

Islington LMC News Update – July 2017

Chair: Dr Robbie Bunt

1. Message from the LMC

Islington LMC has been looking at ways to strengthen its working relationships with the CCG and welcomes the opportunity to work with Tony Hoolaghan who has taken up the role of Chief Operating Officer for Haringey and Islington CCGs. The LMC is also building links and has taken up the opportunity for regular catch ups with the Islington GP Federation, Public Health, Richard Watts, Leader of the London Borough of Islington and the Whittington Hospital Trust. The LMC also feeds into the meeting that takes place with UCLH via Camden LMC (see item 7 for further details).

We are to be able to report that those practices identified in 2016/17 have received their resilience funding. The CCG will be undertaking an evaluation to the support provided to vulnerable practices which will include a review of the Super Admin project that has been delivered through the Federation.

As more activity is undertaken across the North Central London (NCL) footprint it will be important for us to ensure that Islington practices' interests are represented in these discussions. Currently work that is being undertaken at an NCL level includes the development of a prostate cancer specification and an overarching oversight group that is overseeing the PMS review and how to ensure both PMS and GMS practices are equitably resourced.

If you are aware of a sessional or locum GP who has not received this newsletter please feel free to forward on as we are keen to ensure we are representing all our constituents; they can register to receive information [HERE](#).

The next LMC meeting is on 27 September, if you have any items you would like to raise please contact us.

2. Islington LMC - what we are doing for you?

The LMC has identified the following priorities:

- Practice funding/ resource levels
- Workload, in particular, the inappropriate transfer of work from secondary care
- to appraise information and system change within the STP.

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Islington LMC members

Dr Robbie Bunt, Chair
Dr Simon Hazelwood
Dr John McGrath
Dr Anita Nathan
Dr Karen Summerfield
Angela Godden, Practice Manager Rep
Vacancy, Practice Nurse Rep

If you would like to raise any issues with the LMC or confidential matters concerning your practice, contact Joni Wilson-Kaye Joni.Wilson-Kaye@lmc.org.uk or telephone 020 3818 6254

3. LMC Practice Nurse Representative

Islington LMC are looking for a practice nurse representative to join the committee; you will be expected to bring issues affecting nurses in general practice to the notice of the LMC and representing the views of constituent practice nurse colleagues in lines with [the roles and responsibilities](#).

If you are looking for a new opportunity to be involved in the politics of general practice in Islington, or more information, please contact [Joni Wilson-Kaye](#).

4. NCL Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) Update

At the end of May, Helen Petterson, in her role as NCL STP convener attended a national STP review meeting with NHSE and NHS Improvement. The focus of the meeting was on the financial position in 2017/18 and the NCL STP team will be looking to see how they minimise the risks of delivering the QIPP and Cost Improvement Programme (CIP) plans. A new senior team will now focus on the CCG STP in NCL; Tony Hoolaghan will be representing Islington in this team. The NCL STP will now be known as North London Partners in Health and Care; a website has been set up with the latest copy of the [plan](#).

5. Occupational Health Services

Occupational health services can be accessed by all GPs and practice staff in Islington from Central and North-West London (CNWL) Foundation Trust which is based at St Pancras Hospital. Further information about the service can be found [here](#). If either you, or any member of your staff experiences difficulties accessing the service the CCG would like to know about this so that they can raise concerns with NHSE. Please notify the CCG via: iccg.qpfeedback@nhs.net

6. Payment for Safeguarding Reports

The LMC has become aware of a number of issues around non-payment for child protection reports. North East London Commissioning Support Unit (CSU) should pay practices for child protection reports on behalf of Islington CCG. The following process is in place:

- GP sends the claim form to their contact at the local authority (LA);
- LA processes the forms and sends them to the CSU;
- CSU validates the forms which are collated and sent to the CCG for approval;
- CSU pays practices.

If you are experiencing problems with payments please contact a member of the Islington LMC team (contact details can be found at the bottom of this newsletter).

LLMC Practice Mergers Guidance

This provides a summary of some of the issues that practices need to take account of in discussions on mergers with the other practice(s) - this can be accessed [HERE](#).

LLMC Patient Engagement Project

Londonwide LMCs Patient Engagement Project team conducted a patient engagement survey on experiences of patient participation groups (PPGs).

The results for the Patient Engagement Survey can be found [HERE](#).

