

City and Hackney LMC News



Chair: Dr Fiona Sanders

May 2016

Word from the LMC, Dr Fiona Sanders

Your local LMC is here to represent you and we work your behalf. I therefore thought it might be helpful to write about some of the things that we have been working on at a local level so that you are able to get a feel for what we are doing.

Practice Contracts

As I am sure most of you are aware the CCG practice contracts regularly change and develop from one year to the next although I am happy to say we have been advised by the CCG that the LTC and Vulnerable Elderly contracts have now been commissioned for a further 2 years so should remain the same which is great news for local practices.

However other contracts continue to evolve and change and one of the things your local LMC has been doing is reading draft versions and making suggestions about changes and amendments with the aim of making them more achievable and manageable. The CCG has incorporated quite a lot of our suggestions so hopefully this will make them more manageable and achievable for practices.

I have also become increasingly aware that practices do not realise that they too can influence what is in these contracts. This should be done at the time they are brought to the CCF via your practice representative.

PVL treatment and contact tracing

Some of you will have already come across PVL but for those who have not, PVL is a toxin produced by <2 % of Staph Aureus infections and it has been associated with a number of other problems including recurrent skin infection as well as more invasive disease. If it gets tested positive on one of your patients you will be contacted by Public Health England to risk assess and treat your patient as well as treat contacts. This is complicated and time consuming work which is not funded and we have not agreed to do and are not contracted to do beyond doing prescriptions the usual way. The LMC has taken this up with PHE and with the support of Penny Bevan Consultant in Public Health and I hope we can find a more satisfactory way forward that meets the needs of our patients but is also manageable and safe.

You will all have received an information request from the CCG a few days before the end of the QOF year asking for the names and contact details of various roles within your practices, for example IG lead, sexual exploitation lead etc. Some of these we will already have in place but quite a few we do not and they are not appropriate to general practice. The LMC has taken this up with the CCG so we should get a more appropriate list in future.

Cash flow has been a big problem for so many of us last year as more and more of our income is dependent on CCG contracts which are paid on achievement. I have therefore requested the CCG consider paying us more of the income up front in a similar way to the way QOF has been paid. They have kindly agreed to discuss this with the Confederation to see what can be done.

I also attended the Health In Hackney Scrutiny Commission at Hackney Council to make them aware of the very real risk this funding review is posing to those practices involved. They were very concerned as well as supportive.

Changes to the CCG constitution - we have been looking very carefully at the proposed changes and made quite a few suggestions which the CCG have taken on board.

If you have any concerns or issues related to contracts or providing a service please do contact me or one of the other LMC reps listed on the link at the bottom of this newsletter and we will either try and help ourselves or pass you onto someone else who can.

Londonwide team

Medical Director – Dr Elliott Singer

Director for Primary Care Strategy – Greg Cairns

Assistant Director for Primary Care Strategy – Sarah Martyn

Contact Joni Wilson-Kaye on 020 3818 6254

or joni.wilson-kaye@lmc.org.uk to contact any of the above.

Elections

It has never been as important as it is today to ensure that LMCs are fully representative of GPs and their practice teams across London. LMCs play a crucial role in securing the future of general practice and are the only bodies representing the interests of all GPs as providers of primary health services. We would really like to encourage GPs with an interest in the future of General Practice to come forward for election. The main requirement is enthusiasm, as training is provided; and we would love to encourage more salaried and sessional GPs to get involved. If you would like more information about what being an LMC member involves, please just ask one of the team.

There will be four places up for election this year for City and Hackney LMC. Nomination information has been circulated, the forms can be downloaded from our election website at:

www.ersvotes.com/londonwidelmcs.

Nominations need to be received by Friday 3 June 2016; elections will take place from late June to mid July 2016. If you would like to find more about standing for your local LMC, please contact Sarah Martyn (sarah.martyn@lmc.org.uk) or Joni Wilson-Kaye (joni.wilson-kaye@lmc.org.uk).

GP 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 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.

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](#) and [Bulletin 7](#). We will keep you up-to-date on further developments.

