

## Bradford & Airedale Branch Report

Issue 86 – April 2017

*Representing all GPs and their practices in:*

- **Bradford, Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven**
  
- **North Yorkshire and the City of York**

**Providing:**

- ◆ Support
- ◆ Advice
- ◆ Pastoral Care
- ◆ YORLMC Law
- ◆ Training
- ◆ Events
- ◆ YORLMC News
- ◆ YORLMC Buying Group
- ◆ Regular updates

### Message from Mark Brooke, Chair, Bradford & Airedale Branch, YORLMC Ltd



I hope that most GPs are aware that changes have been made to the NHS Standard Contract that gives the operating rules for hospital trusts. These changes are aimed at reducing the transfer of work from secondary to primary care and GPs are in the right position to police this and ensure that the changes take effect. If hospitals do not follow them, they are in breach of contract and whenever we are aware of such a breach, we should inform the CCG contracting department via the RAP button on Intradoc (City & Districts) or via the contracting email address (AWC).

The changes introduced in the 2017-19 contract and the 2016-17 contract are available at [Appendix 1](#).

The BMA website also has a section, available [here](#), on "NHS England standard hospital contract" that gives advice about the new changes for this year and has new template letters to support reporting breaches directly back to the hospital concerned. There have been comments locally that some of the template letters appear a bit too abrasive - they can of course be amended if that is your opinion. Please do use these letters- I have noted before that there are good intentions of the trust management to follow these changes but that the message does not always reach the frontline staff; BMA template letters can help to get the message through.

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## Feedback on meeting with Public Health England

Dr Mark Brooke, Chair, Bradford & Airedale Branch of YORLMC, met earlier this year with Public Health England to discuss concerns raised by practices about:

- contract tracing following a confirmed Hep B case
- expected action following a flu outbreak in a nursing home.

A summary of the outcomes of this meeting is included below. **PHE also asked that their thanks be passed on to GP colleagues, and noted that they highly value GPs' help in managing cases and outbreaks of communicable diseases in the community.**

### **Vaccination of Close Contacts of Confirmed Hepatitis B Cases**

The PHE Yorkshire and the Humber Health Protection Team receive electronic notification of chronic (and acute) hepatitis B through the laboratory notification system as part of surveillance and notification of infectious disease regulations.

Once PHE have received the notification, the notifications are uploaded to PHE's system and the markers for disease status are checked. PHE then look to see if the infection is a newly identified or chronic case and where the test was taken.

When the result is identified as requested by a GP and represents a 'new' diagnosis, PHE write to the GP as the requester of the test to inform them PHE are aware of the result and the subsequent actions that are recommended. The purpose of this letter is to support the GP in the subsequent patient management. This includes recommendations for referral to gastroenterology/hepatology services, public health advice, and recommendations for vaccination against flu and pneumococcus.

The PHE Health Protection Team does not expect the GP surgery to undertake formal contact tracing relating to the case. The letter that is sent to the GP, as the requester of the test, advises them to discuss the result and informs the individual that his or her 'close contacts' are recommended a blood test and potentially vaccination against Hepatitis B. An information sheet that can be given to the index case to support the delivery of this information to their contacts is also sent to the GP with the letter.

PHE, in line with national guidance, recommends that household members and sexual contacts (defined as close contacts) of the confirmed case of chronic Hepatitis B are advised to have a blood test to screen for Hepatitis B and dependent on results are advised to have vaccination against Hepatitis B.

PHE would ask that the contacts that are registered with the practice are offered screening and vaccination via their GP. It is expected that contacts would come forward for this however, PHE would ask, that when patients ask for help to inform contacts, the surgery support this.

We would ask that the GP surgeries continue to offer screening and vaccination to the household contacts that are identified and are registered with the practice.

The rationale for the vaccination and screening is to avoid further onward transmission from the index case and further new cases. There is currently no fee that can be claimed for providing this vaccination. Guidance regarding the Hepatitis B vaccine is available on the BMA website at <https://www.bma.org.uk/advice/employment/gp-practices/service-provision/hepatitis-b-immunisations>.

## Feedback on meeting with PHE continued

### Swabbing of Potential Influenza Cases in Care Homes

Historically the Health Protection Team from PHE have been able to support the swabbing of nursing home residents West Yorkshire where an influenza outbreak is suspected but this is no longer the case.

Whilst there is no obligation upon GPs to investigate a potential influenza outbreak at a nursing home, PHE has asked that when care home residents are being considered as potential cases of influenza that a sample of the symptomatic cases are swabbed using an appropriate swab kit.

This purpose of this is both as an aid to diagnosis and to inform PHE about the incidence of influenza. This is perhaps most important when influenza is not yet considered to be circulating as information gathered about the incidence of influenza is used to support national policy in terms of antiviral usage.

PHE are engaged in enabling nursing home staff to be able to perform appropriate swab tests themselves in the future.

## Use of Practice Based Education (PBE) time – City & Districts

There has been discussion between Bradford City & Districts CCGs and YORLMC regarding the use of PBE time for mandatory and statutory training, following an email sent to practices by the CCGs.

