

LMC ViewPoint



The newsletter of Leeds Local Medical Committee Limited

November 2018

CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND LMC REPRESENTATIVES

Leeds LMC representatives attended the Conference of England LMCs in London on the 23rd November. It provided a valuable opportunity to discuss many of the key issues that face GPs in England, and included a themed debate on the partnership review.

Leeds LMC vice-chair, Dr Sarah McSorley, successfully proposed a motion about the 2018 DDRB recommendation which, after many years of attrition for GP pay and investment, prioritised general practice. The motion, which was fully supported by the Conference, condemned the government for failing to implement the 4% recommendation in full and, contrasting this with the way MPs accepted their own pay body's decision, called on the government to establish a pay review body for doctors which similarly binds the government to award recommendations.

You can access the agenda [here](#). The event was webcast and you can see the debates that took place, as well as the opening speech given by Dr Richard Vautrey, GPC England chair, via the following [link](#). Prior to the conference Dr Vautrey did an interview for BBC Radio Leeds about the need for investment in general practice to allow for a sustainable expansion of the team in and around practices to help manage workload pressures.

GP MENTORSHIP SCHEME – EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO BE A MENTEE

Further to the information we sent out in July regarding the Mentorship scheme for GPs, we are now in a position to offer mentoring sessions. The recruitment and training of the mentors is complete and we are pleased to be able to now invite GPs who would like to receive mentoring to get in touch. GPs in the Leeds area are eligible to take part in the scheme and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Please see the attached letter for more information.

INVESTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR PRIMARY AND COMMUNITY CARE

On the 22nd November, the Prime Minister announced that there would be an extra £3.5bn per year investment in primary medical services and community care by 2023/24 as part of the NHS Long Term plan. She also talked of a national roll-out of community-based "rapid response teams" and more support for care home residents.

In response to this, Dr Richard Vautrey said: "Additional funding for general practice and community services is long overdue and the Prime Minister's commitment to increase the overall share of NHS spending on primary medical services is important. This announcement shows long-awaited recognition of what we have been saying for some time – that when you support the foundations of the NHS, the whole system benefits. But as ever, the devil will be in the detail. We have been clear that general practice needs an urgent increase in investment to address the pressures affecting the profession and patients, and while this announcement is an important step forward, we will be seeking urgent assurance that this really is new investment for general practice and we will want early discussions on the detail of where the money will be spent."

This story was featured in the [Mail](#), [Guardian](#), and [Independent](#). Dr Richard Vautrey was also interviewed on Talk Radio discussing the promised investment. Read the BMA's full response [here](#).

INDEMNITY SCHEME IN ENGLAND FAQs

The Department of Health and Social Care has published [FAQs on State Backed Indemnity for General Practice](#). Understandable concerns have been expressed about the answer in the FAQ relating to funding arrangements. This was reflected in comments at the English LMC conference and led to an emergency motion which was passed unanimously. This stated:

That conference is outraged and deeply concerned at the statement of 22 November 2018 from the Department of Health and Social Care that the newly state backed indemnity scheme may be funded from “existing resources allocated for general practice” and instructs GPC England to work with the government in ensuring that:

- i. *the scheme is supported by new funding*
- ii. *no GP is financially disadvantaged by a change to a state backed scheme*
- iii. *all GPs and practices are protected from any future increases in the cost of the state backed scheme.*

PARTNERSHIP REVIEW WORKFORCE SURVEY

Over the last few months the [GP Partnership Review](#) team, led by the independent chair Dr Nigel Watson, has been meeting GPs across the country to listen to the challenges that the profession faces. As he highlighted in his presentation to the English LMC conference, and which were made clear in the latest NHS Digital quarterly figures, there is a significant issue within the GP workforce, in that despite an increase in the number of GP trainees, the number of partners is decreasing.

The DHSC would like to gain a better understanding of how this affects a GP's career and what the potential solutions might be, therefore a short [survey](#) has been published to help provide more evidence to support the final recommendations of the review. They have already received a large number of responses, but please take this opportunity to share your own views.

PENSIONS UPDATE

The GPC have published an update on the key areas currently affecting GPs with regards to their pension, including the annual allowance, scheme valuations, death in service benefits for locum GPs, annualising of GP contributions and related PCSE issues. Read the update [here](#).

FLU VACCINE SUPPLY

There has been a lot of focus in the media on supply issues for the flu vaccine for the over 65s. Dr Richard Vautrey has done a large number of interviews on this, for national and local media, some of the most recent including interviews for BBC Radio 4's PM programme and quotes in [The Sun](#), [Sky News](#) and [BBC News](#). Following BMA requests, a national publicity campaign has now been launched, encouraging patients to make an appointment to be immunised. Now that all practices have received their full supplies, we hope that patients will attend their practice to get protected before the flu season begins.

