



The Humberside Group of Local Medical Committees Ltd

Newsletter: 17 December 2014

The LMC Newsletter is a round-up of interesting news and information for GPs and Practice Managers in Hull, East Yorkshire, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire. You can read from top to bottom or alternatively, use the contents section to jump to items of interest. Items marked with a * and in orange on the content list are highlighted either because of their importance or because they contain information you may not yet have seen elsewhere.

CONTENT

1. INSPECTION

[BMA Website Updated with New Guidance on CQC inspections for GP practices*](#)
[CQC Intelligent Monitoring – data update](#)

2. COMMISSIONING

[GPC update on co-commissioning of primary care: Important Guidance for CCG member practices*](#)
[Primary Care Co-commissioning – Next Steps](#)

3. CLINICAL ISSUES

[Advice for prescribers on the risk of the misuse of pregabalin and gabapentin](#)
[Launch of New Ambulatory Care Unit at Hull Royal Infirmary - Information for GPs](#)

4. PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

[LMC Advice Sheet: Cold Chain Requirements for Vaccines*](#)
[Post Graduate Certificate in Management Practice \(Hull CCG\) - deadline for response 18 December 2014](#)
[News from Y&H Commissioning Support: IT SuperUsers](#)
[News from Y&H Commissioning Support: Network Access Accounts](#)

5. GUIDANCE & RESOURCES

[Patients Presenting with Dental Problems: GP Responsibilities](#)

6. EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

[GP Expression of Interest for Individual Funding Panel \(IFR\) NHS Hull CCG](#)

INSPECTION

BMA Website Updated with New Guidance on CQC inspections for GP practices

The BMA has recently added new information to its website providing guidance to practices on CQC inspections. The LMC is advised that this will be a 'living' web page which will feature regular updates.

In particular, the BMA plans to include a link to a page detailing the personal experiences of those practices that have already been through the new inspection regime.

<http://bma.org.uk/practical-support-at-work/gp-practices/service-provision/cqc-inspections>

CQC Intelligent Monitoring – data update

Following feedback from national and local stakeholders, and working with NHS England, the CQC have now completed a comprehensive review of the data used in their Intelligent Monitoring system. As a result, there are a number of changes which are set out below:

- GP patient survey indicator (GPPS005) – this indicator has been removed following review of the methodology and individual survey response data
- GPHLIAC01 – data for this indicator has been updated by NHS England
- GPHLICPD – data for this indicator has been updated by NHS England
- GPHLICH01 – data for this indicator has been updated by NHS England
- GPOSDD01 – data for this indicator has been updated by NHS England

The vast majority of GP practices will not be affected by these changes in terms of their ranking within the Intelligent Monitoring classification. Overall, 60 practices previously in higher priority bands 1 and 2 will now move to bands which are of lower priority for inspection. CQC has stated that they will contact each of these practices to apologise for any concern this may have caused GPs, their staff and their patients. Seven practices will be moved into a higher priority band as a result of these changes and CQC will also be contacting those practices directly. Updated IM reports and more information are available on the [CQC website](#).

COMMISSIONING

There are two new publications relating to Co-Commissioning. Information about and links to both are provided below.

GPC update on co-commissioning of primary care: Important Guidance for CCG member practices

The GPC has produced a [new paper](#) to inform GP practices about options for your CCG to take greater commissioning control (called "co-commissioning") including the commissioning and performance management of general practice contracts. It is important that all practices understand these changes and their implications. As a practice it is important you are aware of what is

happening in your area so you can exercise your rights as a member to democratically influence the decision of your CCG.

Primary Care Co-commissioning – Next Steps

The LMC has been receiving some enquiries about progress with Co-commissioning. For anyone interested in finding out more, you can access the [Next Steps Towards Primary Care Co-Commissioning](#) document which was published in November 2014. It has been developed by the joint CCG and NHS England primary care co-commissioning programme oversight group in partnership with NHS Clinical Commissioners.

The document aims to provide clarity and transparency around co-commissioning options, providing GP members of CCGs with the information and tools they need to choose and implement the right form of co-commissioning for their local health economy.

The document has been published with accompanying resources and tools.
<http://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/pc-co-comms/>

CLINICAL ISSUES

Advice for prescribers on the risk of the misuse of pregabalin and gabapentin

Public Health England and NHS England have produced [joint guidance](#) for prescribers covering:

- information regarding the potential for misuse of pregabalin and gabapentin
 - suggestions for a balanced and rational use of these medications
-

Launch of New Ambulatory Care Unit at Hull Royal Infirmary - Information for GPs

Hull and East Yorkshire Hospital NHS Trust has now opened its new Ambulatory Care Unit (ACU) at the Hull Royal Infirmary site. This is part of the Trust's Medicine Transformation Programme which aims to reduce the wait-times for patients, avoid inappropriate attendances to Emergency Department and improve overall patient experience.

Patients who require urgent medical attention can now be referred via the contact number 01482 675772. GPs will be able to speak to a consultant or senior registrar via the phone line to discuss their patients' medical needs. Following the call, hospital staff will make arrangements to either admit patients to Acute Medical Unit for medical admissions or attend the ACU for day-case type assessments. The new procedure aims to ensure that patients receive medical care planned and tailored to their specific clinical needs.

