

## **LMC LEVY HELD STEADY FOR RECORD 7<sup>th</sup> YEAR!!!**

At an Officers meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2011, it was decided to recommend to the LMC that there is currently no need to raise the LMC levy. We aim to give six months' notice of any increase in the levy so there will be no increase until at least the Spring/Summer of 2012 (if then). The last levy increase was on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2005 so we reckon we are beating inflation! The Officers, led by the Treasurer, will continue to keep the situation under review.

### **MINOR SURGERY AND FAIRER FUNDING (COUNTY)**

Historically the Minor Surgery LES followed the DES in that injections, for example joint injections, were paid at a lower rate than cutting surgery. There was no cap on minor surgery in 2010/11 and 100% of the last year's budget outturn is in the FF budget. However, if practices were getting more than their fair share of that, because they were doing more minor surgery than the average practice, they will see a reduction as there is now equality of funding.

It has been calculated that if the Procedures of Limited Clinical Value (PLCV) policy is adhered to there will be a 70% reduction in the number of cutting minor surgery procedures carried out. PLCV does not apply to joint injections. A 70% cap was introduced for cutting minor surgery only from 1/4/11 to 30/9/11 in order to ensure that the annual budget for 2011/12 was not compromised by practices undertaking large numbers of cutting procedures during this period, which had the potential to reduce the amount of money available to pay for the basket of services.

So, where are we?

In FF there is £497,881 for injections and £629,044 for cutting minor surgery. There are 96 practices. So an average practice (about 6000 patients) will get an allocation of £5,186.26 for injections and £6,552.54 for cutting. If you said this is worth £80/procedure then this would be just over 12 procedures/month in total. However, in FF there is £2.85 of unallocated funding, as an extra to cover for shortfalls. This would provide for minor ops more than 20 procedures a month.

There is no cap on cutting procedures or injections under fairer funding. There is an expectation that practices will abide by PLCV but, subject to that, it is up to practices to organise their minor surgery workload within the financial limitations set by fairer funding. If a practice feels that its minor surgery workload has exceeded its budget in any year it can refer (within the limits of PLCV) to secondary care and then it is the CCG's concern. If different practices work in different ways to reduce referrals, and can show that, they may be able to persuade the CCG to fund them extra.

### **THE NEW WORLD**

Practices have been both Commissioners and Providers since the introduction of the purchaser / provider split in 1990. Up until now, the tension that this can provoke has rarely been a significant concern for practices. Assuming that the Health and Social Care Bill becomes law in its present form, or anything approaching it, this tension will become much more significant. Practices will still be Providers but, as integral parts of their Clinical Commissioning Group, their commissioning role will be much more to the fore. We strongly advise all individual practitioners and practice teams to give thought to this issue. There are no simple answers but we all need to feel as comfortable as we can with the situation that confronts us.

### **CQC**

The CQC have issued a short guide for general practice to assist with the steps to compliance. The document emphasises that CQC will exercise proportionality when deciding whether the extent of a practice's compliance or non-compliance with any of the statutory standards provides grounds for refusal of registration in the first instance or institution of any of the CQCs powers of redress, up to and including deregistration, after registration has been granted. Please go to: [http://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/media/documents/20110825\\_4b\\_introductory\\_guide\\_v\\_4\\_final\\_for\\_print.pdf](http://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/media/documents/20110825_4b_introductory_guide_v_4_final_for_print.pdf)

### **BLUE BADGE UPDATE-DERBY CITY GP PRACTICES**

Derby City Council have advised the LMC that further to the Department for Transport's reform measures regarding Blue Badges, they plan to cease using GP's for Blue Badge assessments probably from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012 and certainly no later than March 2012. From then the Council plan to use the Occupational Health Service and/or their own OT's for these assessments.

### **CHRISTMAS IS LESS THAN 8 WEEKS AWAY .....**

Please be reminded that for patients who have repeat prescriptions, now is the time to check that they will not require renewal during the holiday period.

## Advertisements

### HEARTWOOD MEDICAL PRACTICE, SWADLINCOTE

**Salaried GP** – possibility of partnership, 8-9 sessions per week.

Heartwood is a young evolving practice in the heart of the National Forest, situated in a fully equipped modern health centre.

- \* 6900 patients, SystmOne clinical system.
- \* Active involvement in commissioning
- \* Lively cohesive team
- \* Medical Students
- \* 4 GP's plus clinical practitioner
- \* Salary in accordance with BMA guidelines

If you would like to know more about HeartWood and its ebullient, inimitable team, we would certainly like to know more about you!

