

## Newsletter – December 2019

### LMC Meeting 9th December 2019

At our last LMC meeting we discussed a range of issues in addition to the newsletter articles here including, local provision for measles outbreak, Local Enhanced Services Specifications for 2020-21, Dementia Pathway, CGL Dual Diagnosis Pathway, Respiratory Services, & Improving Access Funding.

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### Coils for menorrhagia

The LMC are aware that some GP Practices are still fitting these on the basis that the service benefits patients, although some are planning to stop shortly due to lack of funding. The LMC feel it is short-sighted for the CCG to refuse to pay practices to do mirena fits for menorrhagia, especially when the gynaecology department are failing to reach their 18 week targets. The cost of a menorrhagia LES would be far less than any service provided in secondary care and it would certainly reduce referrals to gynaecology and FPC.

**Practices need to consider their position given the current absence of any funding via a LES, with the only viable option to refer to Gynaecology unless funding is made available.**

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### FIT Tests

The LMC have been informed there has been a higher than anticipated usage of Fit kits. The Cancer Alliance knows that there has been an under estimation and they are working to resolve this as quickly as possible. This is not just a problem for Rotherham but for the whole of the Cancer Alliance. The CCG has raised this with the Cancer Alliance and they are working to resolve this.

Locally if practices contact Janet Sinclair Pinder (cc LMC) she can liaise with the labs and they can authorise extra kits to be sent out.

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### DVT Pathway

The LMC still have some reservations about this. We feel it should be evaluated after a 6 month pilot and the results discussed with us before it is approved and accepted as a LES, which would then be eligible for inclusion into the Basket LES. Practices therefore need to make their own individual decision as to whether it is efficient and viable, before deciding whether to sign up in its current format.

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### Local Enhanced Service Specifications 2020-21

The LMC reviewed the drafts at its last meeting in December. Our main observation is the minor uplift of 1.5% and the need for an annual review of costs, in line with the uplift to other commissioned services.

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### Occupational Health Service

We are aware that this service will be ceasing from 31 March 2020, and the contract is out for tender. The CCG have confirmed to us that current arrangement for occupational health cover for practices is going to cease/change as of end of March next year. *“The Occupational Health Service commissioned by NHS England is for GPs only. Occupational Health services for GP staff will not be funded by NHS England and are the responsibility of the employer - they can choose any provider”.*

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### Ambulatory Nursing Care

The LMC are disappointed to learn that the new interim proposal has been approved by Primary Care Committee, despite our concerns regarding insufficient estimates of nursing resource required and appropriate funding.

Going forward, the CCG are going to work with the Primary Care Network to find a more permanent solution from next April, and the LMC will offer further comment and guidance during that process.

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### **Prospective record access**

The GPC have issued a joint statement about online access to Digital GP records 2019/20 and practice guidance has been issued, offering patients prospective record access

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/patient-access-to-records-online-prospective-record-access/>

The guidance aims to support practices in meeting the commitment to give new registering patients online access to prospective data, subject to existing safeguards for vulnerable groups and third party and system functionality.

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### **2020 South Yorkshire Next Generation GP Programme.**

This nationally expanding and fully-funded programme seeks to inspire emerging future leaders in General Practice, and this year is no exception, with a fantastic line up of workshops and interviews by foremost leaders in healthcare. NGGP is for GP trainees and early career GPs (first 5-7 years) with an interest in health policy and the wider NHS. There will be 5 monthly evening sessions beginning in February. For details of speakers and full programme including online application

see the website <http://bit.ly/NextGGP>

**Applications are open from Monday 9th December and close at 4pm on Monday 6th January.**

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### **Performers list: move to primary Care Support England (PCSE) online**

In December 2019 the management of the performers list will be switched to PCSE online. This will mean that rather than applying for changes to the performers list using paper forms, it will all be processed online. The LMC are sceptical this will be implemented without any further administrative burden on practices whilst the new service becomes established.

Practices should have received notification to the CQC registered manager to enable approved practice staff to administer practice-based changes to the performers list. Further information can be found via: <https://pcse.england.nhs.uk/about/whats-changing/>

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### **Pensions tax payment for 2019/20**

NHS England, has announced plans for covering the costs of tax on the annual allowance for 2019/20. The annual allowance tax charge for this financial year (for anyone that incurs it) will be covered via the scheme pays route and that when the individual retires and claims their pension, the NHS will pay to them the value of the tax charge for 2019/20

(including interest accrued), so covering the cost.

The BMA is continuing to liaise on the details of how this will operate, as well as continuing to lobby for longer-term solutions, including proposals to get rid of the annual allowance altogether. NHS England's letter and FAQs are available via: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/pensions/>

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### **LMC Meeting**

GP constituents are reminded that they are always welcome to attend meetings of the LMC as observers. The Committee meets on the second Monday of every month in the Board Room at Rotherham General Hospital

NEXT  
LMC MEETING

13<sup>th</sup> January 2020

COMMENCING  
At 7.30 PM

LMC Officers:-

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Dr Andrew Davies  
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