Lambeth Local Medical Committee update

October/November 2013

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1. Nigel Konzon

We are sorry to report the sad news of Nigel Konzon’s death. Nigel was a highly respected and much valued colleague and LMC member and his contribution to the health service in Lambeth will be greatly missed.

We are sure that you would wish to join the LMC and Londonwide LMCs in extending condolences and support to Nigel’s family.

2. NHSE List Maintenance Initiative

We aware of practices’ concerns regarding the NHS E list maintenance initiative. Londonwide LMCs is still in discussion with NHS E regarding the process for removing FP69 flags and we will keep practices informed.

3. Update on Practice payment problems

Londonwide LMCs, in conjunction with Barking, Dagenham and Havering LMCs and Surrey and Sussex LMCs, has been working with NHS England London (NHSEL) finance leads to resolve practice payment problems. NHSEL have agreed to provide information on the following:

- Payment processes (including cut off dates for submission of claims)
- A contact grid
- A guide for Open EXETER including how to interrogate the system.

At this point, NHSEL are only able to produce full information (processes and contacts) for NHSE payments, and financial codes for CCGs. LMC practice manager volunteers have agreed to help vet this information before it goes to practices to ensure it is fit for purpose.
and user-friendly. When complete, it will also be held on LMC websites. This information should be ready in the next few weeks.

4. Guy's and St Thomas' Charity (GSTT)

GSTT Charity has approached the LMC and is interested in helping primary care with funding for innovative ideas that will benefit the population of Lambeth. The Charity is interested in supporting early diagnosis of cancer and also in supporting local primary care teams to think about how they can work in a more integrated fashion building on a model of integrated care or federation. Lambeth CCG is looking to put in a joint bid with Southwark which we fully support.

5. Academic Integrated Care Organisation (AICO)

Work has started on looking at a model for a pilot Academic Integrated Care Organisation (AICO). There may be several models suggested and the LMC will work to ensure that General Practice lies at the heart of any plans and will work extremely closely with the Trusts (acute, community and mental health) and Social Care to secure the primary care provision.

6. Diabetes news

The Lambeth Community Diabetes Service received a commendation in this year's Quality in Care Awards in the 'Best Cross-Organisational Partnership' category. Judges were impressed by the team's success in bringing together staff from across the health, social and voluntary sectors to make significant improvements to diabetes care in Lambeth. In the last year, the Lambeth Community Diabetes Service has achieved average HbA1c reductions for its patients of 11mmol/mol whilst the patient is managed in the service. It has also contributed to the reduction in hospital caseloads of 11% at KCH and 15% at GSTT since 2011/12.

The DMI has been working with Diabetes UK to develop a team of community champions in Lambeth and Southwark. 15 Community Champions have been recruited and all come from Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities, where diabetes is more common than in the white population. They include a bishop, psychotherapist and practitioner working with drug users. Over the last six months the Champions have been raising awareness by running events to help people spot the signs of diabetes as well as signposting people with diabetes to local services. If you would like to contact your local community champions email premal.bhatt@diabetes.org.uk, Regional London Lead, Diabetes UK

A new self-management programme called Living with Diabetes has been jointly commissioned in Lambeth and Southwark. The programme will be delivered by the Lambeth Early Intervention and Prevention Service (LEIPS). Living with Diabetes is a six week course for anyone living with Type 2 diabetes and provides an opportunity for people to find out more about diabetes and to learn new skills to help them manage their condition. The programme is co-delivered by a lay tutor and a healthcare professional and represents the collaborative relationship we are striving to achieve in managing all long term conditions. The first course starts on November 12 at Bermondsey Spa Medical Practice and is available via GP and self referral, on 020 3049 5242 or email: GST-TR.ReferralsLEIPS@nhs.net

44 Lambeth practices have already signed up to the DMI/CCG Reward Scheme this year. Lambeth CCG are delighted with this level of engagement and commitment from primary care to improve diabetes care in the Borough.

