

## **BLUE BADGES**

Derbyshire County Council have informed us that from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 they will commission all medical advice regarding Blue Badge applications from their own Occupational Health Department. Our advice to County Practices is that they should not complete any Blue Badge application forms after 31<sup>st</sup> March as it is unlikely that they will be paid. Patients who bring the forms in should be told that the system has changed and that they need to go back to Social Services.

This does not apply to City practices for the time being and they should continue to complete Blue Badge application forms until further notice.

## **SRM RESOLUTIONS**

A list of the resolutions passed at the BMA's Special Representative Meeting debating the Health and Social Care Bill (15th March) is on the BMA website.

## **CQC for GPs Toolkit**

The BMA are currently drafting a 'CQC for GPs' toolkit that will advise primary care medical services providers on how to apply for CQC registration and comply with the CQC standards. They would really appreciate your help in sending examples of the following, or similar, documents for consideration and possible inclusion:

- 1) Handling of medicines policy (covering matters such as obtaining, safe storage, prescribing, dispensing, preparation, administration, monitoring and disposal)
- 2) Controlled drugs policy
- 3) Staffing policy that ensures that your practice has sufficient staff with the correct skill mix to provide a safe service at all times, including unexpected circumstances such as sickness, and when you expand your practice
- 4) Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) policy
- 5) Waste management/disposal policy
- 6) Maintenance of premises policy
- 7) Maintenance of equipment policy
- 8) Records management policy
- 9) Backing-up computer data policy (QOF Management 2)
- 10) Infection prevention and control programme/policy
- 11) Cleaning and decontamination policy
- 12) Safe handling and disposal of sharps policy
- 13) Hepatitis B immunisation for staff policy
- 14) Communicable disease outbreak policy
- 15) Immunisation of patients policy
- 16) Packaging and handling of lab specimens policy
- 17) Use and care of invasive devices policy

It would also be useful if you could say in your email if the template for a policy document came from a company such as First Practice Management. For any questions please call Holly on 0207 383 6058 or email any example documents directly to her at [htrotman@bma.org.uk](mailto:htrotman@bma.org.uk).  
Many thanks.

## **IM&T—EMIS WEB UPGRADE**

It was confirmed at a recent IM&T working group meeting, at which the LMC was involved, that funding has now been secured from "one off" in-year savings and a bid to the SHA for non-recurrent monies for all practices that want Emis Web. The following proposed criteria have been approved for roll out, with prioritisation given to the following areas:

- Clinical risk resulting from issues with existing clinical system or IT architecture
- Critical change in circumstances ie file server failure
- Cost savings released ie. cancellation of branch links once sites are upgraded to web.

A development deployment plan will now be raised in conjunction with DHIS, PCIS and EMIS together with a time frame for full deployment. Practices will be informed of expected timescales as soon as these are known.

## **OVERSEAS VISITORS ACCESSING PRIMARY MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE UK**

There has been significant confusion about overseas visitors' entitlement to NHS primary medical services, largely because of the absence of guidance from the Health Departments. Their current guidance to GPs is this:

Practices have a contractual duty to provide emergency treatment and immediately necessary treatment free of charge for up to 14 days to any person within their practice area. There is no definition of immediately necessary treatment in primary medical services contract regulations but it should be viewed as including treatment not only of new conditions but also pre-existing conditions that have become exacerbated during the period of a person's stay in the UK. Practices should have appropriate procedures in place to ensure that patients in need of this treatment can be identified and assessed by a health care professional.

When a person does not require emergency or immediately necessary treatment practices have some degree of discretion under the contract regulations about whether to register the person.

Practices, may accept overseas visitors as temporary residents, if they will be in the area for 24 hours to three months, or may accept them for inclusion in their patient list. Persons applying for registration cannot be turned down for reasons relating to the applicant's race, gender, social class, age, religion, sexual orientation, appearance, disability or medical condition.

Any person who does not require emergency or immediately necessary treatment and has not been accepted onto a patient list or as a temporary resident can still be treated by a GP on a private basis, for which they may be charged. It is not the duty of a GP to establish a patient's entitlement for free NHS secondary care treatment. This is the responsibility of the NHS secondary care provider. Trusts will ask patients questions on admission to determine whether they should be charged for the hospital treatment. GPs should avoid making any judgements about the likelihood of an individual patient being charged for secondary care and should refer when clinically appropriate.

