

LMC ViewPoint

The newsletter of Leeds Local Medical Committee Limited

February 2017

GP CONTRACT CHANGES FOR 2017/18

Details of GP contract changes for 2017/18 have been released. The headlines include:

- Direct reimbursement of the whole of a practice's CQC registration fee.
- £30m to cover increases in indemnity costs.
- An uplift to cover increasing practice expenses and to deliver a 1% pay uplift.
- Ending the bureaucratic unplanned admissions direct enhanced service (DES) which will see £156.7 million added to the global sum instead. This DES will be replaced with a new focus on those patients who are identified as living with severe frailty to ensure that this vulnerable group receives appropriate care, ending box ticking and a complicated reporting system.
- Increased funding for the Learning Disability enhanced service.
- Providing significant improvements to sickness and maternity absence cover arrangements.
- Funding to cover the additional work caused by the bagging and labelling of patient records.
- No new QOF indicators
- Introduction of a system based on self-declaration to identify patients who hold a non-UK issued EHIC or S1 form when registering with a practice. This will enable funding to be claimed back from the country of origin of an overseas patient who receives care, with no upfront charge to the patient. An extra £5m will be added to the contract on a recurrent basis to support any workload implications.

This will lead to changes in funding as follows:

- Global sum per weighted patient is set to rise from £80.59 to £85.35 in 17/18. This is a 5.9% increase.
- The average practice list size (CPI) rose from 7460 as at 1 January 2016 to 7732 at 1 January 2017.
- The value of a QOF point will increase by £6.02 (3.6%) from £165.18 in 2016/17 to £171.20 in 2017/18.

Full details of the package can be found at: <https://www.bma.org.uk/collective-voice/committees/general-practitioners-committee/gpc-current-issues/gp-contract-negotiations>

'DELIVERING AN ENHANCED GENERAL PRACTICE WORKFORCE'

LMC Event: Tuesday, 7th March 2017, 6.30 – 9.15pm

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

Leeds LMC is hosting a workshop for GPs, practice managers and CCG colleagues focusing on delivering an enhanced general practice. Dr Mark Purvis from Health Education England is an expert on the changing shape of the GP workforce and he has kindly agreed to be our main speaker. The emphasis of the evening will be practical rather than theoretical and we intend to share examples of how different workforce initiatives are working locally, including pharmacists and physician associates working in practices as well as the Physio First programme scheme.

We hope this event will stimulate debate and help us face up to the challenges ahead, bearing in mind the nationwide shortage of GPs. We need to learn from each other's experiences of what has worked well or even not so well and how the different initiatives can help to free up GP and practice time. We hope that you and your colleagues will be able to join us on **Tuesday, 7th March**.

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.

SUPPORT FOR GPs

We wish to draw your attention again to the NHS GP health service which is a new confidential NHS service for GPs and GP trainees in England, launched on 31 January 2017, an initiative that is part of the GPFV. It will run in parallel to primary care performer occupational health services commissioned by CCGs under NHS England's national service specification.

The NHS GP health service can help with issues relating to mental health, including stress, depression or addiction where these might affect a GP's work. Operating on a self-referral basis, it is provided by health professionals specialising in mental health support to doctors and is available in various locations across England.

GPs can access the service by emailing gp.health@nhs.net or by calling 0300 0303 300. Availability is from 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 2pm Saturday. The service is not for emergency or crisis issues, which should be directed to mainstream NHS services. We are pleased to welcome this service, and with it the implicit recognition of the massive stress and strain which hard-working GPs up and down the country continue to work under on a daily basis, and which is taking its toll on so many of our colleagues.

Please remember also that Leeds LMC is committed to helping any GP experiencing difficulties. We offer confidential pastoral support, if you are struggling with health or clinical/practice problems and we would urge you to contact us at an early stage – don't wait until matters reach a crisis point. Our Medical Secretary, Dr Raj Sathiyaseelan, is based at the LMC office on Thursdays and if you would like to contact him, perhaps for an informal chat initially, then this would be a good opportunity. The office number is 0113-295-1460 and the email contact is: mail@leedslmc.org. Raj may, of course, be contacted via the LMC office at any time during the week.

YORK STREET MEDICAL PRACTICE

The LMC was surprised to learn that the contract for the York Street practice, which provides specialist services to homeless and other vulnerable patients in Leeds, had been put out to tender by NHS England and Leeds South & East CCG, not least because the practice had only recently received an outstanding rating by CQC. Unfortunately this is the potential consequence for any service with an APMS contract. The LMC has discussed this situation with the CCG and been assured that staff at the practice will be supported as they are transferred to the new provider, Bevan Healthcare, who run a similar service in Bradford. We also wish to give credit to the hard work of all the staff at the practice in providing an excellent service over the years to some of our city's most vulnerable patients.

GP FORWARD VIEW MONITORING

As you will be aware, the BMA's General Practitioners Committee (GPC) has been at the forefront of ensuring that the resources and funding promised through NHS England's GPFV reach GPs and practices working on the front line. As part of that assurance process, they have implemented a system of monitoring feedback from LMCs regarding GPFV implementation in their local areas.

