



Weekly operational update for local general practice

Wednesday, 28 August

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

Conference of English LMCs

The LMC will attend the Conference of English LMCs on Friday, 22 November, to represent the views of local general practice. If you have any proposed motions for debate please send them to your LMC Sub-Committee as soon as possible, as they will be considering submissions at their next meeting. The LMC's Executive Team will then look for common themes to craft into motions to submit to the British Medical Association (BMA).

Regional LMCs' PCN event

The latest South West Regional LMCs' meeting considered how it could support developing Primary Care Networks (PCNs) and their Clinical Directors. The intention is to hold a 'Beyond the Basics' meeting on Tuesday, 12 November, in Taunton. We will provide more information soon.

'An investigation of skill mix in primary care'

The LMC is aware that practice managers may have received a message from the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (RD&E) ref 'An investigation of skill mix in primary care'. The letter requests information in return for a 'recruit' and a chance to win £250. The LMC is not involved in this exercise and has written to the RD&E to find out exactly what they want to achieve as our suspicion is the data they want is already available. We will publish a clear statement as soon as possible, but in the meantime LMC advice is to ignore the request.

National recognition for local general practice

Devon has been recognised in the national General Practice Awards – the 'Oscars' of the profession. Martin Randall, General Manager at Leatside Surgery, has been shortlisted for the Practice Manager of the Year Award; Compass House Medical Centre's Reception Team have been shortlisted for the Receptionist of the Year accolade and Ashburton's Prescribing Pharmacist Team are up for the Pharmacist of the Year gong. The winners will be announced at a ceremony in London on 29 November.

PCSE medical records incident

The General Practitioners Committee (GPC) previously highlighted the Primary Care Support England (PCSE) incident where 148,000 patient medical records were erroneously archived instead of being sent to the subsequent GP practices. These records will have been sent to the practices that have the patients registered and NHS England expects those practices to undertake an assessment of harm for each patient affected. The GPC has been in discussions with NHS England to highlight the impact this will have on practices and their patients. The GPC has been clear that practices should receive the necessary support to cover the additional costs of dealing with a problem for which they are not to blame to ensure that GPs and other practice staff are not taken away from direct patient-facing provision.

Unfortunately, NHS England is not prepared to provide the amount of funding that the GPC believes is necessary to cover GP and practice staff time required to do this assessment properly. The GPC was not prepared to agree to a settlement which it believed would not fully compensate practices for the problems created by Capita. If you would like to ask NHS England what compensation they are able to offer your practice, please contact england.reports@nhs.net. Practices should carefully consider whether any offer made reflects the work that will need to be undertaken. If a practice believes the offer is sufficient and accepts it, they will not be able to claim additional monies via any legal route. If, however, a practice considers the offer does not reflect the work that will be required and decides to reject it with the hope of claiming compensation via a legal route for the



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additional work, the GPC recommends that the practice contacts the BMA support@bma.org.uk using this [pro forma](#) so that it can collate the necessary information to take forward legal action.

2019 Suture Tariff

Earlier this year, the LMC publicised changes made to the list of suture materials that will be reimbursed after the Association of Surgeons in Primary Care made us aware of this unilateral, central decision. The document has since been [updated](#).