NHS England has also sent out a [letter to practices outlining the preliminary information on the recommended vaccines for the 2019/20 seasonal flu vaccination programme](#). Both of the vaccines that were recommended for the 2018/19 season will continue to be recommended for next year:

- the quadrivalent inactivated vaccine (QIV) is recommended for 18 to 64 year olds in clinical at-risk groups and other eligible groups, including frontline health and social care workers.
- the adjuvanted trivalent inactivated vaccine (aTIV) is recommended for individuals aged 65 years and over.

Practices can therefore start ordering the licensed vaccines now to avoid this year's problems with phased deliveries.

DATA QUALITY CHECKS

Practices should ensure that their lists only include registered patients for whom the practice continues to be responsible for providing primary medical services. As they are required to do,

PCSE have now commenced a list verification programme. Initially they will contact practices to verify the registration details of patients aged over 100. Before checks on each patient group start, further details will be sent on how to proceed. The attached letter providing details has been sent to all practices.

NEW PRIMARY CARE WORKLOAD OBSERVATORY

The RCGP Research and Surveillance Centre (RCGP RSC) and Surrey Heartlands Health and Care Partnership are leading an NHS England-funded project to create a new way to understand the demand on GPs. The new national 'workload and case-mix observatory' will be created at the RCGP RSC secure data and analytics hub at the University of Surrey and will collect and monitor data from a network of more than 350 practices across England.

They are looking to increase the number of practices that are currently part of the network and joining will provide practices with the opportunity to be at the forefront of this exciting new development. Further information about this project and how to sign up is available in the attached document.

CERVICAL SMEAR LETTER AND RESULTS

Earlier this month, NHS England confirmed that Primary Care Services England (PCSE), run by Capita, have failed to send 48,500 women information about their cervical screening appointments and results after a system error. GPC England have written to NHS England to express their extreme concern over the unacceptable service being delivered and have urged NHS England to strip Capita of the contract and take PCSE services back in-house.

Although the majority of the correspondence relates to appointment invitations or reminder letters, some were for screening results, which will have undoubtedly caused anxiety for those involved and could have caused serious harm if it were not for the fact that laboratory systems had ensured patients were contacted directly about the need for a colposcopy.

NHS England has written to those affected and informed patients' practices. Capita have written to apologise to patients.

Dr Richard Vautrey's comments were widely reported he said: *"This is an incredibly serious situation, and it is frankly appalling that patients may now be at risk because of this gross error on the part of Capita. Some women will now be left extremely anxious because they have not received important correspondence, particularly letters about abnormal smear test results that need urgent follow up. This has been caused solely by Capita's incompetence. Since it took responsibility for GP back room functions three years ago, Capita's running of these services has been nothing short of shambolic and after repeated warnings from the BMA and government, this is now clear evidence that its failings have put patient safety – and possibly lives – at risk. As the body which commissioned Capita to take on this work, despite clear warning signs that it was not up to the job, NHS England must shoulder the blame for this dreadful situation; you cannot outsource responsibility."* This was reported by [BBC news online](#), [Telegraph](#), [Guardian](#), [Independent](#), [Financial Times](#), [Mirror](#), [Huffington Post](#), [Mail online](#), [ITV online](#), [Telegraph](#).

Dr Farah Jameel, GPC England executive team, was also interviewed on [BBC Radio 4](#), [BBC Three Counties](#) and by the Daily Mail. Dr Vautrey was interviewed on Talk Radio and on BBC Breakfast about this and the wider review of screening that NHS England has now commissioned.

Read the full press statement [here](#). Read Capita's apology [here](#).

UPDATE ON WOUND CARE MANAGEMENT LEEDS

The LMC has been pressing for some time for a dedicated wound care service in Leeds, as practices and practice nurses continue to struggle with the growing number of patients who require complex and time-consuming wound care management. Following a recent meeting with the Leeds GP Confederation, we are grateful to Steph Lawrence, Acting Director of Nursing, for providing the following update:

'Wound care in primary and community care takes up a huge amount of clinical nursing time. There is also huge variation on what is delivered where across the city at the moment. The integrated nurse work that is ongoing in the city is currently looking at this and specifically the following areas:

- *Establishing a baseline of activity across primary and community care in relation to wound care and who delivers what and where by end of November 2018.*
- *Working with the various pilots ongoing across the city in relation to wound care to understand what could be a viable, cost effective and efficient use of clinical nursing time in the future. These include the Otley leg club and the integrated wound care hub in the Meanwood area.*
- *Working with partners across the city to understand the correct model for wound in Leeds and what skills and competence are required and by whom to deliver this – early scoping work to be completed early 2019.*
- *Working with commissioners to articulate the model required for the future and work on getting the funding for this to deliver an efficient and effective service for the whole of the city but on a locality footprint. This will be an integrated approach ensuring the person's needs are met in the most appropriate setting e.g. a clinic, their own home, care home etc – discussions to commence immediately.*
- *Ensuring there is adequate high quality training and education for the nursing staff across Leeds in relation to wound care – started this work and will be ongoing*

This work will be monitored via the integrated care steering group chaired by the Director of Nursing for LCH and the GP Confederation'.

