private Fostering**

Updated link to private fostering arrangements on SCC website

[https://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/Private%20Fostering%20\(revised%20Apr20\)%20\(1\)%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/Private%20Fostering%20(revised%20Apr20)%20(1)%20(1).pdf)

#### **Travel Permits**

Updated application form on SCC website

[https://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/Travel%20Permits%20\(revised%20Apr20\)%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/Travel%20Permits%20(revised%20Apr20)%20(1).pdf)

-ooo-

**COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS (CHP):  
ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS**

Dr Gaurav Gupta, chair of the Premises and Practice Finance policy group, together with deputy chair Dr Ian Hume, met with the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer of CHP in March to discuss recurring issues raised by members.

CHP committed to work with the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) in resolving these problems faced by their GP tenants. Any practice experiencing issues regarding CHP are asked to raise these at the earliest opportunity via [manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk](mailto:manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk) in order for us to bring these to the GPC's attention.

-000-

**NHS PROPERTY SERVICES (NHSPS):  
SERVICE CHARGE DISPUTE**

The British Medical Association (BMA) is supporting 5 test claimant GP practices who have received demands from NHSSPS to pay inflated service charges based on their Consolidated Charging Policy.

The case is ongoing and on 4 May the BMA learned that due to COVID-19 NHSPS have sought an extension until 21 May to file defences and counterclaims.

In the meantime, the BMA has been informed that some practices have continued to receive demands from NHSPS for the payment of disputed service charges. These demands are highly inappropriate, not only because these charges are the focus of the ongoing legal case, but because they serve to unnecessarily exacerbate the already immense pressure on practices as they work to combat COVID-19.

Last week, Gaurav Gupta, Premises and Practice Finance Policy Lead, wrote to Martin Steele, the new Chief Executive Officer of NHSPS, to express these concerns, asking NHSPS to desist from sending practices further demands for disputed service charges until legal proceedings have been concluded and the current health crisis has abated. They have now agreed to restart regular engagement to address various issues faced by practices.

Any practice experiencing issues specifically with NHSPS (rather than Community Health Partnerships) service charges can bring these to the BMA's attention via the LMC - [manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk](mailto:manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk).

-000-

**Please forward any articles for inclusion in the LMC newsletter to  
[manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk](mailto:manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk)**

**Submission deadlines can be found at  
<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/website/IGP217/files/Newsletter%20&%20VB%20Deadlines%202020%20.pdf>**

**Contact details for Sheffield LMC can be found at:  
Executive Officers: <http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/page1.aspx?p=13&t=1>  
Secretariat: <http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/page1.aspx?p=13&t=2>**