7. Update on Medicines Optimisation
There was a successful start to 2013/14 with the timely dissemination of the Medicines Optimisation Plan in April with well attended launch events in May and June. By the end of August, all 48 practices agreed to sign up and implement key elements of the plan through annual practice prescribing visits. Now the respiratory, hypertension and heart failure virtual clinics are under way with positive feedback. The Inhaler Technique Workshops have all been completed to support the delivery of optimising inhaled corticosteroids in COPD and asthma patients. Implementation of the plan in acute trusts is being driven: via clinical leads; inclusion in key performance indicators and educational support organised by the Trusts. An initiative to ensure that selected specials are prescribed by specialists in a phased manner has been started with GSTT. The overall prescribing budget (year to date) is currently underspent at Month 4 by £175,600 (1.5%).

The Lambeth and Southwark Joint Prescribing Committee (JPC) is running regularly and approved the: Emollients Prescribing Guideline; Management of Asthma Guideline; Management of Cow's Milk Protein Allergy/Intolerance Guideline; the Standard Operating Plan (SOP) for COPD Rescue Pack assessment. Furthermore, the SEL Area Prescribing Committee (APC) is now meeting monthly.

Lambeth CCG are pleased with current progress and thank practices for their continued support to improving and maintaining good prescribing in Lambeth.

8. Quality Alerts

Lambeth CCG has set up an area for GP Practices to report Quality Alerts, Incidents and Commendations via the QUIC system relating to individuals and services across the CCG, including other providers and clinical and non-clinical services. The LMC would encourage practices to use the Quality Alert system QUIC system.

9. The Specialist Disability and Sensory Team

The Specialist Disability and Sensory Team will be moving from Hopton house on the 25th October 2013. As from the 28th October 2013 their new Address will be The Specialist Disability and Sensory Team, 7th Floor Phoenix house, 10 Wandsworth Road, London, SW8 2ll. The telephone numbers will remain the same.

10 Claiming payments for work done under the Collaborative arrangements

What are the collaborative arrangements?

The collaborative arrangements were initially established under legislation in 1974 and required primary care organisations to provide certain medical services to local authorities to enable the local authorities to carry out their responsibilities in the fields of education, social services and public health. The main areas covered by the collaborative arrangements involving certificates or reports include (although this can vary at local level):

- those in relation to children in care or being considered for adoption and fostering, together with certificates and reports on prospective adoptive or foster parents
- psychiatric examinations for the sectioning of patients under the Mental Health Acts
- Blue Badge permits
- Priority housing reports requested by local authorities
- Attendance at case conferences (child protection and adult protection) and other meetings arranged by Social Services
- reports provided under the Children's Act Sections 17 and 47
- Certificates to enable chronically disabled or blind persons to obtain telephones
- sessional work commissioned by family planning clinics under local authorities or PCOs completion
According to the Contract Regulations 2004 (GMS Schedule 5, Reg 24 and PMS Schedule 3, Reg 15) GPs may charge for services that are not required to be provided under their contract such as those listed above. Prior to April 2013 GPs either sent an invoice to the PCT for the work done under the collaborative arrangements and the PCT would subsequently invoice the Local Authority for the work done or GPs would invoice the local authority directly.

**What is the position regarding collaborative arrangements post April 2013?**

There has been confusion as to who is now responsible for payment to doctors for work that falls under the term collaborative arrangements including Mental Health Act and child protection work. NHS England has confirmed to the BMA that Area Teams, pending the development of more consistent arrangements, have been told to maintain any arrangements for collaborative fees that were previously managed by PCTS. Where it is clear that funding for collaborative arrangements was included in CCGs’ budgets it will be for CCGs to manage the payments, but otherwise this is a matter for Area Teams pending the development of a longer term solution.

Where local authorities have previously made direct arrangements for collaborative fees (rather than going through PCTs), these arrangements will continue. NHS E will shortly be conducting an audit into the legacy arrangements for collaborative fees and will also be seeking to agree with the local authorities, in advance of the next financial year, a more consistent approach to collaborative fees that takes the outcome of the audit into account.

