

September 2016 newsletter

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LLR LMC Annual General Meeting – Wednesday 12 October 2016

We would like to remind you that our Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 12 October 2016.

We are pleased to announce that this year we are holding the event on the same evening as the Royal

College of General Practitioners Grand Opening Event of the new Leicester Medical School, which is where both events will be held and not at King Power Stadium as previously advised. A copy of the programme for the evening attached.

To register your attendance please email susan.shaw@llrlmc.co.uk.

GP trainees and the medical performers list – update



The BMA is aware that there have been delays in processing GP trainee applications for the performers list beyond the three-month window for applications to be processed. It is understood that this has serious implications for both trainees and practices and legal advice has been sought on this issue.

Whatever the reason, GP trainees are not lawfully allowed to perform primary medical services past the three-month mark (i.e. three months after the start of their GP speciality training programme, **not** three months after the start of the first GP placement), if the trainee has not been added to the medical performers list. Trainees should inform their employer in a timely manner if there is a delay in an application being progressed.

If the application is approaching three months after the start of the GP speciality training programme, the trainee should contact their NHS England Local Area

Team personally to ask for their intervention. They could intervene urgently to consider the application, irrespective of whether Capita considers it to be complete and to see whether it can be progressed to allow you to continue working.

In the event that the necessary documentation has not been provided by the deadline, the NHS England Local Area Team will be notified and will decide if the application should progress or further information is required.

Instructions for applications are outlined by HEE on the PCSE website (follow this [link](#)).

All documentation should be sent together with the application in order to be processed.

If members have any concerns about how this will affect them or their practice and would like further advice, please call the BMA employment advisors on 0300 123 1233 (between 8:30 am and 6:00 pm, Monday to Friday).

Dr Chris Hewitt features on BBC Radio Leicester



Dr Chris Hewitt, LLR LMC

BBC
RADIO LEICESTER



The LLR LMC featured on Radio Leicester on Friday 9 September 2016. Chris was part of the lead story in the news headlines at 6am, 7am and 8am and was also part of a short feature at 8.09 to 8.15 am. It was about the Leicester Primary Care Summit that had taken place. If you would like to listen to any of the radio clips use the following link:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p04557j8>

Parliamentary petition 'order a public enquiry in the PCSE contract and its impact on NHS services'



The Primary Care Support England contract was awarded to Capita by NHS England and commenced in March 2016. The service has lost countless medical records, placed services in jeopardy and resulted in delays to junior doctors being able to start in their posts.

A petition has been started and if you would consider adding your name to it please follow the link:

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/167074>

Focus on gender incongruence in Primary Care

A number of queries have been raised with the GPC regarding the management of patients who present at their general practice with gender identity problems, including questions relating to patient records and confidentiality and in particular regarding prescribing and monitoring responsibilities in relation to the gender reassignment process.

In response the BMA have produced new guidance which:

- Aims to explain what should be provided in primary care
- Signposts to further sources of guidance
- Highlights some of the under-pinning ethical and legal considerations

A copy of the guidance can be found on the BMA website.

Take Time Out - Building Resilience, Managing Change and Working Differently Workshop



Due to the popularity of our previous sessions, we are running another Take Time Out seminar.

Here at the LLR LMC we know the daily challenges that you are facing in your practices, because you, our members, tell us.

Having listened to what you are saying, and recognising this is not sustainable, we want to support you with the opportunity to *take time out* to think about how you can **build resilience for yourself and your team**, reflect on how you deal with change and review your working practices now and in the future.

A one-day interactive, practical workshop, which is significantly subsidised by the LLR LMC will be offered to you at a cost per person of **£50 (lunch provided)**.

Aimed at: GPs with a leadership role, Practice Managers and Senior Nurses.

The event will take place on Thursday 9 February 2017, at the Salvation Army (Leicester South), Ladysmith Road, Wigston, Leicester, LE18 4UZ.

To register your interest please email susan.shaw@llrlmc.co.uk.

Guidance for doctors offering cosmetic interventions



Your attention is drawn to the new GMC guidance which sets out the standards that are expected of doctors who provide cosmetic interventions. The guidance came into force on 1 June 2016 and applies to all doctors who carry out both surgical and non-surgical procedures including those who may be responsible for supervising others.

The GMC defines a cosmetic procedure as 'any intervention, procedure or treatment carried out with the primary objective of changing an aspect of a patient's physical appearance'.