At present, the immediate priority is to ensure that the promised £16m resilience funding passes to practices by the end of March 2017. If you are a practice that should be receiving resilience funding support but are having difficulty doing so, we would urge you to please let the LMC office know so that appropriate action can be taken on your behalf.

ACCESS TO MEDICAL REPORTS FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES

Please note the latest guidance from the BMA regarding medical reports.

<https://www.bma.org.uk/advice/employment/gp-practices/service-provision/access-to-medical-reports-for-insurance-purposes>

QOF SUSPENSION

The LMC was disappointed that the sensible and widely welcomed proposal by the three Leeds CCGs to suspend QOF, to both recognise the high workload pressures that practices were experiencing and to acknowledge the impact the pathology system failure had on Leeds practices, was prevented from taking place because of NHS England's opposition. We have discussed this with the CCGs and in particular would wish to ensure that no practice is unfairly penalised because of the major pathology result system failure last year. If practices believe that this has impacted on their final QOF achievement, they should discuss this with their CCG, and notify the LMC.

CONSULTATION ON NICE INDICATORS

NICE is consulting on new indicators for inclusion in the NICE indicator menu. The consultation includes two sets of proposed indicators; one relevant to general practice and the other relevant to CCGs. Topics cover acute heart failure, acute kidney injury, antenatal and postnatal mental health, cancer, COPD, end of life care, mental health of children and young people, and NHS diabetes prevention programme. The consultation closes on 8 March 2017:

<https://www.nice.org.uk/about/what-we-do/our-programmes/standards-and-indicators/consultation-on-nice-indicators>

ADVICE BULLETIN FOR GP PRACTICES - Infection prevention and control

Please see important information GP practices should be aware of in relation to compliance with 'Inter-healthcare infection control transfer'. A copy of the bulletin is available to view and download at www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk/resources/newsletter-ipc-cqc-advice-bulletin-for-gp-practices

GMC SUPPORTS LONG-OVERDUE RECOGNITION OF GPs AS SPECIALISTS

The GMC recently issued a statement in support of expanding the specialist register to include general practitioners, which would put GPs on a deserved equal footing with other specialists, such as hospital consultants.

The statement notes that 'GPs make a huge and vital contribution to healthcare in the UK, providing expert care and treatment to millions of patients every year. We accept the recent arguments made by the BMA and RCGP that a single advanced register – for both specialists and GPs – would make this expertise much clearer'.

While this is an important milestone, expanding the specialist register to include general practice will require the UK Parliament to update the Medical Act (which is the piece of legislation which determines the scope of the medical register). Whilst there appears to be some reluctance by the Department of Health to do this, the BMA's General Practitioners Committee will be working closely with the RCGP and GMC to lobby for this long overdue change.

PIP AND OTHER BENEFIT APPEALS

A practice has raised their concerns to the LMC regarding the large number of patients they are seeing with problems caused by PIP/DLA/ESA and other benefit claims being discontinued or reduced. We are aware that this is widespread problem that is adding significant workload. We want to try to quantify this activity to a greater extent and so please email mail@leedslmc.org with summary details, if this is a concern to your practice.

GENERAL PRACTICE TRANSFORMATION CHAMPIONS – 7 March 2017

NHS England is hosting a free conference to inform and support those colleagues involved in supporting sustainability and transformation in general practice. The event is free to attend for clinicians and managers in general practice and federations, as well as commissioners and providers of support to general practice. You can find full details about the conference [here](#).

SESSIONAL GP NEWSLETTER

Please find below a link to the latest edition of the Sessionals newsletter which this month, amongst other important issues, includes updates on changes to funding for indemnity arising from changes in the 2017/18 GP contract, and progress on pensions issues following a further meeting with NHS England and Capita. <http://bma-mail.org.uk/t/JVX-4RN48-1BJCJOU46E/cr.aspx>

UPDATE RE LMC BUYING GROUP

As you may be aware, Leeds LMC has been a member of the LMC Buying Groups Federation since 2015. This means that all practices can access the discounts the Buying Group has negotiated on a wide range of products and services.

If you're not sure what the Buying Group is all about, then this short video explains what they do: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FekMwFI5ILg>. By registering with the Buying Group's website: www.lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk/members/, you can view all the suppliers' pricing, contact details and request quotes. The Buying Group also offers any member practice a free cost analysis which demonstrates how much money your practice could save just by swapping to buying group suppliers. And if your practice is part of a GP Federation group, then the Buying Group Plus initiative could help you save additional money as a group. This short video explains what Buying Group Plus does: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BXpQmb7pVUo>. Contact information: tel: 0115 979 6910, email: info@lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk, website: www.lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk

LEEDS COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE – Non-Executive Director recruitment

Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust is seeking an exceptional non-executive director with a clinical background to join their Board. They would particularly welcome applications from GPs who have time to commit to the role. Further information, together with details of how to apply, is set out in the advertisement **attached to this edition of Viewpoint**. If you are interested and would like to have an informal chat about what is involved, please contact Thea Stein, Chief Executive, by email: theastein@nhs.net.