The ACU is a new purpose-built modular build facility at Hull Royal Infirmary. The unit will be operational from 0800–2200 every day, including weekends, with the last patient arrival to ACU no later than 2000.

The [standard operating policy](#) contains information on the eligibility criteria which should be met for an ACU attendance, the ACU's medical staffing model and arrangements for out of hours and bank holidays.

In line with current arrangements patient transport will be organised by the individual GP practice.

It is envisaged that a majority of patients attending ACU will be from GPs, however your patients may also be treated on the ACU pathway if they self-present to A&E and are considered clinically appropriate for the ACU.

The opening of the ACU precedes the new frailty / Elderly Assessment Unit for older patients who may have social care needs as well as medical needs which will be open from February 2015 and practices will be informed of arrangements in due course.

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

LMC Advice Sheet: Cold Chain Requirements for Vaccines

The LMC has become aware of several recent breaches by practices with regard to the cold chain standards for storage of vaccines. [This advice sheet](#) has been drafted with the assistance of NHS England to remind practices of the requirements set out by Public Health England and to provide signposting to further guidance.

Post Graduate Certificate in Management Practice (Hull CCG) - deadline for response 18 December 2014

The CCG would like to offer an opportunity to practice managers or senior practice administrators.

There is an opportunity to undertake a funded Post Graduate Certificate in Management Practice with the University of Hull. This would be one year of study but could form part of a 3 year MSc programme.

The programme consists of 6 modules over the course of the year. Each module will consist of three study days followed by an assignment to be produced over the next 6 weeks.

The course will be fully funded for 3 people although backfill for time would not be funded. Hull CCG recognise the importance of developing management skills within primary care and this is a first step in CCG support for this. The Regional Workforce Development Group is meeting early in the New Year with a focus on the non-clinical primary care workforce which will inform how the CCG moves forward with this.

If you, or one of your practice team, are interested in taking up one of these places and wish to discuss further, please contact the Estelle Butters, Business Intelligence Manager on 344846 or email ebutters@nhs.net. Unfortunately there is a short deadline for this so responses are required by **18th December 2014**.

News from Y&H Commissioning Support: IT SuperUsers

As you may be aware, there has been a scheme running within the NYH locality for SuperUsers at practices and organisations. This has enabled staff on-site to manage their own NHSMail password resets and software installations for agreed software packages such as Sage.

The scheme has now been in place for several months, and has proved very successful with the early adopters, so it has now moved from its initial trial stages to a fully operational service. If you or your colleagues require any further information regarding becoming a SuperUser, or what it offers, the [application form](#) can be found within the IMT section of the Commissioning Support Intranet or from the ServiceDesk.

News from Y&H Commissioning Support: Network Access Accounts

Following a recent audit on behalf of NHS England, Y&H Commissioning Support are now advising all managers and staff that changes for network access accounts (ie starters, leavers and permissions) can only be processed on receipt of an authorised request form. These will take up to three days to process from receipt.

They are also reminding managers that they are responsible for advising through the service desk when staff leave. All access is removed on leaving an organisation or post and any access required in a new post needs to be requested as a new request.

All relevant forms relating to user accounts can be found on the Commissioning Support Intranet.

GUIDANCE & RESOURCES

Patients Presenting with Dental Problems: GP Responsibilities

The LMC has recently received some enquiries about the responsibilities of GPs in relation to dental patients, particularly in terms of prescribing. The GPC guidance on this dates from 2005 but remains current.

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

GP Expression of Interest for Individual Funding Panel (IFR) NHS Hull CCG

NHS Hull Clinical Commissioning Group (The CCG) has a statutory responsibility to commission care, including medicines and other treatments, for the population it serves within available resources by prioritising between competing demands. The CCG therefore ensures that it does not use scarce resources on health care interventions that are not considered to be clinically effective or cost effective in meeting the health needs of patients. (The term 'health care intervention' includes use of a medicine or medical device, diagnostic technique, surgical procedure and other therapeutic intervention.)

The IFR panel is a mix of healthcare professionals and NHS managers, which make decisions on funding drugs and treatments that are not routinely available on the NHS. The panel meets on a monthly basis to look at anonymised individual requests made by a healthcare professional

(normally a patient's GP) proposing drugs or treatments that are new, are not covered in existing contracts, or are expensive or rare.

The CCG are looking to further improve accountability for the individual funding request (IFR) process. To support the process the CCG are looking for a Hull GP who is up to date with their CPD and who has an interest in the IFR process and this type of individualised funding, to join the IFR Panel as a member.

If you are interested in this position please send in your expression of interest to:-
karen.billany@nhs.net by **29th December 2014**.

If you would like an informal chat about the role, please contact **Karen Billany on 01482 344777**.

Commitments of the role holder:

Panel attendance one day a month – Tuesdays 1300-1600

Panel pre- reading one week before each panel meeting – circa one hour

Remuneration of £90 per hour

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Following a review of the work patterns of the Medical Secretaries we will aim to respond to routine emails on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.



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