You may be aware that this guidance is a response to national concerns and a number of recent reports highlighting the need for better and tighter regulation of this sector can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/192028/Review_of_the_Regulation_of_Cosmetic_Interventions.pdf

The GMC's guidance can be found at:

http://www.gmc-uk.org/static/documents/content/Guidance_for_doctors_who_offer_cosmetic_interventions_080416.pdf

It is important to highlight that this guidance from the GMC entails the following expectations, which can have implications for your annual appraisal and for maintaining your license to practise as doctors:

- GPs involved in providing cosmetic interventions, as defined by the GMC, must declare the full scope of their work as part of their annual appraisal. This applies to both NHS and private patients.

- As part of the annual appraisal, practitioners who engage in any cosmetic procedures are expected to be able to provide evidence of appropriate training, ongoing learning and quality outcomes, including proactive monitoring of outcomes and of patient feedback. Practitioners should also provide evidence of participation in peer review and where they exist participation in external peer review systems and compilation of registers.
- GPs are reminded that adherence to MC guidance in relation to commercial dealings and conflicts of interest are relevant issues in the context of cosmetic procedures, as is specific registration with the CQC and any issues that arise from dual use of premises.

GPs involved in conducting or being responsible for oversight of cosmetic interventions conducted by others are reminded to ensure that they and their staff have adequate indemnity cover for the full scope of their practice. Even if a procedure can legally be undertaken by an unqualified person, any UK licensed doctor conducting the procedure does so as a medical practitioner.

This GMC guidance should help drive up standards, reduce risk, maintain trust and ensure that patients receive the highest quality care. From now on, as an integral element of whole practice appraisal, appraisers will be expected to discuss with appraisees adherence to all aspects of good medical practice, including this latest GMC guidance.

Read the latest newsletter from Chaand Nagpaul, your BMA GPs Committee Chair

Read Chaand Nagpaul's [latest newsletter](#), focusing on the recent BMA report 'safe working in general practice' and also the focus on guide to industrial action and undated resignations for GPs.

Update on Leicester Primary Care summit



Over 100 people attended the Leicester Primary Care summit which was organised by Deputy Mayor Councillor Rory Palmer.

There were talks from key speakers, group discussions and a time for questions.

Suggestions from the day will be circulated both locally and nationally.

Workforce Minimum Data Set (WMDS)

Guidance on the Workforce Minimum Data Set (WMDS) has been published on the BMA website and can be accessed [here](#).

WMDS is a national twice-yearly collection of data from NHS organisations in England on current workforce figures. Practices are legally required under the Health and Social Care Act to provide the information requested for the WMDS. The collection is intended to allow the Department of Health, NHS England and Health Education England to understand the current NHS workforce picture and plan for future needs. The data collection replaces the annual GP census and is submitted through the Primary Care Web Tool (PCWT).

This 'focus on' guidance provides useful information about the scheme for LMCs, GPs and GP practices and contains links to further information relating to the WMDS.

Primary Care Support England contract in England with Capita



Recently the General Practitioners Committee had a meeting with Karen Wheeler, NHS England Director, responsible for the Primary Care Support England contract in England with Capita.

We know practices have had numerous issues with various aspects of Capita's performance and we though you would like to see the letter the GPC has written to her following up, seeking specific assurances, sanctions against Capita where the contract has been breached and compensation for practices who have borne the brunt of this woeful saga of how not to commission a service. A copy of the letter is attached to this document.

Focus on industrial action and undated resignations

Please follow the link below to access the document on 'focus on industrial action and undated resignations' which is published on the BMA website.

<https://www.bma.org.uk/advice/employment/gp-practices/gps-and-staff/focus-on-industrial-action-and-undated-resignations>

NHS partner is seeking your views

GPs and other primary care staff are being asked to take part in NHS Partner Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust's first ever stakeholder survey as it looks to gauge the perceptions of its partners, stakeholders and to strengthen partnership working.

CEO Dr Peter Miller said, "We want to find out what you think of Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust. We are keen to hear about your understanding of LPT, what you think we do well and what we could do

better, so that we continue to have great relationships and partnerships."

Having partners that understand where we are going and what we stand for is an important part of our improvement journey. We want you to feel engaged, informed and able to feed in your views as we continue to improve and so it is vital that we have timely and effective communications."