Cervical Cytology and Colposcopy Changes

In December 2015 the Department of Health issued an updated policy on [Cervical Screening](#). Section 2.8 of the document outlines of the role of the GP which is now to verify referral. Londonwide LMC's advice is to write to the local colposcopy unit on a monthly basis to ask them to verify the patients on the list with abnormal smears who have been sent an appointment.

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>

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. Chaand 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.

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:

<http://www.rcgp.org.uk/revalidation/~media/Files/Revalidation-and-CPD/2016/RCGP-Guide-to-Supporting-Information-2016.ashx>

For a summary of the changes that have occurred [click here](#).

Smoking Cessation Service

In October 2014, a new Stop Smoking Service was commissioned by Hackney Council. Since that date, all GPs in the borough have to refer smokers who want to enter the Stop Smoking Service to the **GP Hub stop smoking service**, run by the GP Confederation. This can be done by calling 020 7033 1943 or emailing CAHCCG.Stopsmokinghackney@nhs.net.

Hackney Council Public Health will not pay for any prescription or medication after **January 2015**. Therefore any GP practice that prescribes stop smoking medication (such as NRT or Varenicline) will have to pay for it themselves.

News from Public Health

A New Early Years Health Service for Hackney and the City of London

In October 2015 the responsibility for public health services for children from birth up to five years transferred from NHS England to local authorities. Our new responsibility for children in their earliest years has created the opportunity to design a new health service to provide regular health and development reviews. Health Visitors will review children at key stages in their lives to ensure that all babies are healthy and developing normally. In addition to the mandated review stages, the service will offer two additional home based visits to vulnerable families who need extra support at one month, and at 3-4 months. The new service, which will be delivered by Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust from July 2016, will cover: becoming a parent, maternal mental health, breastfeeding, healthy weight, managing minor illness and accident prevention, and healthy two year olds and school readiness. Reviews can take place in the family home, children's centres and GP surgeries and support children to be happy, healthy and ready to learn by the time they are school age.

Family Nurse Partnership programme for Hackney and the City of London

Alongside the new Early Years Health Service we are continuing the Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) programme for first time mothers aged 19 and under. Delivered by Whittington Health, FNP is an intensive, structured home visiting programme where a specially trained Family Nurse visits the mother and family regularly from early pregnancy until the baby is two years old and builds a close, supportive relationship. The programme aims to achieve holistic life-long changes, giving young parents the support and tools to help their babies develop healthily so that they are ready for school, and working with young parents to improve their health e.g. by helping them to give up smoking and supporting them back into education, training or employment.

To make a referral to the programme:

Tel: 020 7241 7857

Email: whh-tr.fnpwhittington@nhs.net

FNP Hackney and the City
Linden Children's Centre,
86-92 Rectory Road,
Hackney
N16 7SH

New (Substance Misuse) Hackney Recovery Service

The new Hackney Recovery Service is now up and running, delivering a range of integrated and recovery focused services for substance misusing clients. Delivered through a partnership of Westminster Drugs Project, Central and North West London NHS and St Mungos, the service offers assessment, drop in and open access services, access to prescribing and community detox in conjunction with a range of group work, key working and more holistic support services. Contact 0300 303 2611 or out of hours 0808 168 8669 for initial conversations or referrals.

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. 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>

Your City and Hackney LMC

Have a look at the full list of [members on your LMC](#).

To get in touch with any of your representatives please contact Joni Wilson-Kaye, at the office on 020 383 7442 or joni.wilson-kaye@lmc.org.uk

Contact us

City and Hackney LMC, Londonwide LMCs, Tavistock House South, Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9LG
Tel: 020 3818 6254 Fax: 0207 383 7442 Web: <http://www.lmc.org.uk>

The next City and Hackney Meeting takes place on **1 June**

LMC Meeting Dates for 2016:

Wednesday 3 August

Wednesday 5 October

Wednesday 7 December

City and Hackney LMC Team

Dr Fiona Sanders – LMC Chair

Dr Elliott Singer – LMC Secretary

Greg Cairns – Director of Primary Care Strategy

Sarah Martyn – Assistant Director of Primary Care Strategy

Joni Wilson-Kaye – Committee Liaison Executive

For all City and Hackney LMC enquiries, please contact Joni Wilson-Kaye, Committee Liaison Executive
– joni.wilson-kaye@lmc.org.uk // 020 3818 6254

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