



LMC NEWS

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Defibrillators	1	They will also facilitate an initial 4 hour training course at no cost. There is an option of subsequent 2 hour refreshers every 12 months for designated AED operators at an agreed charge. A certificate of competence will be provided and valid for 12 months.
Sessional GP Elections to the LMC	1	For further information please contact the Community Response Manager for the Staffordshire locality, Matthew Heward on the detail below: -
PMS Reviews	1	Matthew.Heward@staffsamb.nhs.uk 07793 040310
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South Staffordshire MPs	2	Please encourage your sessional/locum GPs to consider themselves for elections to the LMC. There are 2 posts available and the election papers have been circulated to all practices.
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LMC members	2	The PCT has carried out all the PMS review visits and will shortly be writing to all practices.
Dr V Spleen	3	Comparative financial data is available for all practices and will be published together with the GMS data when finalised by the PCT.
		The main outstanding core concerns for some practices have been over the daytime opening hours and available GP clinical time.

SUMMARY CARE RECORD (SCR)

Following the publication of the UCL evaluation and the BMA ARM debate about the SCR, the GPC position is that the public information campaign and upload should be suspended. Practices should not feel pressurised by the PCT in participating in uploads to the SCR.

Dr Ken Deacon (PCT Medical Director) reported to the LMC that no more letters will be sent to patients. He also confirmed that no pressure is being applied to practices.

BRANDED MEDICINE SHORTAGES

The LMC recently met with Peter Prokopa, Chief Operations Officer for the Local Pharmaceutical Committee and discussed areas of mutual concern.

Peter would like to remind us that there is a section on the "open" part of the PSNC website which maybe helpful to practices in forward planning to avoid problems in patients obtaining supplies of some medicines that are experiencing shortages. It can be accessed via: -

http://www.pscn.org.uk/pages/manufacturer_quota_schemes_.html#List

COMMISSIONING POLICY AND REFERRAL GUIDELINES FOR THE PROVISION OF AESTHETIC SURGERY

You will have received from the PCT their Commissioning Policy and Referral Guidelines for the Provision of Aesthetic Surgery which states that patients will not normally be offered aesthetic surgery procedures in a specialist setting, secondary or primary care.

The LMC is disappointed that we have not been consulted about the document. Our main concern is about the PCT intention to stop us referring when we have clinical uncertainty e.g. lipomas that turn out to be sarcomas or small skin lesions that may be malignant.

It is clear that the public have not been involved in forming the policy and was restricting GPs' ability to refer when clinically necessary. It was also felt that the exceptional treatment route tends to humiliate the mainly female patients.

Overall LMC members felt this was a public health document and would still refer in order to let secondary care make the relevant decisions.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE MPS

All 7 MPs in South Staffordshire are now Conservative. A small group of LMC members are attempting to meet with them at the end of the summer. The MPs names and constituencies are: -

Stafford	Jeremy Lefroy
East Staffordshire	Andrew Griffiths
Cannock Chase	Aidan Burley
Lichfield	Michael Fabricant
Staffordshire South	Gavin Williamson
Stone	Bill Cash
Tamworth	Chris Pincher

Dr David Dickson
LMC Secretary

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

South Staffordshire LMC - 16th September 2010, South Staffordshire PCT, Block D, Beecroft Court, Off Beecroft Road, Cannock.

South East Staffordshire Sub Committee - 6th September 2010, Sir Robert Peel Hospital, Plantation Lane, Mile Oak, Tamworth.

South West Staffordshire Sub Committee - 9th September 2010, South Staffordshire PCT, Anglesey House, Towers Business Park, Rugeley.

LMC MEMBERS

The following is a list of current members of the South Staffs LMC

Dr M MacKinnon (Chairman)	01785 813538
Dr D Dickson (Secretary)	01283 564848
Dr C Pidsley (Vice Chair/Treasurer)	
	01283 500896
Dr A Parkes	01827 68511
Dr V Singh	01543 870580
Dr E Wilson	01922 415515
Dr A Yi	01543 870590
Dr A Burlinson and Dr O Barron (job share)	01889 562145
Dr P Needham	01283 565200
Dr G Kaul	01543 414311
Dr A Selvam	01543 571650
Dr J Holbrook	01543 503121
Dr T Scheel	01283 845555
Dr S Dey	01889582244
Dr P Reddy	08444 770924
Dr J Chandra	01543 870560
Dr A Elalfy	01785 252244
Dr P Gregory	01543 682611
Dr K Owens	01543 278461

Dr V Spleen

Dear Reader

I attended the LMC Conference this year.

Despite a full agenda I was not sure what we will be talking about. The newly elected dual government (Coalition!!) did not talk of a definite change except cuts! Even our leaders were unsure about talking seriously on any issues. Despite all that we did manage to talk a lot!!

Talking about Summary Care Records we were advised by DH at the eleventh hour not to talk negative on the issue. However we did manage to talk and talked it down!

I was delighted when one of my colleagues managed to be invited to talk on his motion. I think he talked very well, pity the motion was lost!!

The best talk however was when we went for the curry night! Not only did we talk about the increasing work load of our LMC secretary (and suggested an increased session even if the NHS cuts implemented!), we also talked on retiring or resigning should government force Out of Hour on us!!

From the grapevine I hear that there are talks that consultants are allowed to do only one follow up and then discharge patients to Primary care. Then a new referral is needed if patients are to be seen again. What a tosh!!

However, no detailed talks about proposed NHS management cuts.

They (NHS Managers) are definitely talking about transfer of work from Secondary to Primary care hoping to save money thinking Primary Care might do it for free!!!

Regarding prescribing we were told to prescribe certain items branded as they are cheaper than generics at present. Only a few years ago prescribing branded items was considered to be a bad Practice and clever Doctors only talked about them in generic name. I am sure the very same managers in a short time will be talking to us to prescribe generically as generic becomes cheap again. Surely the proper and correct thing to do would be for the NHS management to have discussions with pharmaceutical industry in fixing the prices and not expecting doctors to keep changing branded to generic and vice versa.

It is too early to talk about the next Conference but I hope to be there and will talk to you later!

Regards

Venture

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of the LMC