

LMC ViewPoint

The newsletter of Leeds Local Medical Committee Limited

October 2016

SHAPING THE FUTURE FOR YOU AND YOUR PATIENTS: delivering a sustainable health and social care service for Leeds

The Leeds Plan and West Yorkshire Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP)

Date: Tuesday, 15 November 2016, 6.30 – 9.15 pm

Venue: Weetwood Hall Conference Centre, Otley Road, Leeds, LS16 5PS

An important event to be hosted by Leeds LMC and open to Leeds GPs, LTHT, LYPFT, LCH and Leeds City Council consultants, clinical colleagues and senior managers.

All of us who work in health and social care settings know of the unprecedented pressures that we have to contend with on a daily basis as we all strive to do our best to meet the increasing needs of a growing population.

As the NHS in England is facing over a £22bn funding gap and social care services have been hit hard by local authority budget cuts, we all know that difficult decisions have to be made to ensure that all patients receive the right care in the right place and make the best use of the available resources.

NHS England has challenged all areas of the country to develop sustainability and transformation plans with all organisations in each area expected to work together to do this. Media reports have suggested that some areas are considering quite radical changes and many are concerned that these plans are being developed behind closed doors and without proper consultation.

Leeds Local Medical Committee, the body representing all GPs in Leeds, is keen to ensure that our local plan is not developed without your involvement and that all doctors in Leeds have the opportunity to shape and develop it. We are pleased therefore that we have been able to bring together senior leaders from across the health and social care settings to update us on what is currently proposed but also to listen to the concerns and ideas of clinicians in Leeds.

This is potentially the most important meeting of the year, which could make a difference to the way that you work in the future and how you will provide care to your patients in the years to come. We hope therefore that you and your colleagues will be able to join us on Tuesday, 15th November, so that collectively we can shape our future and do the best for our patients.

A copy of the agenda is attached to this edition of Viewpoint. There are a few places left and so to register to attend, please email to mail@leedslmc.org. A buffet will be served from 6.30pm and the meeting will commence at 7.15pm.

REMINDER RE GPC ENGLAND SURVEY OF GENERAL PRACTICE

GPC England is currently conducting an important survey of the profession which asks some fundamental questions regarding workload and safety, current and future working preferences of GPs, views on contractual options, working in collaborative structures including new models of care, and the funding of general practice.

If you have not already done so, please click here to access the survey:

<http://go.newvistalive.com/start/?jn=P119377>.

GPC England wants to hear from all GPs, regardless of contractual status or BMA membership, to feedback your opinions in a structured manner that will truly make a difference.

All GPs are exceptionally busy, and 15 min to complete a survey may seem an additional pressure. However, your views will be important to inform national GPC policy in order to represent general practice based on the real wishes of GPs; it will also assist LMCs to implement local strategies in a way that meets the needs of the broad spectrum of GPs on the ground.

The deadline to complete the survey has been extended to midnight on Sunday 6th November.

We do encourage you to complete the survey (if you have not already done so) in order to make sure your voice is heard in determining policy regarding your own future.

NHS ENGLAND STANDARD HOSPITAL CONTRACT GUIDANCE

The new NHS standard contract for secondary care trusts has placed new requirements on hospitals to reduce inappropriate bureaucratic workload shift onto GP practices. Many of those changes to the standard contract have been brought about as a result of ongoing negotiations between the BMA's GP committee (GPC) and NHS England to get them to understand how important it is that the bureaucratic burden that all GPs are under is reduced.

Despite these contract changes, it is clear that practices are continuing to be burdened with inappropriate demands. The GPC has created templates to provide practices with resources to hold both CCGs and hospital trusts to account to implement these contractual changes and these letters are featured on the BMA's quality first pages [here](#) for your reference.