## advertisements

**DERWENT VALLEY MEDICAL  
PRACTICE, DERBY****SALARIED GP - 3 sessions a week**

Busy two site PMS practice in Derby looking for a committed and enthusiastic GP to join our practice team. SystemOne, with full PHCT, in excellent modern premises.

MRCGP desirable. Informal discussion and visit welcomed. Job profile and practice leaflet available. Closing Date: 6<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

Contact Robert White, P. Mgr on 01332 294 214 or email: [robertwhite3@nhs.net](mailto:robertwhite3@nhs.net)

**RURAL DERBYSHIRE - ¾ TIME PARTNER**

Enthusiastic additional Partner sought to join our highly motivated and friendly practice team.

- \* Well organised, patient centred care
- \* Training practice - four Registrars
- \* Undergraduate teaching
- \* Semi-rural GMS practice, list 8,000
- \* Dispensary/Pharmacy Hybrid
- \* Edge of Peak District
- \* Fully computerised - TPP, SystemOne
- \* High QOF achieved
- \* Excellent support staff
- \* Start date: 1st October 2011

For a practice profile or to arrange an informal visit please contact our Practice Manager, John Claughton, on 01332 880249 or [j.claughton@nhs.net](mailto:j.claughton@nhs.net). Application by CV and handwritten letter by 6th May 2011. Interview date is 4th June 2011. **Arthur Medical Centre, Main Street, Horsley Woodhouse, Derbyshire DE7 6AX.**  
[www.arthurmedicalcentre.co.uk](http://www.arthurmedicalcentre.co.uk)

**HOW TO INFLUENCE PATIENTS TO  
DO WHAT YOU NEED THEM TO DO****WEDNESDAY 11 MAY 2011, 2pm—4pm**

Travelodge, Colliery Road, Alfreton DE55 1HJ  
Course fee: £80

Delivered by **Dr Alan Blair, Clinical Director and Consultant Clinical Psychologist** at Derbyshire Community Health Services and is for GPs who are interested in understanding more about **strategies that can enable you to be effective in influencing patients to make sustained changes in health behaviours.**

By attending this course, you will increase your awareness of • techniques to aid effective and influential communication, • how to motivate people to make sustainable changes to their lifestyle, • how to motivate people to engage with medical advice and treatment regimes, • common avoidable mistakes that we sometimes make which may undermine motivation to change, • psychological services that may be, available to people with challenging physical health problems. Please note that this session will cover much more than “motivational interviewing”.

**To book or for more information contact Rebecca Spencer on 01773 599475.**

**Email: [trainingforhealth@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk](mailto:trainingforhealth@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk)  
www.trainingforhealth.derby.nhs.uk**

**PRESCRIPTION CHARGES**

From 1st April 2011, prescription charges in England increase from £7.20 to £7.40, see DOH website.

**CRB CHECKS**

Following on from the March LMC newsletter article, Practice Managers and Doctors should note that any CQC Inspector visiting a Practice would require to see the original CRB copy or at least have access to the CRB registration number for the Doctor to check registration electronically.

**SEASONAL FLU 2011/12**

All practices should by now have received a letter from the Chief Medical Officer (England), which confirmed that the arrangements for procurement of vaccines for 2011/12 would remain the same as last year. Practices are responsible for ordering seasonal flu vaccine for the coming winter and should start ordering vaccines now, if they have not already done so.

In the letter from the CMO, you will see that the government would like practices to order sufficient vaccine to cover 75% of their patients aged 65 or over, and at least 60% of patients under 65 in clinical risk groups (including pregnant women).

We have been informed that so far, practices have not increased their vaccine orders to take into account the localised shortages experienced last winter, and despite a rising number of patients in the at-risk groups.

We would encourage practices to review their flu vaccine orders, to ensure that they have ordered sufficient number of vaccines for their patients in the at-risk groups.

The GPC would again like to congratulate practices on their hard work in relation to seasonal flu vaccinations for 10/11, despite all the potential problems practices faced over the winter.

The letter from the CMO is available on the DH website [http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh\\_125100.pdf](http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_125100.pdf)

**Latest advice**

In the past month GPC has issued the following: Overseas visitors, Bowel Cancer Screening electronic results, Breast Cancer Care Resource pack. Further details are available on application to the LMC office or on the BMA website [www.bma.org.uk](http://www.bma.org.uk)

**How to contact us**

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