



Kent Local Medical Committee

Supporting list based personalised care, the partnership model and meaningful collaboration

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Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust/Kent LMC Interface Meeting Newsletter January 2020

Drs John Burke, Richard Claxton, Katja Philipp, Mark Ironmonger, Neil Potter and Caroline Rickard joined Donna Clarke at the recent LMC/MTW interface meeting. Dr Peter Maskell and Amanjit Jhund attended on behalf of MTW.

Junior Doctor Induction Video

A production company has been identified and the proposal now has to go through the LMC finance committee for approval.

The LMC went through a draft script but it will need input from others. It was agreed the video needs to incorporate scenarios from both sides because it will be for all doctors, not all of whom will go on to become GPs. It was agreed that it is important that it is balanced and Peter Maskell offered to find a consultant to work with the LMC on this.

Shared Care Agreement Issues

It was noted there are plans to incorporate Shared Care in phase two of the Primary Care Quality Standards being drafted currently.

There is currently a backlog of clinic letters in some hospital departments meaning GPs do not receive the information before the patient requires a prescription. They are about to start a piece of work to resolve this. It was suggested software could provide a solution to cut and paste from consultations. An IT solution is one of the areas being looked at.

A practice had raised an issue re requests to prescribe before the patient has been stabilised on the drug. This had been down to the typing backlog and Trust clinicians are aware of this issue so GPs should not be expected to prescribe without having received the information.

It was reported that there appears to be an assumption that GPs will take over prescribing, but they do not always feel able to, especially with the less common high-risk drugs, and are concerned about the potential medico-legal implications. There should therefore be a way for them to say no because the person signing the script will be held responsible.

GPs being asked to arrange follow up chest x-rays

Peter Maskell confirmed that when he receives letters from GPs about inappropriate requests such as this he always passes them on to the clinician concerned and word appears to be getting round as the instances are decreasing.

Copy abnormal results being sent to GPs with lack of clarity over actions

Peter Maskell has arranged a meeting with Dr Sanjay Singh, 6 clinical directors from the Trust and 6 West Kent GPs next week to discuss interface issues. Top of the list is this issue.

Single Point of Access for MSK issues

This issue has been added to the LMC/WK CCG liaison meeting agenda for the 18th June.

Availability of images at clinics

This is an issue involving a list of patients where GPs have ordered an MRI from an AQP provider but the GP referral has not mentioned that the MRI has been done. If the GP uses the form and ticks the box to say an MRI has been done and where, then the Trust can obtain the MRI result prior to the appointment.

Iron deficiency anaemia

A practice had reported that an issue had arisen with a very low haemoglobin level out of hours and communication difficulties led to them handing back to the GP surgery. It was agreed that as this has not been encountered by those present to monitor and if necessary, raise with IC24.

Request for details of why patient unfit for surgery

Peter Maskell requested the letter be sent to him unredacted to investigate as he believes that the consultant will have sent a corresponding letter with full details. The LMC agreed to ask the GP to send patient details.

GPs being copied into Results

Peter Maskell acknowledged receipt of the LMC letter and agreed to discuss at the upcoming Trust meeting with GPs.

STOP/BANG Questionnaire

There is an issue with patients having this test and being passed back to the GP. No one has discussed the introduction of this test with GPs. A question was raised why the anaesthetist could not deal with this. Peter Maskell reported that STOP/BANG has been used at the Trust for 10 years and referrals back to the GP for consideration of referring for sleep studies only happens after a risk assessment. He reported that this should not be a barrier to surgery. Peter Maskell agreed to discuss further with Paul Moran.

MTW Midwifery Service

Richard Claxton reported on the meeting he attended. The biggest issue discussed was a lack of notifications of pregnancy from the midwifery service to GPs. The Laming report had recommended that GPs and midwives should discuss patients and any social/safeguarding issues.

They also discussed issues of requests for prescriptions and as midwives cannot prescribe it was acknowledged that it is appropriate for them to ask GPs to prescribe but that they must provide full information to the GP rather than the current short request. They produce an E3 summary which could potentially be incorporated into GP systems with full information – this is being looked at.

The service agreed to look at whether midwives can do Fitness to Fly certificates.

The LMC agreed to discuss whether midwives could be allowed to refer patients to physio and also whether they can commission a pathway for midwives to deal with SPD (Symphysis Pubic Dysfunction) at CCG liaison meetings.

MTW Clinical Strategy

The Trust has almost completed their draft 5 year strategy and asked whether the LMC would like to be involved in discussions. All agreed and MTW will bring to the next meeting.

Complex surgery

The Trust is planning to take a proposal to HOSC asking to move certain complex surgery to Pembury hospital for clinical safety reasons. This will affect around 600 patients per annum. They will share the detail with the LMC prior to the HOSC.

Hospital Parking

A business case has been approved to increase parking spaces by several hundred at both Maidstone and Pembury.

GPwSI

Peter Maskell stated that if any GP would like to become a GPwSI the Trust would be happy to be involved in making that happen.

Contacting Consultants

Katja Philipp asked whether GPs could email consultants as there is a new system being trialled elsewhere. She agreed to send information to MTW. It is also possible to use KINESIS.

Date of next meeting

5th May 2020 at LMC offices

Donna Clarke
Practice Liaison Officer