

SHEFFIELD LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2011

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GP COMMISSIONING POLL: EXTENSION OF DEADLINE

It has been brought to the LMC's attention that a considerable number of GPs did not receive the email from Mark Durling dated Friday 11 March and, therefore, did not receive the LMC's GP Commissioning Poll.

This was due to problems with our email provider, which resulted in our emails to various email accounts being blocked. Our email provider has since remedied the situation and issued a statement which can be accessed via the *Facts & Info* section of the LMC website at:

http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Facts/Problems_with_LMC_Email_Communications.pdf

In light of the difficulties experienced with the distribution of the poll, and the importance of ensuring that all represented GPs have the opportunity to express their views, the decision was made to redistribute the poll to non responders and to extend the deadline for responses to **Thursday 21 April**.

If you are a represented, Sheffield GP who did not receive the poll in March, you should have received an email acknowledging and remedying this on Tuesday 5 April 2011. Please accept our sincere apologies for this unfortunate situation. We hope that the extended deadline (originally Friday 8 April) will allow sufficient time for all GPs to take part in this important information gathering exercise.

If you have not yet returned your poll to the LMC office, we would urge you to take this opportunity to ensure that your views are heard.

If you would like to discuss the poll or if you have any concerns about the process, please do not hesitate to contact the LMC office via email to manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk.

We understand that the IT problems outlined above also affected the distribution of the March 2011 LMC newsletter, although to a much lesser degree. If you normally receive LMC newsletters and did not receive the March edition, please note that

this is available to view on the LMC website at:

http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Newsletters_11/Mar11.pdf

COMMISSIONING TOGETHER FOR SHEFFIELD: WHAT REALLY MATTERS?

THURSDAY 19 MAY 2011

7:00 PM

(Tea, Coffee & Biscuits from 6.30 pm)

**The Devonshire Suite
Sheffield Park Hotel
Chesterfield Road
Meadowhead
Sheffield
S8 8BW**

This is a free interactive seminar / workshop hosted by Sheffield Local Medical Committee and the Sheffield Faculty of the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP), to explore the views and approach to commissioning that grassroots GPs and clinicians share.

The event:

- will cover some key local commissioning issues, as well as being an opportunity to introduce the RCGP Clinical Commissioning Framework.
- is for all Sheffield GPs and Practice Managers and does not require any prior commissioning experience.
- includes a Personal Learning Record for GPs' PDP.

To reserve a place at this event, please email your name, practice name & address to:

administrator@sheffieldlmc.org.uk

An initial flyer can be found on the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffieldlmc.org.uk/Downloads/Commissioning%20Flyer.pdf>

More details to follow shortly.

CONTRACT AGREEMENT 2011/12

As you will be aware from the March 2011 edition of the LMC newsletter, negotiations between the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) and NHS Employers (NHSE) have concluded and agreement has been reached with the Health Departments in England, Scotland and Wales.

The summary of the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) indicators available on the British Medical Association (BMA) website has been updated to include more details about the Quality and Productivity indicators. A copy of the summary can be downloaded from the BMA website at:

http://www.bma.org.uk/images/summaryqofguidance2011_v3_tcm41-204734.pdf

In addition, the following detailed guidance has recently been published and can be downloaded from the *Other Guidance* section of the LMC website:

Quality and Outcomes Framework guidance for GMS contract 2011/12
http://www.sheffieldlmc.org.uk/OG11/qofguidancefourthversion2011_tcm41-205262.pdf

Patient participation directed enhanced service (DES) for GMS contract

http://www.sheffieldlmc.org.uk/OG11/patientDESgmscontractapr2011_tcm41-205266.pdf

GP Extended Hours Access Scheme Directed Enhanced Service – 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012

<http://www.sheffieldlmc.org.uk/OG11/GP%20Extended%20Hours%2011.pdf>

The Statement of Financial Entitlements (Amendment) Directions 2011 came into force on 1 April 2011 and can be downloaded from the Department of Health (DH) website at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/document/digitalasset/dh_125866.pdf

The Primary Medical Services (Directed Enhanced Services) (England) (Amendment) Directions 2011 came into force on 1 April 2011 and can be downloaded from the DH website at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/document/digitalasset/dh_125877.pdf

LOCUM VACANCY ON SHEFFIELD LMC

A vacancy has arisen on the LMC for a locum GP, which will run until the end of the current electoral term, ie 30 November 2012.

The LMC Executive would encourage locum GPs to consider applying for the vacancy and to see this as an opportunity to experience the workings of the LMC. To be eligible to join the committee, GPs must be on the Sheffield Medical Performers List and be represented by the LMC. Any locum GP interested in joining the LMC who is not currently represented can find out more about how to do so via the *LMC Guidance* section of the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffieldlmc.org.uk/lmc%20guidance/Sessional%20GP%20Representation.pdf>

Meetings of the full LMC are usually held on the second Monday of the month at 7.45 pm in the Lecture Theatre at Tapton Hall. In addition, members are encouraged to represent the LMC on other committees and

this additional meeting attendance is funded by the organisers of the committees or the LMC.