The following 6 templates reflect the new contractual changes:

1. Situations where trusts are adopting blanket policies to discharge patients from their service back to their GPs for re-referral when they do not attend outpatient clinics
2. Situations where a trust is not undertaking onward referral to other specialties internally, but is referring back to the GP for re-referral
3. A failure of a trust to notify patients in a timely manner of the results of tests or investigations, or where they ask the GP to chase up the result
4. A failure of a trust to send discharge summaries by direct electronic or email transmission for inpatient, day case or emergency care within 24 hours
5. A failure of a trust to communicate within 14 days after an outpatient clinic attendance appointment
6. A failure of a trust to provide medications following discharge from inpatient or day-case care, where medication must be supplied for the period established in local practice or protocols.

Since the new templates were launched a month ago, they have now had just over 8000 hits; this is an encouraging start and shows how GPs are using them to address their workload pressures.

TWO NEW PATIENT ONLINE TOOLKITS FOR GP PRACTICES AND FOR CCGS AND NHS ORGANISATIONS

The Patient Online programme has released two new toolkits to support [GP practices](#), [CCGs](#), [CSUs and other NHS organisations](#) with the effective promotion of online services to patients: ordering of repeat prescriptions, booking of appointments and viewing of medical records.

The toolkits consist of templates for web copy, press releases, social media and newsletters as well as instructions on how to order the new range of promotional materials. These materials have been tested with patients across the country and now say "GP online services" instead of "Patient Online", as a survey revealed patients related to this better.

Contact email address for any queries: england.patient-online@nhs.net

QUALITY AND OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK (QOF) - PREVALENCE, ACHIEVEMENTS AND EXCEPTIONS REPORT, ENGLAND 2015-16

The report published by NHS Digital on 27 October 2016 is available at:
<http://content.digital.nhs.uk/catalogue/PUB22266>.

This report provides information on the prevalence of 21 conditions, including heart disease, hypertension, dementia, diabetes, and depression. It also identifies how the prevalence of these conditions has changed since the previous year. Prevalence data on these conditions can be broken down sub-nationally to regional and general practice level.

LOCUM GPs AND ACCESS TO THE LEEDS CARE RECORD (LCR)

Leeds LMC is aware of the frustrations which have been caused as a result of the difficulty Locum GPs encounter in trying to access the LCR. We have had several discussions with the LCR team and are grateful to Andy Haigh, Practice Manager representative on the LMC, for forwarding the following update from the LCR re their current proposals to resolve this issue:

'The LCR team is currently in the process of having a new proposed process approved by City Wide information governance which will be much simpler:

- A Locum can receive 'sponsorship' from any willing GP practice (via the Practice Manager) in Leeds, enabling us to create the Locum an account assigned to that practice which is registered to the individual (i.e. their own username and their own password).
- To gain that practice's sponsorship the Locum must be able to demonstrate that they have a long term relationship with that surgery, i.e. work at that particular location on a somewhat regular basis, have a long term relationship with - previous employment for example or a long term contract with that practice.
- The Locum should only receive sponsorship if they are IG compliant and can provide evidence of this to their sponsoring Practice Manager.
- Once that Locum has completed training (either in-house or through an e-learning resource) they can be supplied with their login details. (We are typically able to provide login details within a couple of hours of receiving notification that training has been completed *Mon-Fri working hours*).
- The Locum Doctor will login under that practice regardless of which practice they are working in at that time and use an 'Emergency Access' feature (which is already available) to view patient records outside of that practices normal legitimate relation/registered patient list.
- Periodically throughout the year the LCR team will email Practice Managers to check they are happy to continue their 'sponsorship' of that particular locum, which could be removed at any time upon request.
- Lastly the Locum must have an active @nhs.net email address to use LCR - again an IG requirement.

The new process for locum doctors to gain access to the Leeds Care Record is due for discussion at the next Citywide IG meeting, so we hope it will receive approval and we can begin the rollout of the new proposed process.

Once the process has been approved LCR will contact all Practice Managers so we can begin to grant Locums access to the Leeds Care Record.'

