

SHEFFIELD LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2012

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LMC NEWSFLASH: SHEFFIELD SHADOW CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP (CCG) RENEWAL OF MANDATE

Since the last LMC Newsletter, all represented Sheffield GPs should have received an LMC Newsflash reminder to participate in Sheffield Shadow CCG renewal of mandate process.

The LMC Executive is supportive of the process that is being undertaken and has agreed to act as Returning Officer. Therefore, we would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to complete and return your Ballot Form to the LMC office.

Ballot forms must be received in the LMC office **by 5 pm on Friday 27 July 2012**.

A copy of the Newsflash can be downloaded from the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Newsflash/CCG%20Renewal%20of%20Mandate.pdf>

FAREWELL TO TINA SMITH

It is with regret that the LMC office has to announce that Tina Smith will be leaving the post of LMC Administrative Assistant at the end of July 2012.

Tina has been instrumental in streamlining the LMC's filing systems and has worked diligently to ensure that the LMC can represent all eligible Sheffield GPs. I am sure that many of you will have spoken to Tina and received emails from her and would like to join us in thanking her for all her hard work on your behalf since joining the LMC in 2005 and in wishing her well.

LMC SECRETARIAT RECRUITMENT

The LMC Executive and Secretariat would ask that you have a degree of understanding with regard to any delay in responding to your queries whilst we are undertaking a recruitment process, following the departure of Tina Smith.

We will be securing the support of temporary staff during the recruitment process.

We will keep you updated regarding names and contact details of temporary staff via the *Contact Us* section of our website at:

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/secretariat.htm>

Thank you.

PRIVATE FOSTERING REPORTS

The LMC's guidance on Private Fostering Reports, issued in January 2012, has been updated to clarify the type of information that is being requested from GPs and the circumstances in which a fee is payable.

A copy of the revised guidance can be downloaded from the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/lmc%20guidance/Private%20Fostering.pdf>

The outcome of the debate determines the framework for the profession's negotiations.

National negotiations take place continually between the Secretary of State and his/her team of negotiators and the GPC negotiating team.

The 2012 Conference was held in Liverpool on Tuesday 22 and Wednesday 23 May. A report on the main items of note can be downloaded from the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Reports/Annual%20Conference%202012.pdf>

LOCUM GP ACCESS TO NHSMail ACCOUNTS

The LMC was asked to look into a number of difficulties that locum GPs were experiencing in obtaining NHSmail accounts.

Confirmation has now been received that all locum GPs on Sheffield Medical Performers List (MPL) can obtain an NHSmail account by contacting:

IT Service Desk
NHS Sheffield (NHSS)
Tel: (0114) 3051030.

If any locum GPs experience difficulties in obtaining an account, it would be appreciated if this could be brought to the LMC's attention via:

Email: manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk
or
Tel: (0114) 2588755.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF LMCs 2012

General Practitioner Committee (GPC) and LMC representatives meet at the Annual Conference of LMCs.

Proposals from individual LMCs across the country are debated, alongside those from the GPC.

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/OG12/Identifying%20services.pdf>

PRACTICE NURSE INDEMNITY

As reported in the November 2011 and January 2012 LMC newsletters, the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) made changes to its nurse indemnity scheme.

The GPC contacted the three Medical Defence Organisations (MDOs) to ask for their advice. The MDOs responded to the changes in slightly different ways and their responses have been summarised in GPC guidance.

A copy of the guidance can be downloaded from the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/OG12/Practice%20Nurse.pdf>

IDENTIFYING SERVICES THAT SHOULD NOT BE PROVIDED BY GPS AS PRIMARY MEDICAL SERVICES

The GPC has been made aware of GPs being asked to provide services to patients residing in institutions or homes where the types of services expected do not fall under the responsibility of primary care.

As a result, the GPC has produced guidance to help GPs decide whether or not the treatment they are providing in institutions and residential homes falls within the remit of standard primary medical services contracts.

The main topics covered are:

- the Regulations
- Indicators of whether GPs are responsible for patient care
- 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 LMC website at:

PRACTICE NURSE REGISTRATION

In April 2012 the Chairs of the GPC, Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) and Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) wrote to all GPs reminding them that nurses cannot legally practise in the UK unless they are registered with the NMC, the UK's nursing and midwifery regulator.

It has been brought to the LMC's attention that not all practices are fully aware of the implications of this communication.

A copy of the communication can be downloaded from the NMC website at:

http://www.nmc-uk.org/Documents/Press/Joint-BMA-RCGP-NMC-letter_Registration-of-GP-practice-nurses.pdf

Nurses may be liable to prosecution for claiming to be registered when they are not.

GP practices that do not perform the required checks could face contract sanctions.

GP practices must ensure that anyone appointed to a nursing post holds the necessary qualifications and effective registration with the NMC before commencing that employment.

In addition, nurses may hold recordable qualifications, for example allowing them to prescribe, and such qualifications should also be checked against the NMC register.

The NMC offers a free confirmation service that allows employers to check current registration status and details of any conditions of practice, cautions or suspensions issued as a result of fitness to practise proceedings.

Any discrepancies or fraudulent activity should be reported to the NMC.

Further information can be found on the NMC website at:

<http://www.nmc-uk.org/Registration/>

NHS CHOICES RE-LAUNCH

To assist practices to publish the information they need as easily as possible, NHS Choices is relaunching its GP service profiles on nhs.uk in response to feedback from GPs and Practice Managers.

The new profiles should give practices an opportunity to present details of their services in a more flexible and efficient manner.

Although all of the information in GPs' current profiles will be transferred automatically to the new format, this provides an opportunity to check and update the profile.

A briefing has been produced, which offers information on:

- how rights will be transferred from NHS Choices' current GP editing system;
- how rights can be obtained for the new users to the website;

- an overview of how to make the most of a practice profile;
- how to respond to patient feedback.

A copy of the briefing can be downloaded from NHS Choices website at:

<http://www.nhs.uk/aboutNHSChoices/professionals/healthandcareprofessionals/your-pages/Documents/gp-briefing-illus-20120601.pdf>

QUALITY AND OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK (QOF) FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

NHS Employers (NHSE) and the GPC have recently published an updated set of QOF FAQs for use by primary care organisations and general practice.

The FAQs cover a number of historical issues and commonly asked questions, as well as outlining the QOF queries process.

A copy of the FAQs can be downloaded from the LMC website at:

http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/OG11/QOF_FAQs_Jul11.pdf

DELAYING CERVICAL SAMPLING IN PREGNANT WOMEN

*Article submitted by
Dr Jenny Stephenson*

When a woman is pregnant, cervical sampling needs to be delayed until after the pregnancy.

As with other areas in the region, Sheffield will now be calling women for sampling at **three months** after delivery (rather than six months). However, if the woman has had a previous abnormality, this will be followed up in the usual way, whether the woman is pregnant or not.

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 Wosteholm Road
Sheffield
S7 1LE

Articles for the August 2012 edition of the LMC newsletter to be received by **Friday 10 August 2012**.