

SHEFFIELD LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2006

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ENHANCED SERVICES REVIEW

As most practices will be aware, the four Sheffield PCTs, in their wisdom, have contracted different enhanced services across each PCT since their inception. There is a proposal to centralise all enhanced services to unify them under the umbrella of the one new Sheffield PCT.

It may be that within the turnaround process this is seen as an opportunity to stop commissioning some of the local enhanced services which have been arranged uniquely in individual PCTs. The opinion of the LMC is that this should be strongly disputed. Therefore I would be grateful if practices could email the LMC with enhanced services for which they are being paid at present.

Obviously enhanced services involve extra work for GPs, and are entirely voluntary, and if funding for these enhanced services is withdrawn, then I presume that many practices may consider withdrawing these services with an obvious impact on patient choice and secondary care services.

We will be looking to have a dialogue with the new PCT in the near future. Therefore I would be grateful if this information could be forwarded to the LMC office - adminassistant@sheffieldlmc.org.uk at the earliest opportunity.

COMMON BLOOD MONITORING SCHEDULES

The LMC Chair and Secretary represent general practitioners at the Area Prescribing Committee (APC). At the last APC meeting, an updated version of the common blood monitoring schedules was presented and accepted by the committee.

This is felt to be a particularly useful document which will be available in the Sheffield formulary, but should also be available on the APC website via the Sheffield intranet - www.sheffield.nhs.uk.

PMS PRACTICES AND GROWTH MONIES

The LMC Executive recently attended regional GPC negotiator meetings, in Manchester and Leeds. Negotiators expressed a concern that the Department of Health nationally was looking in detail at PMS budgets and growth monies to ensure that contractual obligations were being fulfilled.

The general impression from these meetings was that PMS practices should be aware that they may have to be able to demonstrate appropriate and approved use of growth monies, for the agreed purpose of employing staff or providing services and adherence to other clauses in their contract.

At present we have no further details, but feel we should make you aware of this potential direction of change.

IDENTIFYING SERVICES THAT SHOULD NOT BE PROVIDED BY GPs

The General Practitioners Committee (GPC) has recently produced guidance entitled *Identifying services that should not be provided by GPs under primary medical (GMS, PMS, APMS or PCTMS) services*. The guidance covers issues such as:

- Identifying secondary care institutions.
- What to do if you are being asked to provide primary care services to patients in secondary care institutions.
- Providing care to patients in non-hospital institutions or residential homes.

A copy of the guidance can be:

- Downloaded from the GPC website at: [http://www.bma.org.uk/ap.nsf/AttachmentsByTitle/PDFservicesnotGPs02/\\$FILE/servicesnotgps.pdf](http://www.bma.org.uk/ap.nsf/AttachmentsByTitle/PDFservicesnotGPs02/$FILE/servicesnotgps.pdf)
- Emailed to practices (in PDF format) – please email a request to adminassistant@sheffieldlmc.org.uk

SICK DOCTORS TRUST

An independent charity established 10 years ago by doctors to help other doctors suffering from addiction

If you are beginning to suspect that you suffer from a problem with alcohol or drugs, we can offer you help and a confidential listening ear if you phone us at any time.

We are a group of doctors, who have experienced exactly the same experience as you in the past. Many of us lost our families and our health because of addiction. Some of us came under the scrutiny of the GMC for a time but thanks to the help we received, we were eventually restored to the profession.

About 10% of doctors suffer from addiction. You are not alone! However without help, things are likely to get worse for you. If you have a serious problem, you have probably already tried very hard to deal with it yourself. The fact that you have not succeeded is a good reason for doing something different.

So why not phone us now? There will be a doctor who understands at the end of the line. We have helped many like you in the past. We are waiting for your call.

Sick Doctors Trust Helpline – 0870 444 5163 (24 hours).

PRIMARY MEDICAL SERVICES CONTRACTS – ADVERTISING AND APPEAL

As there is considerable variation in practice regarding the advertisement of primary medical services contracts, the GPC has produced guidance for GPs.

The guidance discusses requirements for advertising and outlines appeal mechanisms for parties that feel the tendering process has been unfair or obscure.

A copy of the guidance can be:

- Downloaded from the GPC website at: <http://www.bma.org.uk/ap.nsf/Content/pmscontracts>
Please note, login details are required.

- Emailed to practices (in PDF format) – please email a request to: adminassistant@sheffieldlmc.org.uk

MEDICAL PERFORMERS LIST

Article submitted by Sue Whitham, Assistant Director Primary Care Contracts, Sheffield FHS

You will be aware that with effect from 1 October 2006 the four Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) in Sheffield merged to become Sheffield PCT. Therefore with effect from this date all doctors' names previously included on either South East PCT, South West PCT, North PCT or West PCT Medical Performers list have been automatically transferred to Sheffield PCT Medical Performers List. You are not required to take any action in regard to this.

The only change to your personal list number is the PCT code which is now 5N4 eg 2227775-5N4 (GMC number followed by PCT code).

If you have any queries on the above please do not hesitate to contact Sue Whitham on 0114 2263112 or email sue.whitham@sheffieldpct.nhs.uk

CONNECTING FOR HEALTH: GP ENGAGEMENT FORUMS

Following the article in the September 2006 edition of the LMC newsletter, the LMC has been informed of amendments to the series of events:

- The London event that was to be held on 28 September has now been moved to 14 December 2006.
- A new date has been added – 7 December 2006 in Nottingham.

Further details and a booking form can be downloaded from <http://etdevents.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk> or can be requested from NHS CFH by:

email: events@cfh.nhs.uk
fax: 0113 280 6050
post: Events Team, NHS CFH, 1st Floor, Princes Exchange, Princess Square, Leeds LS1 4HY.

PANDEMIC INFLUENZA – PLANNING & PREPAREDNESS

Article submitted by Rob Townsend, Microbiology, RHH

Microbiology STHFT & Sheffield Hallam University present *Pandemic Influenza – Planning & Preparedness*.

Date: Tuesday November 7th doors open with food and refreshments from 6pm.

Venue: Level 5 Lecture Theatre at Faculty of Health and Wellbeing, Hallam University, Broomhall Road (the old YMCA building).

Cost: Free.

Open To: All.

Start Time: Buffet and Refreshments 6pm, presentations start 7pm prompt.

Finish time: 8.30pm.

Chairperson: – Dr Christine Bates, Consultant Microbiologist and Infection Control Doctor, STH.

19.00: Pandemic Flu and the Community – Dr Rosemary Mcnaught Consultant for Communicable Disease Control.

Pandemic Flu and the Acute Trusts – Mr Kevin Clifford (Pandemic Flu lead STH) Mr David Bywater (Theatre manager SCH).

2030 Questions & Close.

Limited places available, anyone wishing to reserve a place(s) please email: Rob.townsend@sth.nhs.uk

Reservations made on a first come first served basis.

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 November 2006 edition of the LMC newsletter to be received by **Tuesday 14 November 2006**.