

SHEFFIELD LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

Newsletter

JUNE 2014

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ACTIVITY UPDATE: APRIL TO MAY 2014

The LMC's latest Activity Update (April to May) was recently emailed to all represented Sheffield GPs and Practice Managers. Further copies can be downloaded from the LMC Reports section of our website at: http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Reports/SLMC_Activity_Update_Apr-May14.pdf

In addition, hard copies can be requested from the LMC office via email to: adminassistant@sheffieldlmc.org.uk.

We hope that GPs and Practice Managers find the updates interesting and helpful in knowing what role the LMC plays in local negotiations and how we can assist practices. We would, of course, be keen to receive any feedback or suggestions for future editions via email to: manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk.

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MINIMUM PRACTICE INCOME GUARANTEE (MPIG) UPDATE

Last year NHS England promised that a process would be put in place to support practices affected by the

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withdrawal of the MPIG. However, this has not happened and practices across the country have been reporting their concerns about the future of their services to LMCs and to the General Practitioners Committee (GPC). As a result, in an open letter to Simon Stevens, Chief Executive of NHS England, Chaand Nagpaul, Chair of the GPC has demanded urgent action to protect practices.

A more detailed update from the GPC and a copy of Chaand's letter can be found at:

<http://bma.org.uk/news-views-analysis/news/2014/may/funding-changes-will-close-practices-warn-doctors-leaders>

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ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION SERVICE (EPS) RELEASE 2

EPS Release 2 enables prescribers, such as GPs and practice nurses, to send prescriptions electronically to a dispenser of the patient's choice, such as their local pharmacy.

The Joint GP IT Committee of the GPC and the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) support the deployment and utilisation of EPS Release 2,

recognising the benefits it brings to practices and patients through increased efficiency and convenience.

Any Sheffield GP practice wishing to enable EPS2 can obtain further information and access free training by contacting:

Rebecca Pierce, Application Specialist at the NHS West and South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw Commissioning Support Unit via: Email: Rebecca.Pierce@nhs.net Tel: (0114) 3051227.

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DEVELOPMENT, RENOVATION AND UPKEEP OF PRIMARY CARE PREMISES

Next month the GPC will be hosting a seminar to bring together senior policy makers to discuss continuing issues around development, renovation and upkeep of primary care premises.

The seminar, with an opening address from Earl Howe, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Quality, will bring together stakeholders to discuss joint potential solutions for the implementation of a fair system of funding – *fair for*

patients, fair for GP practices, fair for the taxpayer and fair for investors.

United to this key principle is the need to restore consistency, stability and confidence in the primary care premises market.

To inform the debate the GPC is asking practices to complete a short survey on their premises situation (link below). This will provide a snapshot of the current situation for practices across the country.

One response per practice is all that is required.

<https://www.research.net/s/gpcpremsurvey>

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YOUR GP CARES CAMPAIGN

The GPC has launched a campaign, Your GP Cares, in support of GPs and their practice teams.

The campaign calls for long term, sustainable investment to be made in GP services throughout the UK to be able to provide patients with the care they need and deserve.

More details about the campaign are available at:

<http://bma.org.uk/working-for-change/your-gp-cares>

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HEALTH AGEING QUESTIONNAIRE

The EU has released two linked questionnaires relating to healthy ageing which require the input of doctors and elderly patients.

The survey for doctors aims to assess the awareness of doctors of functional performance (capacity), decline and frailty related to ageing and the possibilities to prevent/delay the onset of these issues and/or mitigate their consequences.

The survey for patients aims to assess the awareness, opinion and attitude of the population aged over 60 regarding healthy and active ageing.

The Standing Committee of European Doctors has requested that the GPC circulates details.

Anyone who is willing to help with this is asked to contact:

Paul Laffin
EU Policy Manager
British Medical Association
Email: plaffin@bma.org.uk.

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SEASONAL FLU PROGRAMME 2014/15

A tripartite seasonal flu letter has been published and can be accessed via:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/316007/FluImmunisationLetter2014_accessible.pdf

In addition, the flu plan for 2014/15 can be accessed via:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/306638/FluPlan2014_accessible.pdf

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CHILDHOOD FLU VACCINATIONS SERVICE SPECIFICATION 2014-15

The updated childhood flu vaccinations service specification for 2014/15 has been published by NHS England.

This enhanced service commences on 1 September 2014.

Further details can be found at:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/childrens-flu-prog-serv-spec.pdf>

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READ CODES FOR HEPATITIS B FOR NEWBORN BABIES

The Read codes for the hep B vaccine for newborn babies have now been published by The Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC). They have been added to the Technical Requirements for 2014/15 GMS Contract Changes (Version 2 - May 2014) available at:

http://www.nhsemployers.org/~/media/Employers/Documents/Primary%20Ocare%20contracts/GMS/GMS_Technical_requirements_2014_15.pdf

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

Email:
manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk

Articles for the July edition
to be received by
Friday 11 July 2014

Submission deadlines
can be found at:
http://www.sheffieldlmc.org.uk/Newsletters14/VB_and_Newsletter_Deadlines.pdf