

SHEFFIELD LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2012

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WELCOME TO JULIE TAYLOR

SHEFFIELD LMC ELECTIONS: 2012-2016

MANAGING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S IDENTIFIED HEALTH NEEDS

INSURANCE COMPANY REQUESTS FOR MEDICAL REPORTS/ACCESS TO MEDICAL RECORDS

SEASONAL FLU PROGRAMME 2012/13: HOUSEBOUND PATIENTS

CHILDHOOD IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME PCV AND HIB/MEN C

REIMBURSEMENT OF GP TRAINEE TRAVEL EXPENSES

TRAVEL IMMUNISATIONS

ZOSTAVAX SHINGLES VACCINE

WELCOME TO JULIE TAYLOR

We are pleased to announce that we have appointed Julie Taylor as LMC Administrative Assistant. Julie's main responsibility is ensuring the LMC provides representation to all eligible GPs. She is also responsible for the Newsletter and Vacancy Bulletin and for maintaining the LMC's electronic and hard copy filing systems.

As Julie continues to settle in at the LMC, her skills and previous NHS experience are proving invaluable in assisting Margaret and Amy in the day to day functioning of the LMC office.

For up-to-date contact details and additional information about the LMC Secretariat, please see the Secretariat section of the Contact Us page on the LMC's website at www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/secretariat.htm.

SHEFFIELD LMC ELECTIONS 2012-2016

Further to the article in the August LMC newsletter, all GPs represented by Sheffield LMC and on Sheffield Medical Performers List on 30 August 2012, should have recently received a letter from Malcolm Lindley regarding the LMC Elections 2012-2016.

Malcolm Lindley, who is a Lay Advisor on the Sheffield Shadow Clinical

Commissioning Group, has kindly agreed to act as Returning Officer for the election process.

A ballot form was enclosed with the letter. Any GPs wishing to stand for election to the LMC must complete the form and return it to Malcolm by **Wednesday 10 October**.

We hope to encourage both new members and the re-election of existing members in order to ensure the continuation of our current strong negotiating position and extensive support and representation of Sheffield practices. In addition, we wish to be as representative a body as possible and to encourage a breadth of opinion and experience.

If any GPs would like further information prior to returning their ballot form, please do not hesitate to contact:

David Savage, LMC Secretary or Margaret Wicks, LMC Manager
Tel: (0114) 2588755
Email manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk.

Further copies of the letter and ballot form can be downloaded from the LMC website at:

http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Facts/LMC_Elections_2012-16_Initial_Letter.pdf

http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/Facts/LMC_Elections_2012-16-Ballot_Form.pdf

MANAGING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S IDENTIFIED HEALTH NEEDS

After lengthy negotiations spanning over three years, guidance has been published for schools and other settings entitled *Managing Children and Young People's Identified Health Needs*.

The guidance:

- has had input from a significant number of important stakeholders, including the Children and Young People's Directorate at Sheffield City Council (SCC), the Public Health Department, Head Teacher representatives, Sheffield Children's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, school nurse representatives and Sheffield LMC.
- encompasses many important issues that are known to cause GPs concern and can be a cause of conflict between GPs, parents and schools.
- has been disseminated to all state mainstream primary, secondary and special schools under the auspices of SCC.

LMC guidance summarising the content of *Managing Children and Young People's Identified Health Needs* and noting its availability can be downloaded from the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/lmc%20guidance/Children%207s%20Identified%20Health%20Needs.pdf>

INSURANCE COMPANY REQUESTS FOR MEDICAL REPORTS/ACCESS TO MEDICAL RECORDS

The issue of insurance companies submitting a Subject Access Request (SAR) in place of a request for a GP Report (GPR) in support of sales of insurance continues to cause concern for practices. As a result, the LMC contacted the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) for their advice and requested an update on their negotiations with the Association of British Insurers (ABI).

Unfortunately, there is no sign of imminent resolution to this issue. However, the GPC has issued a helpful update which has been added to the LMC's guidance on this issue.

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

[http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/lmc%20guidance/Insurance Company Requests.pdf](http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/lmc%20guidance/Insurance%20Company%20Requests.pdf)

SEASONAL FLU PROGRAMME 2012/13: HOUSEBOUND PATIENTS

The LMC has received confirmation from Janine Thornton, Head of Rehabilitation Services, that Community Nurses will give flu vaccinations to housebound patients on their caseloads.

With the development of integrated care teams the LMC Executive will continue to try to negotiate an expansion to this role.

CHILDHOOD IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME PCV AND HIB/MEN C

The LMC has been made aware of a number of problems with practice immunisation claims for this particular part of the childhood immunisation programme.

Although these vaccinations appear on the 70% and 90% immunisation targets for QOF, practices are able to claim an *Item of Service* fee at the rate of £15.02 for each fully vaccinated child.

We would remind GPs and Practice Managers to check:

- Section 8 of the Statement of Financial Entitlement (SFE):

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Legislation/Directionsfromthesecretaryofstate/DH_117007

- The GPC's guidance *Focus on Vaccines and Immunisations* (August 2012), which includes the relevant extract from the Additional Services section of the NHS Regulations:
<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/OG12/Vacs%20&%20Im.ms.pdf>

REIMBURSEMENT OF GP TRAINEE TRAVEL EXPENSES

GP Trainees who use their cars to conduct home visits during their placements are entitled to claim mileage expenses. The journey to and from work (up to 10 miles in each direction) can also be claimed, but only if a home visit is made that day.

With effect from 1 August 2007, all Sheffield GP Trainees entering practice placements receive their allowance under a mileage based system that rates Trainees as either standard or regular users, according to their level of usage.

Trainees and practices should ensure that they keep a record of any mileage claims for up to six years for tax purposes.

Further information, guidance and claim forms can be found on the Yorkshire and Humber Postgraduate Deanery website at:

http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/general_practice/trainees/contract_issues/

TRAVEL IMMUNISATIONS

The GPC's guidance *Focus on Travel Immunisations* has been updated (July 2012) as a result of the publication of Annex BA of the Statement of Financial Entitlements (SFE), which has resolved many of the difficulties in interpreting how the old regulations apply to current practice.

The guidance contains sections on:

- Principles;
- Travel immunisations that must be given as part of NHS provision through GMS Additional Services (including the addition of Appendix 1, which gives more detailed information on travel immunisations available on the NHS);
- Travel immunisations that cannot be given as an NHS service;

- Travel immunisations that can be given as either NHS or as a private service;

A copy of the revised guidance can be downloaded from the *Other Guidance* section of the LMC website at:

<http://www.sheffield-lmc.org.uk/OG11/Travel%20Immunisations.pdf>

ZOSTAVAX SHINGLES VACCINE

Despite a recent recommendation by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) that people aged 70-79 years should be offered the Zostavax shingles vaccine, the Department of Health (DH) has confirmed that due to a shortage in supply, it will only be available privately for the time being.

Adverts have already appeared in the medical press stating that the vaccine is only available for patients over 50 who are able to pay for the vaccine. The GPC has heard reports that the manufacturer of Zostavax is contacting some practices directly, suggesting that practices contact their patients to offer this privately.

The GPC has written to the DH about their concerns over this arrangement, asking for assurance that the vaccine would be available on the NHS for patients aged 70-79.

Although the DH has confirmed that it intends to run a national vaccination programme for those over 70 years of age, until they have secured a sufficient supply of the Zostavax vaccine and is able to implement the JCVI's recommendations, the GPC's advice to GPs is that it is not recommended that this vaccine be given at the moment.

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 October 2012 edition of the LMC newsletter to be received by **Friday 5 October 2012**.