"We are particularly keen to hear from those who interact with LPT on a frequent basis."

As well as the survey, more in-depth interviews are being carried out with key stakeholders throughout September. The survey can be completed online here <http://bit.ly/2c9xJVI> anonymously with results expected at the end of the month.

Lincolnshire Practice Managers Annual Conference

There are a few places left at the Lincolnshire Practice Managers Annual Conference. This is an excellent event with a range of relevant speakers. A copy of the programme is attached to this newsletter.

New obligation to complete Bi-annual extended access survey

From October 2016, as set out in regulations, every GP practice in England will be required to submit an online return twice a year through the Primary Care Web Tool: www.primarycare.nhs.uk within a new module titled 'Bi-annual Extended Access'. This will set out what access to appointments the practice offers to patients either itself or through other arrangements, seven days a week.

This module will be made automatically available to GP practice staff who currently have ability to submit mandatory data returns to NHS England and will be available in the website when the collection opens.

The first return will be open for submission from **3 October 2016 to 31 October 2016** inclusive. The next submission is due in March 2017.

What data must practices submit?

All GP practices are required to submit responses to two sets of questions in relation to:

- The extended access service they provide
- The provision of the group of practices to which they belong (the guidance gives a federation of practices as an example)

Is this mandatory?

Yes, this data return is part of the 2016/17 GMS contract negotiations. However, the response to the question, “Do you have any additional comments?” is not mandatory.

Guidance document

The full guidance document can be downloaded [here](#). It details the definition of different appointment times. ‘Extended access’ is any appointment that falls outside the core GMS hours of Monday to Friday, 8:00am to 6:30pm.

When was this agreed and why haven’t we heard about it sooner?

It seems this was agreed as part of the 2016/17 GMS contract negotiations. The detail of the changes to the GMS contract for 2016/17 have only recently been published – see [GMS contract changes 2016/17](#).

Health Centre charges



The BMA have some excellent resources for practices occupying NHS Property Services premises. We reproduce below, with their permission, some recent clarification they have issued regarding service charges and leases.

NHSPS are looking to move anyone not on a lease onto the standard lease, as negotiated between NHSPS and GPC (guidance on the standard lease is here:

<https://www.bma.org.uk/advice/employment/gp-practices/premises/gp-premises-leases>

There is also guidance on premises charges here:

<https://www.bma.org.uk/advice/employment/gp-practices/premises/service-charges-for-gp-premises>

This provides a number of answers to common questions, but ultimately the general guidance is that “no tenant is obliged to pay a service charge except so far as the terms of the lease provide that a service charge is payable. The fact that the tenant has the benefit of a service does not, of itself, mean that the tenant is obliged to pay for that service. Equally the fact that a landlord does not receive payment for a service does not mean, in itself, that the landlord is entitled to refrain from providing the service.”

If practices have been paying service charges without a lease in place, they are advised that they continue to pay at the level they have been paying until a new lease is in place. The BMA see no legal mechanism under which a practice can have increased charges imposed on them without a mechanism to allow for this (i.e. a lease).

It is important to remember that a lease is negotiable so if NHSPS approaches practices they should seek advice to ensure the lease is appropriate for their needs. Similarly, the charges are negotiable to a large extent.

Some practices have suggested that the increase in rent and in charges would put the practice at financial risk. In these instances, we advise the practice to approach NHSPS and their commissioner to put their case forward for either reduced charges or for additional support.

With regards a ‘subsidy’ line on the charges sheet, this is in recognition of the approach being taken by NHSPS and CHP, which reflects the true cost of providing Facilities Management (FM) services. Some practices are now experiencing an increase in FM costs and so in order to smooth this transition to true costs, NHS England is providing transitional funding to offset FM charges. This funding is available for a fixed 2 year period, after which time the BMA expect significant efficiencies in FM costs to have arisen.

Personal Development Coaching – personal support for you

The LMC are offering confidential one to one tailored coaching from highly experienced and qualified coaches to help you think through where you are and where you want to be in today's challenging and changing environment. This forward-looking, action-orientated, positive and personal approach will help you to identify goals for next steps that would provide you with satisfaction and fulfilment and support you to make the happen.

There are limited places – to find out more and book on, contact enquiries@lrlmc.co.uk or see the flyer attached to this newsletter.