The LMC's primary function is to represent Sheffield GPs and, therefore, it is extremely important that local GPs have a means of debating the important topical issues and influencing or making policy in order to represent the breadth of general practice in Sheffield. It is also a very useful forum for keeping up-to-date with all that is happening in Primary Care and a chance to meet colleagues with differing views across the city.

Further details of the work of the LMC can be found in *A Guide to Your Local Medical Committee*, which is available via the LMC's website at:

<http://www.sheffieldlmc.org.uk/Downloads/LMC%20Guide.pdf>

It would be appreciated if initial expressions of interest could be forwarded to the LMC office via manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk by **Monday 9 May 2011**. If you require any further information or would like to discuss this prior to making a decision, please do not hesitate to ring Margaret Wicks (Manager) or David Savage (Secretary) on (0114) 2588755.

LMC OFFICE EASTER/BANK HOLIDAY OPENING TIMES

Please note the following changes to the LMC's normal office opening times:

Friday 22 April	Closed
Monday 25 April	Closed
Tuesday 26 April	9 am – 5 pm
Wednesday 27 April	9 am – 5 pm
Thursday 28 April	9 am – 5 pm
Friday 29 April	Closed

NHS SHEFFIELD (NHSS) E-BULLETIN: REVIEW

Thank you to all GPs and Practice Managers who took the time to submit comments and suggestions on the format, distribution etc of NHS Sheffield's (NHSS) e-bulletin. LMC and NHSS representatives will be meeting shortly to discuss the feedback received. If you intended to submit comments but missed the

deadline of Friday 8 April, please do still send comments to the LMC via manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk.

It would also be helpful to know if any GPs or Practice Managers do not have regular access to the e-bulletin in order for us to fully review its method of distribution, availability on the intranet etc.

DENTAL PROBLEMS: GP RESPONSIBILITIES

Please note that the LMC's guidance *Dental Problems: GP Responsibilities* has been updated to take account of the fact that the Patient Advice Liaison Service (PALS) previously based at NHS Sheffield, is now the Patient Services Team (PST) based at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital. A copy of the updated guidance can be downloaded from the *LMC Guidance* section of the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffieldlmc.org.uk/lmc%20guidance/Dental%20Problems%20-%20GP%20Responsibilities.pdf>

DEATH CERTIFICATION AND MUSLIM BURIALS

Please note that the LMC's guidance *Death Certification and Muslim Burials* has been updated to offer additional information about the services that can and cannot be provided by the Registrar for Deaths and the Coroner's Office at weekends. A copy of the updated guidance can be downloaded from the *LMC Guidance* section of the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffieldlmc.org.uk/lmc%20guidance/Death%20Certification%20and%20Muslim%20Burials.pdf>

SENIORITY CLAWBACK

Following the publication of the LMC's interim guidance on this issue, the LMC Executive communicated further with a national body of accountants to find out if they have achieved any success from appeals against clawbacks in any part of the country. The advice received was that they had no knowledge of

any successful appeals. Therefore, the LMC's guidance has been updated and reissued. A copy of the updated guidance can be downloaded from the *LMC Guidance* section of the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffieldlmc.org.uk/lmc%20guidance/Seniority%20Clawback.pdf>

MONITORED DOSAGE SYSTEMS AND HOSPITAL DISCHARGE

The issue of monitored dosage systems (MDS) and hospital discharge was discussed at a recent meeting of Sheffield Area Prescribing Committee (APC).

Although Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (STHFT) is generally expected to provide at least 2 weeks' medication on discharge, this has proved difficult when a patient is on an MDS. Therefore, it has been agreed that 1 week's supply will be provided for such patients.

Issues were raised in relation to long Bank Holidays and communication between relevant organisations / clinicians. It was agreed that, in exceptional circumstances, eg the long Easter and Royal Wedding Bank Holidays and Christmas/New Year 2011/12, STHFT would issue a 2 week prescription. It was also agreed that, prior to discharge, the STHFT pharmacist would telephone the GP to inform them of the 1 week MDS discharge and fax a copy of the discharge medication.

Examples where this does not occur should be sent to the LMC office via secretary@sheffieldlmc.org.uk to be taken up with STHFT.

GPC REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE ELECTIONS 2011

Sheffield LMC Executive would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr Trish Edney on her re-election to the post of GPC Regional Representative for the Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield region.

CERVICAL CYTOLOGY REQUEST FORMS

As you will have seen from NHS Sheffield's e-bulletin w/e 1-4-11, the laboratories no longer accept green multi-copied request forms (HMR101/5). It would be appreciated if these old forms could be returned to the laboratories for disposal.