GUIDANCE ON RESPONDING TO A LEGAL SUMMONS AND THE USE OF ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES

The GP Defence Fund have provided two guidance document for practices. They cover how to respond to legal summonses and court orders and a second document addresses legal issues relating to the use of electronic signatures. Both documents are attached.

INTERNATIONAL GP RECRUITMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE

Please see the attached update in relation to the International GP recruitment programme, for your information.

PRESCRIBING OF CANNABIS-BASED PRODUCTS

The new regulations to widen the availability of cannabis-based medicinal within the NHS came into effect on the 1 November 2018. Prescribing is restricted to a doctor on the GMC specialist register prescribing within their field of expertise where the cannabis-based product is an unlicensed 'special' medicinal product for use by a specific patient. Once a product receives a licence from the MHRA, it will be available for prescription in the same way as any other Schedule 2 drug.

The BMA has published some [Q&As](#) to explain what these changes mean, which include links to guidance from [NHS England](#), [BPNA \(for children with epilepsy\)](#), and [RCP and RCR \(recommendations on cannabis-based products for medicinal use\)](#).

PROBLEM GAMBLING SURVEY

Research commissioned by Leeds City Council in 2016 estimated that there are around 10,000 problem gamblers in Leeds. The Council has engaged with IAPT, Forward Leeds, social prescribing, among others, but no direct consultation with clinicians in general practice has been undertaken as yet.

With the establishment of a Northern Problem Gambling Clinic and Leeds Gambling Hub in 2019, it is an opportune time to gauge opinion and knowledge of the issue. The aim of the survey is to provide a baseline measurement of clinicians' awareness of problem gambling among their

practice populations. The results will be used to identify any action(s) needed to increase the capacity of local organisations to identify and address problem gambling.

Please click on the link to start the survey:

<https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/ProblemGamblingSurveyCliniciansGPs/>

It should take you no more than 5 minutes to answer the questions. The last day that you can respond is Tuesday 18th December 2018. If you need to speak to someone about this survey then please contact Myrte Elbers – Health Improvement Specialist (Healthy Living) in Public Health via email Myrte.Elbers@leeds.gov.uk

REGULATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATES

As previously reported, the introduction of statutory regulation for [Physicians' Associates](#) and Physicians' Assistants (Anaesthesia) has been announced. This follows a consultation on the regulation of the four Medical Associate Professions (MAPs) in [response to which the BMA called for statutory regulation for MAPs](#).

So far there has been no indication of when full regulation can be expected or which body will have responsibility for regulation of these roles. It also has not been confirmed whether the remaining two MAPs professions will be regulated and that this remains under 'active consideration'.

DWP GUIDANCE ON COMPLETING MEDICAL REPORTS

The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) has [published guidance for doctors who are involved with the benefit system](#). There is also more specific guidance which has been designed to offer support to GPs when asked to provide information on behalf of their patients and help clarify the various different benefits and processes involved. The GPC continue to liaise with the DWP and meet regularly to seek improvements where possible.

GDPR RESOURCES

Leeds LMC have been working with YORLMC and we are grateful for the following resources that they have developed which they have agreed we can share with you:

- GDPR & DPA – FAQs
- Data Sharing Agreement – checklist

The LMC would like to remind practices that they will need to have data sharing agreements in place where they are passing any type of personal data including special category data to other organisations or individuals to process. To assist with this, LMC Law has produced a data sharing agreement guidance and checklist.

THE CAMERON FUND – CHRISTMAS FUND

Please share the attached Cameron Fund Christmas Appeal leaflet within your practice.

GENERAL INFORMATION DISTRIBUTED TO PRACTICES THIS MONTH

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

- Expressions of interest to be a mentee on the GP Mentorship Programme Scheme
- Leeds LMC and Leeds LMC Limited 2018 AGM - 18 December 2018

COMINGS AND GOINGS

A warm welcome to.....

City View Medical Practice is delighted to welcome Dr Nina Owen, GP, and Claire Brown, Assistant Practice Manager, as new additions to their team.

Dr Victoria Burt and Dr Alice Rodwell have recently joined Bellbrooke Surgery

Good bye and best wishes to...

