

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2006

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**PRACTICE BASED COMMISSIONING (PBC):
LMC QUESTIONNAIRE**

**BARLBOROUGH NHS TREATMENT
CENTRE**

**PATIENTS PRESENTING WITH DENTAL
PROBLEMS: GP RESPONSIBILITIES**

CARER IDENTIFICATION AND REFERRAL

**ABC OF VIRAL HEPATITIS: DO YOU KNOW
WHAT YOUR RESULT MEANS?**

PRACTICE BASED COMMISSIONING (PBC): LMC QUESTIONNAIRE

All Sheffield List GPs should have recently received a copy of the above questionnaire, with a request to complete it and return it to the LMC office by Monday 23 January 2006.

Many thanks to all who have responded so promptly. For those who have not yet replied, please do so at the earliest opportunity.

BARLBOROUGH NHS TREATMENT CENTRE

Sheffield PCTs and the Barlborough NHS Treatment Centre are keen to encourage direct referrals from general practice.

The General Manager and Nursing Director of the Centre gave a presentation to LMC members on Monday 9 January 2006. There were a number of concerns and reassurance was given that:

- Barlborough orthopaedic consultants would give an opinion as to whether surgery was appropriate, rather than

simply proceeding with operations suggested by GPs.

- There was a limited amount of physiotherapy, occupational therapy and post discharge respite care available. Patients could get a pre operative and post operative home visit by Barlborough staff. However, respite nursing homes tended to be in the Barlborough area.
- Intensive care facilities had been contracted from Chesterfield Royal Hospital in the event of post operative complications.
- Progress was being made to improve communication with Sheffield GPs in the form of discharge letters.

The LMC were reassured that Barlborough NHS Treatment Centre takes GP complaints very seriously. Any practices with concerns about the management of any of their patients can contact the General Manager, Rozan Newfeldt, personally. Please also copy any such concerns to the LMC office and Robert Carter, Assistant Director of Commissioning (Acute Services), Sheffield West PCT.

Rozan Newfeldt is keen to engage local Sheffield practices and if GPs felt that a visit would be appropriate to explain their

services, Rozan can be contacted to arrange this.

As many practices are aware, the Government has top sliced money from all PCTs nationally to fund treatment centre budgets. As such, there is a capacity available for Sheffield GPs and secondary care trusts to use.

Rozan Newfeldt can be contacted as follows:

Barlborough NHS Treatment Centre
2 Lindrick Way
Barlborough
Chesterfield S43 4XE
Tel: 01246 575056
Fax: 01246 575067
Email:

rozan.newfeldt@partnershiphealth.co.uk

PATIENTS PRESENTING WITH DENTAL PROBLEMS: GP RESPONSIBILITIES

The above GPC guidance has been amended (superseding 1998 guidance) to take account of the changes in the NHS (General Medical Services Contracts) Regulations 2004.

The guidance informs primary medical service contractors of their obligations in respect of patients either requesting emergency dental treatment or asking for an NHS prescription for drugs recommended by private or NHS dentists.

A copy of the guidance can be obtained:

- By downloading it from the BMA website (log in required): <http://www.bma.org.uk/ap.nsf/Content/PatientsdentalprobsNov1998>
- By emailing a request for an electronic copy (in pdf format) to: adminassistant@sheffieldlmc.org.uk.

CARER IDENTIFICATION AND REFERRAL

*Article submitted by
Gill Greenwood,
Centre Manager,
Sheffield Carers Centre*

What is Sheffield Carers Centre?

We are a voluntary organisation, part of a national network of Princess Royal Trust carers' centres, set up 13 years ago to provide information and support to unpaid, family carers, and funded by the PCTs and Social Services / Neighbourhoods and Community Care.

What we can offer practices

- ideas about identifying carers from practices throughout the country
- publicity for waiting rooms
- self identification leaflets
- a model protocol
- referrals to the Carers Centre
- ideas about how practice staff can support carers
- training in carer awareness
- information about carer support services

What we can offer carers

An automatic referral to Social Services / Neighbourhoods & Community Care for a Carer's

Assessment is not necessarily the best way for a carer to get information and support, not least because of eligibility criteria. A referral to the Carers Centre has been agreed to be a helpful first step by two PCTs, and we can then assist carers to access an assessment where appropriate.

We can offer:

- a single point of access for all carers' issues
- a wide range of information including the assessment process, services available, moving and handling, when caring comes to an end, specialist information about different caring situations (eg dementia, stroke, adult and child disability, mental illness, substance misuse, palliative care)
- a bi-monthly Newsletter for carers and professionals
- free benefits and legal advice sessions (eg carers' allowance, power of attorney)
- listening and emotional support via a daily telephone Helpline, 1to1 appointments, or regular phone calls to housebound and isolated carers
- aromatherapy and counselling
- support groups and social activities
- access to short breaks from caring
- help with getting a Carer's Assessment or service review
- help with complaints

How to contact us

Many practices in Sheffield are already in touch with us, receive our Newsletter and leaflets for their waiting room, contact us for information, and refer carers for support or a break.

If you would like more information, or for us to meet with your practice manager or primary care team, please ring us on 278 8942, email office@sheffieldcarers.org.uk or write to us at:

Sheffield Carers Centre
7 Bells Court
Bells Square
Sheffield
S1 2FY.

ABC OF VIRAL HEPATITIS: DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR RESULT MEANS?

*Article submitted by
Dr G Kudesia*

An update on diagnosis and management of viral hepatitis has been arranged as follows:

Date

20 February 2006

Time:

7 30 pm light refreshments
8 00 pm Workshop
(finish 9 30 pm)

Venue

Post Graduate Seminar Room
Post Graduate Centre
A Floor
Royal Hallamshire Hospital.

(Please enter via the Medical School Entrance on B floor and descend to the A floor).

The session will be run as an interactive workshop by Dr G Kudesia, Consultant Virologist and Head of Sheffield Virology Service and Senior Clinical Lecturer, University of Sheffield. It will be suitable for both practice nurses/nurse practitioners and general practitioners. The capacity is limited to 35 so please book early by emailing lynn.duncombe@sth.nhs.uk or goura.kudesia@sth.nhs.uk.

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

Email: manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk

Fax: (0114) 258 9060

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

Articles for the February 2006 edition of the LMC newsletter to be received *by Monday 13 February 2006.*