



Weekly operational update for local general practice

Wednesday, 18 September

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

Update – enhanced service from Devon CCG for the Alcohol Related Risk Reduction Scheme 2019/20

Further to the LMC's email to all GPs and practice managers on 30 August 2019, we can confirm that under the contract, all practices are required to identify newly registered patients aged 16 or over who are drinking alcohol at increased or high-risk levels.

Unfortunately, the wording on the Calculating Quality Reporting Service (CQRS) is not particularly helpful, in that it calls this an enhanced service, before going on to say it is a contractual requirement. The LMC has engaged with Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and can confirm that we are happy for practices to continue with the sign-up process.

Practice Managers Conference update

The venue for the LMC's Practice Managers Conference – the Mercure Rougemont Hotel – has a number of rooms available for the night at a preferential rate of £79 per room with breakfast included.

If you intend staying the night, please contact the hotel direct on 01392 410237 and quote 'Devon LMC'.

As previously advertised, the event will take place on Wednesday, 30 October, and we have some exciting workshops lined up including Oliver Pool, from VWV, who will look at issues around the legal pitfalls with Primary Care Networks (PCNs) and Richard Hole, from Ash Lane Consulting, who will talk about understanding your prescribing drugs payments for personally administered items.

Andy Whittaker, from the Art of Brilliance, is the keynote speaker and will provide an entertaining talk about how to be your 'best self'.

More information – including how to register – will be communicated soon. In the meantime, please continue to 'save the date'.

Shared learning from the GP Performance Advisory Group

The latest shared learning from the regional GP Performance Advisory Group (PAG) attended by the LMC – where concerns are reviewed – includes advice on prescribing concentrated formulations of oxycodone, incidents with online prescription orders and using Layman's terms for patients rather than medical expressions. Read more [here](#).

Flu vaccinations in GP practices – MDU position on indemnity

Following concerns raised about indemnity cover provided for the provision of flu immunisations to practice staff the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) has been in discussion with NHS England (NHSE), Public Health England (PHE) and the Medical Defence Organisations (MDOs). Assurance has now been received from all three MDOs that vaccinating practice staff is covered under their schemes.

The Medical Defence Union (MDU) has provided the following statement about indemnity for flu vaccination of staff in GP practices: *"Our current position on flu vaccinations is that we understand some practices may find it easier to provide flu vaccinations for staff themselves and want to help them to do that. We make no extra charge for indemnity for members whose practices provide flu vaccinations to staff as this is already within the benefits of membership for GP members. We encourage members who want to administer flu vaccinations to staff to contact us and advise the following: We advise members administering flu vaccinations to staff to follow their normal procedures for dealing with unregistered patients and to ensure they make a full assessment of each staff member's suitability for the vaccine, for example, ruling out contraindications. Consent should be*



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obtained in the usual way as for registered patients. Notes should be kept and, assuming the staff member agrees, their normal registered GP should be advised that they have had the vaccination."

PCN premises requirements for additional workforce

The GPC has received a number of queries from practices requiring additional space for PCN activities. As a Direct Enhanced Service of the GMS contract, PCNs are an extension of GP practices. The same rules should apply for PCN staff and premises requirements as for GMS. Any space used to provide PCN services should be treated as GMS space and treated similarly for rent reimbursements. If you have any queries on this issue contact info.lmcqueries@bma.org.uk

EU exit – medicines update

The FAQ for clinicians on the [NHSE website](#) about continuity of medicines supply if there is a no-deal EU exit has been updated.

CQC guidance – mandatory training

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is often asked whether it sets out mandatory training requirements for GP practices – it does not have a list of mandatory training for members of the GP practice team. This is because exact training requirements will depend on the role and specific responsibilities of practices and the needs of the people using the service.

Ultimately, the practice is responsible for determining what mandatory, and additional, training staff need to meet the needs of their patients.

PHE strategy: 2020-25

PHE has laid out its [plan](#) to protect and improve the public's health and reduce health inequalities over the next five years. The document outlines PHE's role within the public health system, 10 areas where it will focus particular effort, and the areas where it will build capability within the organisation to support delivery of its strategic objectives and wider activities.