

SHEFFIELD LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2012

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ACTIVITY UPDATE: AUGUST TO SEPTEMBER 2012

The LMC's latest Activity Update (August to September 2012) 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%20Activity%20Update%20Aug-Sept12.pdf>

In addition, hard copies can be requested from the LMC office via email to:

administrator@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

SHEFFIELD LMC BUYING GROUP

The Sheffield LMC Buying Group was launched in February 2011 and, to date, 55 Sheffield GP practices have joined.

Once practices have joined the Buying Group they receive a welcome pack containing details of suppliers and other relevant information, such as a user name and password giving access to the Federation of LMC Buying Groups website and other benefits.

Membership of the Buying Group is free and there is no compulsion to buy from any of the approved suppliers. However, there is an option for practices to request a price check of Buying Group suppliers against their current expenditure.

Any practices wishing to find out more information on the benefits of the Buying Group, how to join etc, can do so by visiting the LMC's website at:

http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/buying_group.htm

PROCUREMENT LAW AND POLICY

The General Practitioners Committee (GPC) has recently produced guidance entitled *Procurement Law and Policy – The Basics for GPs*.

The guidance covers:

- The NHS reforms and their impact on the purchasing of NHS services;
- Procurement law and policy;
- Procurement processes, including Any Qualified Provider;
- Arrangements for the commissioning of Local Enhanced Services in the new system;
- The roles and responsibilities of Monitor and the Cooperation and Competition Panel.

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

<http://bma.org.uk/-/media/Files/PDFs/Practical%20advice%20at%20work/Doctors%20as%20managers/procurementpolicyandlawaugust2012.pdf>

NEW DISPENSING FEESCALES

A revised feescale for dispensing doctors has been published, which was implemented on 1 October 2012.

The feescale has been designed so that the agreed 2012/13 envelope for dispensing fees will be delivered and has been agreed between NHS Employers (NHSE), the GPC, the Department of Health (DH) in England and the Welsh Government.

A copy of the new feescale can be downloaded at:

http://www.ic.nhs.uk/webfiles/publications/TSC/Proposed_dispensing_fee_scales_for_GMS_GPs_Eng_Wal_2012_13.pdf

More information can be found on:

- The British Medical Association's (BMA) website at:
<http://bma.org.uk/practical-support-at-work/doctors-as-managers/managing-your-practice/dispensing-doctors-feescale-change>
- The NHSE's website at:
<http://www.nhsemployers.org/PayAndContracts/GeneralMedicalServicesContract/GMSfinance/Pages/DispensingDoctors.aspx>

FEET FIRST – FOR PATIENTS WITH DIABETES

*Article submitted by
Dr Jenny Stephenson*

The revised Sheffield Diabetes Footcare pathway was launched on 1 October.

Laminated posters are in the process of being distributed to practices.

Key points:

- Simplified risk stratification in primary care into 'low current risk'/'at risk'.
- All 'at risk' patients referred to community podiatry.
- Patients informed of risk status and given appropriate advice.
- Suggest same day appointment in primary care for people with diabetes and a foot problem.

- Diabetes Hotline in office hours to a senior diabetologist/diabetes specialist podiatrist, to take referrals and give advice.
- Foot clinic review within 24 hours for urgent patients.

IT SERVICEDESK: CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

Sheffield GP Practice Managers should have received an email on 25 September 2012 from Mike Overton, IT Manager Commissioning, NHS Sheffield (NHSS), with a request for participation in the IT Servicedesk Service Customer Satisfaction Survey.

This is a repeat of the survey carried out during April 2012 and is a further important opportunity for practices to comment on issues such as how well the service is currently delivered and how well it meets practices' needs. There is also the option of providing free text comments.

The intention is that Practice Managers will be able to feed into service reviews twice a year.

The LMC is supportive of this survey and would encourage all Practice Managers to review their experiences since the last survey and use this opportunity to provide feedback and influence service provision.

The survey should be completed by **16:00 hrs on Friday 26 October 2012.**

If any Practice Manager did not receive the original email request or requires more information, please contact:

Mike Overton
Tel: (0114) 3051333.

ELECTRONIC PATIENT RECORDS PAPERLIGHT GUIDANCE

The LMC continues to receive requests for information relating to paperlight processes, security of records, scanning/shredding of documents etc. Many of these

queries are covered in local or national guidance.

NHSS recently issued Version 0.7 of *Paperlight Standards 2012/13* via their e-bulletin, which should be read in conjunction with *The Good Practice Guidelines for GP electronic patient records Version 4 (2011)*. Both documents can be downloaded from NHSS's intranet at:

<http://nww.sheffield.nhs.uk/pci/paperlight.php>.

If you have any enquiries about the guidance please contact the PCT data quality team. Their contact details can be found at:

<http://nww.sheffield.nhs.uk/primisplu/s/contacts.php>.

GET AHEAD: THE ESSENTIAL GP TRAINEE SKILLS DAY

**Wednesday 21 November 2012
BMA House**

This conference is designed for junior doctors considering general practice as a career as well as those who have already started GP training.

The conference includes both plenary and breakout sessions, enabling attendees to choose a personalised programme to meet their needs.

Further details, including the conference programme and information on how to register, can be found on the BMA's website at:

<http://bma.org.uk/events/2012/november/get-ahead-the-essential-gp-trainee-skills-day>

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 November 2012 edition of the LMC newsletter to be received **by Friday 9 November 2012.**