



Weekly operational update for local general practice

Wednesday, 27 November, 2019

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

North Devon Direction to Administer

Unfortunately, Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust has delayed starting the new Direction to Administer process in North Devon – largely due to a governance restructure within the organisation and new approval mechanisms for new processes and documentation.

The Trust has confirmed to the LMC that everything has now been agreed and the new Direction to Administer process will begin on 1 December.

Yellow Card leg ulcer issues

At the beginning of the summer the LMC asked you to submit Yellow Cards for any issues you had with leg ulcer management in your area. This feedback is informing discussions between the LMC and Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) on future service models. The conversation is set to carry on over the coming months and therefore we ask that you continue to provide this valuable data.

The Yellow Card system is an important source of evidence for the LMC – we receive regular reports from the CCG and the information can be crucial to the Negotiations process, so please continue to submit them. It is preferable to gain patient consent as this will have a greater impact than an anonymised Yellow Card. You can submit Yellow Cards [here](#).

The latest Yellow Card Reports for October are now available for the [North](#), [South](#), [East](#) and [West](#) of the county.

Social prescriber costs

NHS England (NHSE) has agreed to extend the purpose of the Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS) funding for social prescribers, following calls from the General Practitioners Committee (GPC), Local Medical Committees (LMCs) and Primary Care Networks (PCNs).

Nearly all organisations supplying a Social Prescriber Link Worker Service (SPLW) are passing on additional costs over and above the equivalent of the actual salary and the on costs, for example in administration fees. The ARRS scheme will be updated, so that where a PCN engages a SPLW service through a supplier, a PCN will be able to claim an additional flat rate sum of £2,400 per SPLW (on an annual Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) basis to be pro-rated by the WTE and duration of the roles providing the service as appropriate) as a contribution toward those additional costs. This must be affordable within the existing maximum annual reimbursable amount for social prescribing link workers. This will apply to any existing supply arrangements for SPLWs and any new supply arrangements for SPLWs agreed from this point forward.

An insider's guide to PCN funding

Dr Mark Sanford-Wood is one of the General Practitioners Committee's (GPC) negotiating team responsible for the five-year contract settlement for general practice, which has Primary Care Networks (PCNs) at its heart. In this [podcast](#) for Primary Care Commissioning (PCC), Dr Sanford-Wood explains the thinking behind the deal and the implications for general practice.

Critical incidents involving GP practice-based pharmacists

GP practice partners need to be mindful of tasks they ask their clinical pharmacists to perform as the Pharmacists' Defence Association (PDA) has become increasingly concerned about incidents of unsafe practice which have emerged as the number of independent prescribers working in GP practices has risen.



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The PDA has seen a number of serious incidents recently and is in the early stages of dealing with cases where patient deaths have been reported. Read more [here](#).

2019/20 General Practice Annual Electronic Declaration (eDEC)

NHS England (NHSE) has confirmed that the collection is now open and GP practices have until Tuesday, 17 December to make a submission.

All GP practices registered on the Strategic Data Collection Service (SDCS) have been contacted by NHS Digital to inform them the collection has opened. If you have registered your practice on SDCS, NHS Digital has also circulated guidance to practices on how to complete the return.

Please note on behalf of NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE/I), NHS Digital's Data Collection Service will be managing and supporting the collection.

For GP practice enquiries, please contact enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk with 'eDEC' in the subject line. [View more information and how to complete the return here](#).

Conference of England LMCs

The webcast of the Conference of England LMCs – where the views of GPs help shape future national policy in general practice – is available to view [here](#).

Revamped Models of Care Portal

The South West Academic Health Science Network (SWAHSN) has revamped its [Models of Care Portal](#) – including a new Primary Care Network (PCN) tool where people can access workforce information relating their specific PCN. The portal continues to offer access to case studies, resources and workforce tools, with collaboration spaces for both 1-1 or group discussions.

Latest local Data Protection Bulletin now available

The latest local Data Protection Bulletin is now available and includes new guidance on special category data from the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). Read more [here](#).

Why can't I get a doctor's appointment? Solving the complex issue of GP access

The King's Fund considers proposed solutions to improve GP access – and their effectiveness – in a new [paper](#).

Amendment of 30mg fluoxetine capsules SSP

The Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) for fluoxetine 30mg capsules (SSP02) is being extended to 18 December 2019. This SSP has been changed, so pharmacists now supply fluoxetine 10mg capsules instead of tablets ie 1 x 10mg fluoxetine capsule, plus 1 x 20mg fluoxetine capsule. The SSP for fluoxetine 40mg capsules (SSP03) expired after 20 November as scheduled.

If you have any questions about the SSPs, please contact the NHS Prescription Service:

- Email: nhsbsa.prescriptionservices@nhsbsa.nhs.uk
- Telephone: 0300 330 1349
- Textphone: 18001 0300 330 1349

To access the latest information about SSPs (including supporting guidance), visit [here](#).