

# Waltham Forest LMC News

Chair: Dr Terry John

May 2016



## Word from the LMC

Welcome to Waltham Forest LMC's new look newsletter. It has been some time since we sent out a newsletter but we have been very busy working on your behalf since the last one.

The LMC meets regularly with Waltham Forest CCG to discuss a range of issues affecting GPs and has provided feedback recently on the Latent TB Testing Project, Primary Care dashboard and the Medicines Optimisation Scheme for 2016/17. We will voice GPs' views and concerns, in particular, as the Sustainability and Transformation Plan is rolled out across North East London.

Barts Health regularly send a representative to attend LMC meetings and we have used these opportunities to express concerns regarding problems encountered with referrals, availability of clinics and test results and other issues. We will continue to push back on work that is being transferred from secondary care into general practice inappropriately. Barts Health are keen to respond to GPs' concerns and have requested that specific problems are flagged up using the CCG's GP Alert system.

LMC meetings are also attended by Public Health colleagues who have provided updates on sexual health services, the pre-diabetes and smoking cessation services. These discussions enable the LMC to raise concerns from GPs and to provide comment on how these services are shaped; we will continue to work develop this relationship further.

If you have an issue that you would like to discuss with the LMC you can contact the LLMC office and they will set this up for you. You can find a link to the list of LMC members at the bottom of this newsletter.

## 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](mailto: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 six places up for election this year for Waltham Forest LMC. Nomination information has been circulated, the forms can be downloaded from our election website at: [www.ersvotes.com/londonwidelmcs](http://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](mailto:sarah.martyn@lmc.org.uk)) or Joni Wilson-Kaye ([joni.wilson-kaye@lmc.org.uk](mailto: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](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).

## **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.

## **Estates Policy**

Waltham Forest CCG have developed an estates policy which is going through a consultation process currently. The LMC has responded to this document and is now awaiting the updated version of policy to see if comments have been taken on board.

## **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](#).

### **Transforming Services Together (TST)**

The TST project was formed in September 2014 with the aim of improving the local health and social care economy in North East London and provides a local response to the Five Year Forward View. The project team consists of representatives from Newham, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest CCGs, along with representatives from Barts Health NHS Trust and a range of other stakeholders. Presentations have been given to the local LMCs by the TST project group to provide an opportunity to feedback into the process from the general practice perspective.

Further information can be found on the website: [www.transformingservices.org.uk](http://www.transformingservices.org.uk) and includes an online questionnaire which you can use to submit your views. Comments on the project can be submitted up until 31 May 2016.

On 8 June the early analysis of the engagement will be shared at the events noted below:

### **Transforming Services Together Feedback and Challenge Event**

- 1.30pm to 5pm at Old Stratford Town Hall

This will be followed by a less formal event:

### **Making Joint Working a Reality**

- 5.30pm to 7.30pm at Gerry's Kitchen, Gerry Raffles Square, opposite Theatre Royal Stratford East.

Refreshments and canapes will be provided. If you are interested in attending please email: [TransformingServicesTogether@nelcsu.nhs.uk](mailto:TransformingServicesTogether@nelcsu.nhs.uk)

## **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>

## **Your Waltham Forest 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 3818 6254 or [joni.wilson-kaye@lmc.org.uk](mailto:joni.wilson-kaye@lmc.org.uk)

## **Contact us**

Waltham Forest 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 Waltham Forest LMC Meeting takes place on **12 May**

### **LMC Meeting Dates for 2016:**

Tuesday 14 July

Tuesday 8 September

Tuesday 10 November

### **Waltham Forest LMC Team**

Dr Terry John, LMC Chair

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 Waltham Forest LMC enquiries, please contact Joni Wilson-Kaye, Committee Liaison Executive – [joni.wilson-kaye@lmc.org.uk](mailto:joni.wilson-kaye@lmc.org.uk) // 020 3818 6254**

*Disclaimer: This publication is written for healthcare professionals in Waltham Forest and information may not be appropriate for use elsewhere. Editorial comments do not necessarily represent the views of the LMC.*