Dr Rebecca McNeill who leaves Laurel Bank Surgery after finishing her five years on the Retainer Scheme. She has been a much-loved member of the team and we wish her the very best for the future

After 29 years of service, Dr Linda Belderson, Senior Partner and GP, retired from Robin Lane Health and Wellbeing Centre at the end of October 2018. She will be missed by patients and staff alike.

Also Dr. Saskia de Mowbray, Salaried GP, sadly left Robin Lane Health and Wellbeing Centre on Friday 9th November 2018.

Practice vacancies at.....

City View Medical Practice - Exciting Opportunities for Salaried GPs

Are you a GP looking for a fresh challenge or to widen your portfolio?

Have you just completed training and are looking for a job that will provide you with support whilst you take your first steps as a GP?

No matter the stage of your career, working in Leeds offers the potential to develop your career in an imaginative and forward-thinking city. Leeds is seeing its localities empowered to address the health and social needs of their population in a truly collaborative manner. General practice is at the heart of this transformation.

Our practice, City View Medical Practice, has embraced these challenges. We have fostered strong and vibrant links with our community, diversified our workforce and developed locality leaders. Our journey on this path has attracted recognition nationally through shortlisting for the General Practice Awards.

We are now looking to expand the number of GPs in our team as our practice grows.

What we offer

Opportunities to develop your career or portfolio including leadership
Competitive sessional rate
High QOF achievement
Mentorship programme
Paper-light environment
Paid defence fees

What we are looking for

Dedicated and enthusiastic GPs
16 sessions of work (2 full-time or part time equivalent)

An interest in practice development and innovation

Who we are

We are the South and East Leeds General Practice Group - a Federation of 30 practices covering a diverse population of 229,000 people in South and East Leeds.

We provide support and services for practices across South and East Leeds, however we also hold the contract for City View Medical Practice in Beeston.

If you are interested in being part of our team we would love to hear from you. For an informal discussion please contact: Dr Ben Gatenby, GP Director, South & East Leeds GP Group on 07790 772905. To Apply: Please email your CV to victoria.keys@nhs.net

Vesper Road & Morris Lane Surgery – Salaried Partner GP vacancy, 6-8 sessions per week commencing April 2019

The practice is looking for a highly motivated GP to join their medical practice at Kirkstall, Leeds. They are seeking an individual who is able to provide 6-8 sessions per week. The Practice could accommodate flexible working hours/job share – there will also be opportunities to become a full partner within 12 months.

- Two site practice.
- Dedicated team of administration and nursing colleagues.
- List size around 6,800.

The practice offers a competitive salary and employment terms based around BMA guidance depending on skills and experience. Feel free to contact the practice for an informal visit or more information.

Please send a CV and a covering letter to: Miss Alice Sunderland, Practice Manager, Vesper Road Surgery, 43 Vesper Road, Leeds, LS5 3QT. Tel: 0113 2751248.

Email: alice.sunderland1@nhs.net. Or email Dr Patrick Geraghty at patrick.geraghty@nhs.net.

Robin Lane Health & Wellbeing Centre

Following retirement of our senior partner, we are looking to recruit a Salaried GP/GP Partner to come and join our friendly & innovative GP practice in west Leeds.

5-7 sessions per week in our recently fully refurbished and extended modern premises. Single Site. 13,500 registered patients and a CQC rating of an “**Outstanding**” organisation.

The practice runs a well-established onsite Community Ophthalmology Service, and we have an Independent-Sector Community Gastroenterology, Endoscopy, Dermatology and Ultrasound services.

We have an integrated patient-volunteer group supporting the Wellbeing Centre, which has already attracted 26 social groups to attend regularly. “Love Pudsey” charity and “Lux café” are all part of the Wellbeing Centre.

We are well organised, SystemOne user and high QOF achiever.

We have a multi-disciplinary team approach to care: we use proactive care via our well-established Elderly Care Team;

Pudsey Health Centre - Salaried GP

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join our friendly and successful training practice in Pudsey, West Leeds.

- 2 to 4 sessions per week
- Purpose built, rented premises, no financial input needed
- Well organised, EMIS Web practice
- High QOF achiever
- 7,300 patients with high patient satisfaction
- Core hours 8am – 6.30pm Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri. 7am – 6.30pm on Tuesdays.

- No OOH/OOA cover.
- Home visit light
- Excellent nursing and admin team
- Part of the Pudsey Locality Hub

We are seeking an enthusiastic, motivated and forward thinking new member of the team.

Applications with CV and covering letter please to:

Mrs Pauline Shipsey, Practice Manager,
Dr Ross and Partners, Pudsey Health Centre,
18 Mulberry Street, Leeds LS28 7XP
paulineshipsey@nhs.net

Informal visits welcome

www.pudseyhealthcentre.co.uk

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