MYTHBUSTERS GUIDE RE APPRAISALS/REVALIDATION

The RCGP has published a useful mythbusters guide for appraisals/revalidation which should help reduce incorrect advice given to GP colleagues with regard to evidence required and also reduce inconsistencies amongst GP appraisers. The guide can be found at:

<http://www.rcgp.org.uk/-/media/Files/Revalidation-and-CPD/2016/RCGP-Revalidation-Mythbusters-2016.ashx?la=en>

THE STATE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION AND PRACTICE IN THE UK 2016

The GMC's sixth annual report has been published and is available at:

<http://www.gmc-uk.org/publications/somep2016.asp>

This report sets out an overview of issues that feature prominently in healthcare, after a prolonged period of upheaval in the sector, with growing service and financial pressures. Many doctors are feeling the pressure, a need to be supported at all levels, and this has an impact on professional standards and their own well-being. The level of dissatisfaction among doctors seems to be higher than ever before.

THE VITAL SIGNS IN PRIMARY CARE

Please find attached to this edition of Viewpoint the guide "The Vital Signs in Primary Care: A guide for GPs seeking help and advice" written for the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund by Dr Richard Stevens. The guide sets out the key stress and pressure points for GPs and GP Trainees, seeks to provide practical advice, and signposts support and resources for those experiencing stress and difficulty.

Please remember also: Leeds LMC is very aware of the pressures which GPs and practices are currently facing, particularly as a result of ever-increasing workload and rising patient demand. We are always available to offer confidential support to colleagues in difficulty. Our Medical Secretary, Dr Raj Sathiyaseelan, is available throughout the week to help and support fellow GPs and is based at the LMC office on Thursdays. If you would like to have an informal chat with him, this would be a good opportunity. Of course Raj and the other LMC officers may be contacted at any time via the LMC office - the number is 0113-295-1460 and our email address is: mail@leedslmc.org. Please don't wait until matters reach a crisis point.

SESSIONAL GPs NEWSLETTER

What's new for sessional GPs? Read the latest edition of the Sessional GPs newsletter here:

<http://bma-mail.org.uk/t/JVX-4JWMZ-1BJCJOU46E/cr.aspx>

CONDOLENCES

The LMC was saddened to hear the news of the recent sudden death of Dr Ajit Mehrotra, Chairman of the Dewsbury division of Kirklees LMC. Dr Mehrotra was an experienced and well-respected GP and LMC leader and his colleagues and patients will miss his wisdom and guidance. We offer our sincere condolences to Dr Mehrotra's family and friends.

Dr Graham Kirkland, a retired GP in Otley, died recently at the age of 80 years following a short illness. Dr Kirkland and his wife Dr Joan Kirkland were partners at the Westgate Medical Practice in Otley. He was for many years an active member of Leeds LMC, including serving as chair, and also a Leeds City Councillor and former Lord Mayor of Leeds. Dr Kirkland cared for his patients and community with dedication and we offer our sympathy to his friends and family.

GENERAL INFORMATION DISTRIBUTED TO PRACTICES THIS MONTH

Listed below is the information the LMC has sent into Practices. If for any reason, you would like another copy and/or further information please contact us.

- Latest newsletter from Dr Chaand Nagpaul, Chair of BMA's GPs committee
- PCSE performance monitoring request to practices
- Reminder re GPC England survey of general practice

COMINGS AND GOINGS

A warm welcome to.....

Lindsay Gollin, new Practice Business Manager at Allerton Medical Centre, who joined at the practice at the beginning of October

Good bye and best wishes to...

Kristine Brown, Practice Manager at Allerton Medical Centre, who will be retiring in November after 20 years at the practice

New useful documents on www.leedslmc.org

- The new 3-minute guide to your appraisal
- NHSE guidance for GPs considering working abroad
- The Vital Signs in Primary Care – produced by the RMBF
- Focus on ... documents 2015 and 2016