It is a contractual requirement to have a PPG. For more information on the Patient Engagement Project, please email.

Further resources relating to the Patient Engagement Project can be found [HERE](#).

7. NHS Standard Contract Changes

The GPC has secured further changes to the NHS standard hospital contract for 2017/19 which should help to alleviate some of the pressures faced by general practice.

Local LMC representatives have met with staff from both UCLH and Whittington Health to discuss how these changes will be implemented. UCLH confirmed that they were aware of the changes to the contract and were happy for any secondary care work landing on GPs' doors to be sent back. They are also open and amendable to strengthening and creating new pathways to help bridge the gap between primary and secondary care and are developing a proposal to take a more systematic approach to address issues that arise between the Trust and local practices.

Regular meetings also take place between Whittington Health and LMC representatives. Discussions have focused on discharge summaries, clinic letters, onward referral of patients, medication on discharge and results and treatment. Improvements to these services should have been implemented in April 2017 so if you are encountering problems in any of these areas please advise a member of the Islington LMC team.

8. Employing a Practice-based Pharmacist

The LPC is aware that many GPs would like to take on a Practice-based Pharmacist and are asking for help, guidance and support regarding the recruitment and employment process. The LPC is aware of one GP who paid a consultancy firm to help them out.

The LPC would like to advise practices that it is happy to be their first port of call. The LPC represents Community Pharmacists across 9 London boroughs; the team includes pharmacists with GP Practice and Medicine Management experience. They can offer free advice regarding job descriptions, on how to recruit and employ the right pharmacist to support/alleviate workload for your practice, so that GPs can deliver high quality care for their patients. Please contact them on:

group@middlesexpharmacy.org or 0208 492 0592/ 0692

GP State of Emergency
To help you through the GP state of emergency, visit: www.GPSOE.org.uk including templates to provide practices with resources to hold both CCGs and hospital trusts to account to implement contractual changes.

New Patient Online toolkit for GP practices

The [toolkit to help GP practices promote online services to patients](#) helps practices promote online services for specifically ordering repeat prescriptions, booking appointments and viewing medical records. Any queries can be sent to [England Patient](#)

9. Hepatitis A pre-exposure immunisations

We have received updated guidance (attach link) from Public Health England which provides new advice for GPs for the outbreak of hepatitis A in men who have sex with men (MSM). It provides an information on the outbreak and new advice for GPs including:

- Changes to NaTHNaC recommendations for Hepatitis A vaccine for other countries.
- Alternative vaccine options for Hepatitis A vaccines to mitigate effects of supply constraints.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-a-infection-prevention-and-control-guidance/hepatitis-a-pre-exposure-immunisation-recommendations>

GUM clinics have received advice via a letter from the British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) and BHIVA.

10. Influenza and Pneumococcal Vaccinations and Immunisations:

The influenza and pneumococcal vaccination DES contains an explicit requirement that practices operate a call and recall system for at-risk patients. The childhood immunisations and imms and vacs additional services regulations do not contain such an explicit requirement though this is clearly highly advisable as there is an obligation therein to offer vaccination whenever appropriate and to take steps to maximise uptake.

11. National Diabetes Audit

Whilst most practices are already taking part in this annual audit, please remember that from July 2017 all practices will be contractually required to allow collection of data relating to the NDA.

The following Londonwide LMCs' training events are scheduled, for further information see [here](#)

**Child and adolescent learning disabilities awareness training
- FREE EVENT 10.00am to 2.30pm Thursday 28 September 2017 and
Wednesday 8 November 2017**

**Communication and Customer Service 9.00am to 12.30pm
Thursday 5 October 2017**

**Infection Prevention and Control Update 9.00am to 12.30pm
Wednesday 11 October 2017**

Contact us

Islington Local Medical Committee, Londonwide LMCs, Tavistock House, Tavistock Square, LONDON WC1H 9LG. www.lmc.org.uk

The next Islington LMC meeting takes place on 27 September

Islington LMC Team

Dr Robbie Bunt – Islington LMC Chair

[Dr Vicky Weeks](#) - Medical Director/LMC Secretary

[Greg Cairns](#) - Director of Primary Care Strategy

[Sarah Martyn](#) - Assistant Director of Primary Care Strategy

[Joni Wilson-Kaye](#) - Committee Liaison Executive