The single, green card form in the sample taker kits and the Open Exeter request form *A4 pdf default* are now being accepted.

It is requested that sample takers do NOT pre-fill the request forms, as errors occur when a woman defaults her appointment and the form is sent with the wrong vial. There have been a number of Serious Untoward Incidents as a result of this. Instead, please write in all necessary details in the patient's presence.

DIABETIC EYESCREENING PROGRAMME

*Article Submitted by
Dr Jenny Stephenson*

The Diabetic Eyescreening Programme recommenced in April 2011 - this time not based in opticians, but at several venues around the city - Royal Hallamshire Hospital (RHH), Northern General Hospital (NGH), Broad Lane, Wincobank, Jordanthorpe, Deepcar and Westfield.

Invitations are now resumed, for people as before, from age 12.

SEASONAL FLU VACCINATION PROGRAMME FOR 2011/12

The Chief Medical Officer (England) has sent a letter to PCTs and GPs confirming that the arrangements for procurement of vaccines for 2011/12 will remain the same as last year, and urging practices to start ordering their vaccines now, if they have not already done so.

In the letter the government requests that practices order sufficient vaccine to cover 75% of their patients aged 65 or over, and at least 60% of patients under 65 in clinical risk groups (including pregnant women).

The GPC has been informed that, so far, practices have not increased their vaccine orders to take into account the localised shortages experienced last winter, and despite a rising number of patients in the at-risk groups.

We would encourage practices to review their flu vaccine orders, to ensure that they have ordered sufficient number of vaccines for their patients in the at-risk groups.

A copy of the letter can be downloaded from the DH website at: http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/document/s/digitalasset/dh_125100.pdf

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TAKING ON NEW PRACTICE PARTNERS

GP practices may consider a number of different factors when deciding whether to take on a GP partner or salaried GP. To assist practices in this process the GPC has produced guidance *Focus on Taking on New Practice Partners*.

This guidance looks at:

- the cost of employing a salaried GP, including National Insurance contributions and employer's superannuation;
- the impact of the tax burden for existing partners earning over £100,000;
- the benefits of taking on a new partner.

A copy of the guidance can be downloaded from the *Other Guidance* section of the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/OG11/Focus%20on%20Taking%20on%20new%20partners.pdf>

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CLINICAL WASTE PRE-ACCEPTANCE AUDITS

The Environment Agency has now re-published its sector guidance 5.07 for operators of waste disposal facilities. The guidance requires all producers of healthcare waste, including GP practices, to complete an audit of their clinical waste. The

deadline for this was originally set for October 2010, but was extended due to the need for further consultation with the waste management industry. GP practices must now provide the relevant information to their waste contractor by **1 July 2011**.

Practices can either collect the data themselves or employ a third party to do so. Alternatively, the practice's waste contractor may offer to complete the audit but may charge for this service.

The GPC has recently produced a self audit tool and guidance to help practices provide the information themselves if they wish to do so. Copies can be downloaded from the *Other Guidance* section of the LMC website at:

Pre-acceptance Healthcare Waste Self-Audit Tool (pdf version)
<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/OG09/Pre-acceptance%20Healthcare%20Waste%20Self-Audit%20Tool.pdf>

Please note that a word version of this document is also available in the *Other Guidance* section of the LMC website, which practices can complete electronically.

Clinical Waste Audits
<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/OG09/Focus%20on%20Clinical%20Waste%20Audits.pdf>

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GOOD MANAGEMENT PRACTICE: CONSULTATION

The General Medical Council (GMC) is consulting on draft guidance *Good Management Practice: guidance for all doctors* and two pieces of supplementary guidance *Raising and acting on concerns about patient safety* and *Writing references*.

The consultation is part of the review of the GMC's guidance from 2006 *Management for doctors* and supplementary guidance *Raising concerns about patient safety*.

The draft *Good Management Practice* sets out doctors' wider responsibilities in relation to employment issues including teaching and training, planning, using and managing resources, raising and

acting on concerns and participation in service improvement and development.

The draft guidance can be downloaded from the GMC's website at:

http://www.gmc-uk.org/Good_Management_Practice_consultation_draft_FINAL.pdf_39257127.pdf

Responding to the consultation can be done by completing:

- the background and consultation questionnaire, containing detailed questions on the drafting of the guidance, or
- the short consultation questionnaire (targeted at individual doctors).

Further information on the consultation, which closes on Friday 3 June 2011, can be found on the GMC website at:

https://gmc.e-consultation.net/econsult/consultation_Dtl.aspx?consult_Id=170&status=2&criteria=1

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Please forward any articles, comments etc for inclusion in the LMC newsletter to the LMC office via:

Email: administrator@sheffieldlmc.org.uk

Post:
Sheffield LMC
Media House
63 Wostenholm Road
Sheffield
S7 1LE

Articles for the May 2011 edition of the LMC newsletter to be received by Monday 9 May 2011.