GENERAL INFORMATION DISTRIBUTED TO PRACTICES THIS MONTH

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

- Details of contract changes 2017/18 circulated 7th February
- Leeds LMC elections: results of locality-based elections and information re citywide seats circulated 21st February 2017

COMINGS AND GOINGS

A warm welcome to.....

Dr Steve Bentley who joined City View Medical Practice as a GP on the Induction & Refresher Scheme in December and Dr Ronke Adeniji who joins the practice on 3rd March having worked there previously as a Registrar. James Blackburn has also joined the practice recently as Assistant Practice Manager.

Alice Sunderland who has joined Vesper Road and Morris Lane surgery as Practice Manager. Dr Ben Carrigan who is a new GP working at Leeds City Medical Practice and Parkside Surgery.

*Dr Louise Boyle who joined the Spa Surgery, Boston Spa as a salaried GP on 21st February and Dr Imran Shaikh, salaried GP, who will be joining the surgery in mid-April.
Dr Anna Tarr and Dr Becky Skipp, salaried GPs, who will be joining Gibson Lane Practice and Kippax Health Centre from 1st April.*

Good bye and best wishes to...

*Clare Dean who will be leaving her role as Assistant Practice Manager at City View Medical Practice at the end of April, after 40 years at the practice, and she will be very much missed.
Dr Nia Lewis who will be leaving Woodhouse Medical Practice as at 1 April.
Dr Brady, senior partner at Spa Surgery, Boston Spa who will be retiring on 7th April.
Dr Whittle who will be retiring from Gibson Lane Practice on 31st March.*

Vacancies

Leeds LMC Limited – Joint Executive Officer

Leeds LMC, which represents all GPs in Leeds, requires a second Executive Officer to work 3 days a week (22.5 hours). You should be self-motivated, have excellent inter-personal skills and good administrative and IT abilities. NHS experience is desirable. Salary NHS AfC Band 8a pro rata.

For further details and a job description, please contact Dr Raj Sathiyaseelan, Medical Secretary, at mail@leedslmc.org or visit our website: www.leedslmc.org. To apply, please send your CV and a covering letter to the LMC office. Closing date for receipt of applications: Friday, 17th March. Interviews to be held on Thursday, 30th March, 2017.

Highfield Surgery are looking to recruit a new GP to their forward-thinking practice in Leeds

- Due to retirement of one of a partner, an exciting opportunity has arisen for a high calibre, enthusiastic and forward thinking GP to join the team.
- They are interested in hearing from experienced or newly qualified GPs and can consider a flexible number of sessions and options for partnership or salaried.
- They are confident you will be impressed with the organisation and efficiency of their practice which is designed to improve patient experience and ease the workload on our GPs.
- They have an enthusiastic and stable team of clinicians keen to be involved in the development of general practice.
- Competitive salary, and pleasant working environment in the partnership owned, modern premises. 4.5 WTE GP GMS practice with 7800 patients, who are a great population to care for.
- SystemOne practice with high QoF scores, rated “Good” in every area on our recent CQC inspection.
- You will receive 7 weeks annual leave, regular education via monthly meetings and opportunities and support to develop special interests.

For further information, or to arrange to pop in for an informal chat and look around please telephone our Practice Manager, Mike Holmes on: 0113 295 3600. To apply, please send a covering letter and CV to mike.holmes1@nhs.net or to Mike Holmes, Practice Manager, High Field Surgery, Holtdale Approach, Holt Park, Leeds, LS16 7RX Website: www.highfieldsurgery.com. Closing date for applications: 21 March 2017.

Woodhouse Medical Practice – Full time/Part time Salaried GP/Partner

We are a forward-thinking practice, keen to expand services, with modern, leased premises in keeping with the future direction of primary care.

We are looking to recruit one or two GPs with the commitment to continuing the development of our General Medical Practice across two sites in North Leeds. Our practice provides excellent medical care to a younger than average and diverse patient list of 8000.

Our team comprises three medical partners (with one leaving in March 2017 due to family circumstances), three salaried GPs, a nursing team, a HCA team and 12 reception/admin staff including our Practice Business Manager. We are a friendly, supportive organisation, with high standards of clinical care.

We welcome applicants looking for either their first salaried position, or those with more experience wanting to develop services for a mixed population. We have a strong collaborative network in the locality.

To arrange an informal chat please contact: Dr Michelle Hume, Senior Partner – mjh@doctors.org.uk or Andrew Stephens, Practice Business Manager – Andrew.stephens1@nhs.net.

Oulton Medical Centre and Marsh Street Surgery

The practice is looking for a Practice Nurse, 24 hours up to £33,466 WTE depending upon experience.

Please contact hilary.farrar@nhs.net for more information.

New useful documents on www.leedslmc.org

- Information re the newly launched NHS GP Health Service
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