

# Haringey LMC News

Chair: Dr Sue Dickie

July 2016



## Welcome to Haringey LMC

Welcome to Haringey LMC's new look newsletter. It's been some time since we have sent out a newsletter but we aim to get better! We have been very busy working on your behalf since the last one!

We continue to work with the CCG on a number of issues. For example; recently Haringey Medicine's Management Team adopted our proposal to allow different payment options for this year's PQSS scheme. This ensures practices have the option to do the work themselves for payment, or take less payment and get help with the work from the Medicines Management Team. Currently we are working to ensure that the CCG Governing Body is held accountable by its' membership; and the membership is involved in key decisions affecting the CCG, such as co-commissioning. We will bring you more information on these changes as they develop.

There is a time of great change within the NHS ahead, with the changing roles of NHSE, CCGs, Local Authorities, developing federations and the way in which commissioners' contract with general practice. This makes it even more essential for the LMC to provide the link between grass root GPs, the federation (as the provider) and the CCG, NHSE and the Local Authority (as the commissioners). GPs need to feel engaged, and be engaged, with the changes. The LMC is working to support General Practice through this. If anyone has any queries or ideas on how to improve our engagement, I and my colleagues on the LMC would be delighted to hear from you.

Dr Sue Dickie, Chair

## GPs State of Emergency

At the Londonwide LMC's annual conference, Michelle Drage announced the Londonwide campaign in response to the current crisis in general practice. GP State of Emergency aims to:

- Provide practices with resources to help them appropriately manage their workload.
- Help practices to engage with their PPGs - we need our patients to understand the limitations within which we work and to become the public voice for our practices.
- Raise awareness of the reasons behind the current GP crisis.

Londonwide LMCs have launched [www.gpsoe.org.uk](http://www.gpsoe.org.uk) this website contains the resources for practices to use. Please feedback to Londonwide LMCs on what other resources you would find useful for your practice to: [GPSOE@lmc.org.uk](mailto:GPSOE@lmc.org.uk).

## Hospital Test Results – Use the templates

NHS England, in conjunction with the Academy of Royal Colleges, has **recently published guidance** on standards for the communication of patient diagnostic test results on discharge from hospital. Of interest is

the standards in section 3 which have been developed from the key principles. The key point is: 'the clinician who orders the test is responsible for reviewing, acting and communicating the result and actions taken to the GP and patient even if the patient has been discharged'.

The GPC has added templates in line with this guidance so please use them when sending inappropriate requests back. What is of interest is that these letters are now for EMIS & SystemOne as well as Vision in word format. Chand Nagpaul, chair of GPC, has also written to CCGs, not just to clarify the situation, but also to ask CCGs to put in place a service alert system for when the secondary care provider is not complying with these standards.

An **existing Quality First template** to reject inappropriate requests to follow up hospital investigations

A **new template** to send copies of test results back to hospitals to ensure/confirm they have been actioned by the requesting clinician.

A **new template** to let the CCG know if the above principles are being breached, so that appropriate commissioning levers can be applied.

### **Cessation of Antenatal Rubella Susceptibility Screening**

Rubella is considered to no longer be a common disease of childhood and is defined by the WHO as having been eliminated in the UK. This is a result of the Mumps Measles and Rubella (MMR) vaccination programme (however there are concerns that if MMR vaccination rates continue to drop then cases of rubella will reappear).

The announcement on cessation of the screening in pregnancy was made in January this year and from 1 April 2016, pregnant women in England will no longer be offered screening for rubella susceptibility. This action follows reviews of the evidence by the UK National Screening Committee (UK NSC) in 2003 and 2012 which, on both occasions, found that the evidence showed that screening for rubella susceptibility during pregnancy did not meet the UK NSC criteria for a screening programme. The Rubella Susceptibility Screening policy review highlighted the following conclusions:

- the low incidence of congenital rubella syndrome
- screening in pregnancy does not contribute to the reduction of risk of the unborn baby in the current pregnancy
- the test may falsely reassure some women that they are not susceptible to rubella infection
- stopping antenatal screening is unlikely to result in increased rates of congenital rubella.

