

Tower Hamlets LMC

News Update – February 2019

Chair: Dr Jackie Applebee Vice Chair: Dr Naureen Bhatti

Dear all,

Welcome to the first News Update for 2019 and with the New Year comes a New Plan!

1. NHSE Ten-Year Plan

NHSE have launched their Ten-Year Plan

<https://www.longtermplan.nhs.uk/online-version/>

The devil will be in the detail but the £20 billion promised is not new money and won't make up for the shortfall to the NHS caused by ten years of austerity.

The plan mentions Integrated Care Systems and provides very short time lines for our local NHS teams to put plans in place, with the deadline for the plan for the first year being the end of March.

Practices should beware of anything that entices them to give up their GMS contracts. GMS contracts while not perfect, give practices the security of knowing that their contract cannot be put out for tender. APMS or any other sort of contract are short term and always at risk of being awarded to a private health provider.

2. Shared Care Guidelines for adult ADHD

The LMC have recently become aware of Shared Care Guidelines for adult ADHD. We are afraid that we cannot support the guidelines which make GPs responsible for prescribing for adults. The LMC feel that this is a specialist area and out with the expertise of General Practice.

3. Minor Ailments Scheme

Discussions are ongoing re the next iteration of the Minor Ailments Scheme. The national scheme comes to an end at the end of March. The scheme allowed patients who are entitled to free prescriptions to access simple medication free at the pharmacy without needing to come to the GP for a prescription. The concern is that the loss of this scheme will increase GP workload as people come to us for a prescription. The CCG are working with Hackney CCG to provide a local solution.

Contents

1. NHSE Ten-Year Plan
2. Shared Care Guidelines for adult ADHD
3. Minor Ailments Scheme
4. Phlebotomy
5. NIS Round
6. NHS Property Services

Tower Hamlets LMC members

Dr Jackie Applebee (Chair)
Dr Naomi Beer
Dr Naureen Bhatti (Vice Chair)
Dr Gemma Eyres
Dr Emma Radcliffe
Dr Selvaseelan Selvarajah
Dr Archana Spahn
Dr Natalie Symes
Nirupam Talukder
Dr Sabir Zaman
Dr Jayalakshmi Aiyengar
Dr Alex Bunn
Beverly Fernando, Practice Manager

To get in touch with your representative or to raise any matters with the LMC contact Wendy Walker (wendy.walker@lmc.org.uk) or telephone 020 3818 6262.

GP Support

The GP Support Team are here to provide advice and support to any practice or individual GP.

To raise any confidential matters regarding your practice contact GPSupport@lmc.org.uk or visit their page on our [website](#) for further contact details.

4. Phlebotomy

The Phlebotomy contract is proposed to be changed from a fee per item to a block contract. There is apparently a large overspend on the contract as it currently stands. The CCG, by introducing the block contract and capping the budget, have been able to avoid the contract going out to procurement, so keeping the activity in General Practice, but there are obviously concerns as to what will happen if the cap is exceeded and what this will mean for practice staff and workload, especially as work is transferring from hospital to the community with the new RAS service and the drive to reduce out-patient attendance. The LMC have written to Henry Black, Chief Finance Officer at East London and Health Care Partnership to express our concerns.

5. NIS round

The annual negotiations between the CCG/GPCG and LMC regarding changes to the NISs is about to begin. The LMC have fed back concerns that many of you have already alerted us to such as the complexities of the Prescribing NIS and fears around the quarterly rolling targets. Please let us know if you want us to feed anything else in.

6. NHS Property Services

Issues with NHSPS continue. For those of you in NHSPS premises the advice is the same as it has always been. This is a national problem and there are practices all over England who are withholding their service charge payments and have not signed a lease. Please do not be coerced into signing a lease that you are not 100% happy with. Ensure that all service charges are fully itemised and relate to your practice and not to another occupant of the building if you share premises. Keep in contact with NHSPS and say that you are happy to comply when your reasonable requests have been met. Please keep a sum of money aside to pay outstanding charges when they are finally agreed.

LEAD Events

Londonwide Enterprise Ltd (LEL) was set up to provide affordable, high quality training and educational events for practice teams.

The Learning Education and Development (LEAD) team is always keen to hear what training is really needed on the ground – get in touch with any ideas by emailing lead@lmc.org.uk

Upcoming Events:

Thursday 14 February 2019

Safeguarding Adults L3 09:30am-4:30pm

Wednesday 27 March 2019

An Overview of the NHS pension Scheme 09:30am to 12:30pm

Londonwide LMCs' Annual Conference

Speakers have been confirmed for the free to attend Londonwide LMCs' 2019 Annual Conference '**All Together Now**' on **Tuesday 12 March 2019**. Click [here](#) for details.

LMC Conference UK 2019

The conference will take on 19 – 20 March with Drs Jackie Applebee, Naureen Bhatti and Naomi Beer representing Tower Hamlets. An update from the conference will be provided in the next newsletter.

Contact us

Tower Hamlets Local Medical Committee, Londonwide LMCs, Tavistock House, Tavistock Square, LONDON WC1H, 9HX. www.lmc.org.uk

The next LMC meeting takes place on Tuesday 26 February 2019.

Tower Hamlets LMC Team

Dr Jackie Applebee – Tower Hamlets LMC, Chair
Dr Naureen Bhatti – Tower Hamlets LMC, Vice Chair
[Dr Elliott Singer](#) - Medical Director
[Greg Cairns](#) - Director of Primary Care Strategy
[Wendy Walker](#) - Committee Liaison Executive

Dates of Future 2019

Meetings:

Tuesday 14 May

Tuesday 9 July

Tuesday 10 September

Tuesday 12 November

Disclaimer: This publication is written for healthcare professionals in Tower Hamlets and information may not be appropriate for use elsewhere. Editorial comments do not necessarily represent the views of the LMC.