**How do I claim for work done under the collaborative arrangements post April 2013?**

The South Area Team confirmed that the claims for payments for work done under the collaborative arrangements will now be commissioned by CCGs or the Local Authorities.

For Bexley Bromley Greenwich Lambeth Southwark & Lewisham practices, please send your claims to the address below (but not those forms you usually send to the council directly)

**Finance Dept**  
South London Primary Care Support Services  
3rd Floor Cantilever House  
Eltham Road  
Lee SE12 8RN

**Contacts:**  
Sarah Kingsbury on 02030493318  
Michelle Palmer on 02030493906

For, Sutton, Merton and Wandsworth practices please send your claims to the address below:

**Lorraine Ayley**  
Finance Dept  
Primary Care Support Services  
187 Ewell Road  
Surbiton  
Surrey  
KT6 6AU

**Contact:**  
Lorraine Ayley on 020 8335 1442 (lorraine.ayley@nhs.net)

**Is there a list of recommended fees for providing such reports?**

No. Although previously the rates for work done under the collaborative arrangements were
set by the Doctors and Dentists Review Body this ceased in 2006/2007 following the introduction of the Competition Act 1998 which prohibited the BMA from publishing suggested fees for services which can be provided by any doctor.

How much can I charge for providing a report?
It is suggested that when considering what fee to charge you calculate your hourly rate and work out how long the report takes to complete.

Can I charge for providing reports for child protection purposes?
Yes. You are entitled to claim a fee for providing reports for child protection purposes.

11. Hospitals’ duty of care to patients regarding test results

The GPC has recently issued the following guidance relating to hospitals’ duty of care to patients regarding test results which you may find helpful if you are asked by a hospital doctor to find out the test results which a hospital has ordered:

‘It has come to the GPC’s attention that in some areas, some hospital doctors have been instructing GPs to find out the test results that the hospital had ordered. Both the General Practitioners Committee and the Consultants Committee of the BMA agree that this practice is potentially unsafe, and that the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that results are acted upon rests with the person ordering the test (“the referrer”) and that responsibility can only be delegated to someone else if they accept that responsibility by prior agreement. Handover of responsibility has to be a joint consensual decision between hospital team and GP, and if the GP has not accepted that role, the referrer must retain responsibility.

This advice is in line with both National Patient Safety Agency guidance and the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations.’

12. Occupational health provider for Southwark practices

The Occupational Health Service provider for Southwark practices is run by Heales Medical based at Oplex Business Centre, Unit 3 California Building, Deals Gateway, London SE13 7SB
Administrative contacts: Val Parrish, Lauren Hewitt
Email: kentoh@heales.com
Telephone: 0844 842 1755 Ext: 4000

13. Londonwide LMCs’ survey – Revalidation and Appraisals

We have been meeting with the Responsible Officers (ROs) of the three NHS England London Area Teams regarding revalidation and appraisals. We want to know if you are getting good quality appraisals and have drawn up a brief online survey so we can assess how best we can support you in our discussions with the ROs.

Our team would be grateful if you would complete this brief online survey by Friday 8 November in order to help us help you. It should only take a few minutes of your time.


The Londonwide Buying Group can help save you a considerable amount of your budget on office supplies, medical equipment and even website design. It is free and it is likely that you are already a member. Please have a look at the wide range of suppliers available on the Londonwide website.
If you still can't believe this service can make a difference to you, why don't you Challenge Gary Burns, a specialist in cost analysis, who is on hand to provide you with a free analysis to see how beneficial it could be to your practice if you switch to the Buying Group. If you have forgotten your password for the members section please call 0115 979 6910 or email info@lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk.

If you have any concerns or feedback regarding the Buying Group or its suppliers please email Ann Ayamah at aayamah@lmc.org.uk.

Keep up to date with latest news, advice and guidance at www.lmc.org.uk