Below are the links to the research and policy document for screening criteria.

<http://legacy.screening.nhs.uk/rubellasusceptibility>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/evidence-review-criteria-national-screening-programmes>

### **RCGP Guide to Supporting Information for Appraisal & Revalidation 2016**

Last month saw the publication of the new RCGP Appraisal & Revalidation Guide. This guide has been significantly revised, informed by an extensive survey the RCGP undertook last year. The RCGP recognised that the current requirements had become too cumbersome and bureaucratic with some of the conditions being interpreted in an overly complex way, so that the majority of GPs felt the whole process had become burdensome. There is a welcome shift in emphasis in the guide to a more supportive and less onerous appraisal process. Find the [RCGP guide here](#). For a summary of the changes that have occurred [click here](#).

## **PMS contract Review**

There is still a pause in PMS negotiations both in terms of Londonwide and local discussions. Full details can be found in the Londonwide [PMS Bulletin 6](#), [6 Extra](#), [Bulletin 7](#) and [Bulletin 8](#) we will keep you up-to-date on further developments.

## **Freedom Pass process**

Haringey Council have informed us that they no longer require a GP report as part of the assessment process for freedom passes; this changed in mid 2015. The majority of applicants will meet evidence requirements however, should a medical report be required to support their application, then applicants will need to cover any associated costs. The Council processed outstanding claims in November 2015; if practices still believe they are owed for completed assessments, they should contact the Council direct ([ann.cunningham@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:ann.cunningham@haringey.gov.uk)). Practices should note that they will not be paid for completed forms in this financial year.

## **Capita/PCSE Records and Supplies Services**

Following concerns expressed about the current Capita/PCSE services, Capita has confirmed that they will improve systems until they are at an acceptable level. NHS England anticipates that all systems (medical records and supplies) should be running as standard by mid-July, so with this in mind, they ask you to provide feedback:

1. on 18 July on any new issues arising between 1 July and the 18 July; and
2. on 1 Aug on any new issues arising between the 18 July and 1 Aug, and any issues that have not been resolved from the last period

Please send your feedback directly to Dan Hodgson in the BMA Policy Directorate ([dhodgson@bma.org.uk](mailto:dhodgson@bma.org.uk)) copying in your Londonwide LMCs sector team contact.

## **Personal Details Form**

Do your details need updating? If so, please [click here](#) update your details and resend to LLMCs.

## **LEAD Events**

Our subsidiary company, Londonwide Enterprise Ltd (LEL) was set up to provide affordable, high quality training and educational events for practice teams. The Learning Education and Development (LEAD) events are run on a not for profit basis to keep costs to practices to a minimum.

The LEAD events team is always keen to hear what training is really needed on the ground, so please do get in touch with any ideas you have by emailing [lead@lmc.org.uk](mailto:lead@lmc.org.uk). We would like to hear from you.

The latest LEAD events can be found on the LLMC

website: <http://www.lmc.org.uk/visageimages/Events/2016/Calendar%202016%2017%20confirmed.pdf>

## **Londonwide LMCs GP Support Service**

Confidential advice and support is available from the Londonwide LMC's GP Support team for any individual doctor or practice in difficulty. The team offers help and guidance on all practice related matters including contracts, performance, premises, payments, mergers, retirements and partnerships. Particularly if you are thinking about resigning your contract, taking 24-hour retirement or merging with

another practice, please get in touch with one of the team for expert, tailor made advice. It's much easier to save contracts from the start! Contact the team on: [gpsupport@lmc.org.uk](mailto:gpsupport@lmc.org.uk).

## Haringey LMC

To find further information about Haringey LMC [click here](#).

To get in touch with any of your representatives please contact Anne Thomas, at the office on 020 8318 6262 or [anne.thomas@lmc.org.uk](mailto:anne.thomas@lmc.org.uk)

## Contact us

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The next meeting takes place on Friday 5 August

### LMC Meeting Dates for 2016:

Friday 7 October

Friday 2 December

### All meetings take place at:

Hornsey Central Neighbourhood Health Centre, 151 Park Road, London N8 8JD

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