It has now been established that it is acceptable for practices to hold mandatory and statutory team training during PBE but individual training (e.g. doing the IG toolkit) is not permitted. It is important that practices do not use all the PBE sessions to provide training alone, as opposed to interactive educational sessions and practices should aim to have most PBE sessions as educational, rather than training, sessions.

### **LOOKING FOR WORK AND VACANCIES? Advertise in the YORLMC Ltd Newsletter**

*YORLMC's newsletter is circulated  
to all Bradford & Airedale and North  
Yorkshire Practices.*

*If you would like to advertise your  
availability for employment then  
please contact  
[info@yorlmcLtd.co.uk](mailto:info@yorlmcLtd.co.uk) for further  
information and advertising rates*

To help YORLMC's Corporate Affairs Team keep track of changes within practice teams will Practice Managers please advise [info@yorlmcLtd.co.uk](mailto:info@yorlmcLtd.co.uk) when GPs join or leave the practice and when there is to be a change of Practice Manager

## Contact details – YORLMC's Corporate Affairs Team

YORLMC's Corporate Affairs Team (CAT) is responsible for keeping GPs and practice teams informed of current issues relating to primary care and beyond. The CAT leads on communicating important messages, producing regular guidance and newsletters to keep all GPs and practice teams informed, involved and engaged.

To help the CAT keep track of changes within practice teams it will be much appreciated if you can advise [info@yorkmcltd.co.uk](mailto:info@yorkmcltd.co.uk) when email addresses change, when GPs join or leave your practice as well as when there is to be a change of Practice Manager.

Neil Bostock and Kate Mackenzie are the first points of contact for all Bradford, Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven related matters.

Neil and Kate can be contacted on [neil.bostock@yorkmcltd.co.uk](mailto:neil.bostock@yorkmcltd.co.uk) and [Kate.Mackenzie@yorkmcltd.co.uk](mailto:Kate.Mackenzie@yorkmcltd.co.uk)

## YORLMC Division Meetings - GPs and Practice Managers invited to attend

GPs and Practice Managers are reminded that they are invited - and encouraged - to attend their local YORLMC Division meetings.

The Division meetings provide the opportunity for closer working at individual locality level with senior representatives from the local CCG and provide a forum to progress matters that are pertinent to individual localities.

Divisions meet bimonthly and you can check the dates of forthcoming meetings [here](#). If you intending to come to a meeting, please let the Corporate Affairs Team know via [neil.bostock@yorkmcltd.co.uk](mailto:neil.bostock@yorkmcltd.co.uk)

In addition, GPs and Practice Managers are reminded that their suggestions for items for inclusion on Branch and Division agendas are welcomed. Meetings of the Bradford & Airedale Branch of YORLMC focus on issues affecting the Bradford, Airedale, Wharfedale & Craven area as a whole. The three Divisions of YORLMC Ltd which correspond to the three CCG areas focus on more localised discussion.

Agendas are circulated to Committee Members one week prior to meetings, following agenda planning sessions involving YORLMC Officers and YORLMC's Corporate Affairs team. You can check the dates of forthcoming meetings [here](#)

We very much hope you will contribute to this process – your suggested items can be forwarded to the Corporate Affairs Team as follows: [info@yorkmcltd.co.uk](mailto:info@yorkmcltd.co.uk)

## Clinical waste contracts

NHSE ran a national procurement exercise in 2016 for providers of clinical waste removal. These providers were due to take over the clinical waste removal service on 1 April 2017. If practices experience any problems with this service, please contact the YORLMC Corporate Affairs Team on [kate.mackenzie@yorkmcltd.co.uk](mailto:kate.mackenzie@yorkmcltd.co.uk) or [neil.bostock@yorkmcltd.co.uk](mailto:neil.bostock@yorkmcltd.co.uk)

## Book your place at the YORLMC Conference on 17 October

This full day event available to all North Yorkshire & York and Bradford & Airedale practices is taking place at the [Pavilions of Harrogate](#), Great Yorkshire Show Ground, Harrogate. This full day Conference is designed to help GPs and practice teams navigate the changing landscape of general practice by providing practical information and advice on new models of care, future proofing general practice, working within the changing shape of the GP workforce, new consultation types, social

prescribing and more. While we recognise this is a serious challenge for practices, our aim is that the day will be informative, inspirational, interactive and entertaining. A full programme will be available in due course but to secure your place, for a nominal fee of £40 per person, please book as soon as possible via the link below to avoid disappointment.

<https://www.yorlmcld.co.uk/events/3360>

## YORLMC TRAINING - Upcoming courses

For a full list please see training courses please see <https://www.yorlmcld.co.uk/events>

**Lunch & Learn** training packages provide a different way for practices to train their staff as it enables you, on behalf of the practice, to deliver training over a lunchtime, by giving you all the materials you need. When you purchase the Lunch and Learn package your payment will trigger access to a PowerPoint presentation and all the relevant accompanying training materials. The training packages which have been developed by Wessex LMCs are accessible [here](#). You will need to create an account and use the code **YORLMC** when you purchase in order to access the preferential rates offered to practices in Bradford, Airedale, Wharfedale, Craven, North Yorkshire & York.

## Yortender

YORLMC would like to remind practices that local authority contracts that are out to tender will be advertised via the Yortender website <https://www.yortender.co.uk>

Registration is free and will allow you to become aware when new services become eligible for tender.

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