



Weekly operational update for local general practice

16 May, 2019

Welcome to Insight, Devon Local Medical Committee's short weekly operational update for GPs and practice managers.

Bus driver fitness

The LMC recently highlighted the potential risks to GPs in completing health reports for bus drivers working for Stagecoach. Notwithstanding the small but definable potential medico-legal risk to doctors inherent in completing such reports, there is also a public interest issue in ensuring that drivers of buses are fit to undertake the task. We have therefore been in constructive dialogue with the originators of the report requests and have agreed a collaborative way forward.

Henceforth, where requests for medical information from the GP are made by occupational health specialists working on behalf of Stagecoach the GP will have two options. They can either complete and return the report as requested or they may produce a paper print-out of the patient summary and either return that or give it to the patient. Any of those options will be acceptable and the consent contained within the original request allows those approaches. The fee offered will be payable whatever method is chosen.

The LMC would advise doctors to check with their MDOs about the indemnity cover they will require for this non-NHS work that does not fall within the scope of the Clinical Negligence Scheme for General Practice (CNSGP). On this basis, we would recommend engagement with these requests.

Coroner's electronic reports

Despite discussing this at length with the Coroner, in person last year, and subsequently with the Coroner's team, electronic report forms have been initiated without sharing the results from a pilot run in Cornwall.

We have let the Coroner's Office know that we are not content and that the form is too complicated, the replies aren't coming swiftly enough, and that there's increased pressure to write an MCCD even if you've made it clear you can't. The reality is of course we have to comply with the Coroner's process and use the e-reports.

AGM presentation slides now available

The [presentations](#) from our Annual General Meeting yesterday are now available on our website. The LMC's slides include our key successes over the past year, plans for the forthcoming year and our annual accounts. The slides from keynote speaker Dr Krishna Kasaraneni, from the General Practitioners Committee (GPC), cover workforce, workload and primary care networks (PCNs).

Final reminder – local Clinical Directors Workshop

As previously advertised, the LMC will host a free Clinical Directors Workshop on Tuesday, 21 May, from 6-9pm at Fingle Glen, Tedburn St Mary, to discuss the way ahead to embed PCNs, outline critical milestones for the first year and provide a platform for networking opportunities.

The workshop will be facilitated by Dr Mark Sanford-Wood, Medical Secretary at the LMC. A light buffet and refreshments will be available on arrival.

To book a place email hannah.baxter@devonlmc.org by noon on **Monday, 20 May** and indicate which PCN you are representing.

PCNs – pharmacy workforce

Devon Clinical Commissioning Group's Medicines Optimisation team is working with colleagues in acute, community and mental health providers and the Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC) to collectively engage and work together with PCNs to:



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- Increase recruitment of pharmacists from outside the local area
- Improve retention and increase capacity and capability to train, develop and mentor the future pipeline of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians across the county
- Ensure the skill-mix of pharmacy staff is optimised across Devon to provide best value for money

An offer to PCNs to be part of a system approach is currently being drafted. It is likely to include opportunities for pharmacists to be employed by provider organisations on behalf of PCNs and is expected to be circulated by the end of May 2019. Contact Jo Watson, CCG Deputy Director of Medicines Optimisation jo.watson3@nhs.net