Informal visits and enquiries welcomed. Application by CV with covering letter to Shani Fairbrother, Practice Manager, Heartwood Medical Practice, Civic Way, Swadlincote, Derbyshire, DE11 0AE. Telephone 01283 818100. E-mail: [shani.fairbrother@nhs.net](mailto:shani.fairbrother@nhs.net)

### DERWENT VALLEY MEDIAL PRACTICE, DERBY

**SALARIED GP**—Part-time, either 3 or 5 sessions.

Required for a 5 partner GMS Practice in Derby, using SystmOne clinical system and "Paperlite". Full Primary Health Care Team and attached staff in excellent modern premises. Competitive Salary. Excellent QOF achievement. Undergraduate Teaching with close links to University of Nottingham. MRCGP desirable. Informal discussions and visits welcome. Job profile and Practice leaflet available on request.

Applications with full CV and 3 referees to Robert White, Derwent Valley Medical Practice, 20 St Mark's Road, Derby DE21 6AT.

Telephone: 01332 294 214 or email [robertwhite3@nhs.net](mailto:robertwhite3@nhs.net)  
No Closing Date – Immediate Start Available

### JAUNTY SPRINGS HEALTH CENTRE

**SALARIED GP VACANCY** – 3 sessions

Due to retirement, an opportunity has arisen to join our practice as a salaried GP. We are a friendly practice with 3 existing GPs supported by a nursing team and HCA with excellent admin and clerical support.

- \* PMS practice
- \* Modern purpose built premises
- \* List size 3700
- \* Systm One working towards paperlight
- \* No OOH requirement

Informal enquiries or visits welcome, please ring above telephone number.

Please send CV and covering letter to Mrs B Smith, Jaunty Springs Health Centre, 53 Jaunty Way, Sheffield S12 3DZ. Tel: 08451 222021

### GLADSTONE HOUSE SURGERY, ILKESTON

**Part time GP Partner 4-5 sessions**

- \* List size 5200. 5 partners (3FTE), Urban PMS practice
- \* High QOF performance
- \* Undergraduate education
- \* SystmOne (TPP)
- \* Purpose built premises

Informal enquiries welcome. Apply with CV to:

**Melanie Ward, Practice Manager Gladstone House Surgery, Gladstone Street, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, DE7 5QS.** Telephone **0115 850 8882.** E-mail: [melanie.ward1@nhs.net](mailto:melanie.ward1@nhs.net)

Closing date: 7th November 2011

Interview date: 19th November 2011

### SHARED BUSINESS SERVICES

Further to SBS attending the October LMC meeting (see the October précis), please find below a link to their Contacts list for: Registration, Medical Records, Call & Recall screening and Performer Payments and the relevant escalation matrix for each Department: <http://www.sbs.nhs.uk/sbs/assets/East-Midlands-FHS-Contacts.pdf>

### VAULT CYTOLOGY

Following discussions in 2010, the Advisory Committee for Cervical Screening has written to the GPC to reconfirm their views that the responsibility for follow up care of women who require vault cytology lies with their gynaecologist, not their GP. The Advisory Committee and the British Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology (BSCCP) agreed that gynaecological clinics were the best place for cytology samples to be taken. There is still some flexibility in that GPs who wish to continue this practice, can do so on a case by case basis in agreement with their local gynaecologist. Full guidance can be found in '[Colposcopy and Programme Management - Guidelines for the NHS Cervical Screening Programme, Second edition](#)'

### PRESCRIBING SPECIALS GUIDANCE

The National Prescribing Centre has (NPC) has published guidance for prescribing specials; what they are and when to prescribe - [http://www.npc.co.uk/improving\\_safety/prescribing\\_specials/resources/5\\_guiding\\_principles\\_V2.pdf](http://www.npc.co.uk/improving_safety/prescribing_specials/resources/5_guiding_principles_V2.pdf)

### GP TRAINEES CONFERENCE

"The Essential GP Trainee Skills Day" - 30th November, BMA House, London - [http://www.bma.org.uk/whats\\_on/employment\\_related\\_courses/gptrainees.jsp](http://www.bma.org.uk/whats_on/employment_related_courses/gptrainees.jsp)

### SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH—WHAT CAN DOCTORS DO?

A BMA report about health inequalities has now been published, giving some practical examples of what doctors can do to make a difference.

The report is available on the BMA website: [http://www.bma.org.uk/health\\_promotion\\_ethics/socialdeterminantshhealth.jsp](http://www.bma.org.uk/health_promotion_ethics/socialdeterminantshhealth.jsp)

### COMMISSIONING UPDATE

[http://www.bma.org.uk/images/commissioningupdateseptember2011\\_tcm41-209288.pdf](http://www.bma.org.uk/images/commissioningupdateseptember2011_tcm41-209288.pdf)

### LOCUM AGREEMENTS GUIDANCE

[http://www.bma.org.uk/employmentandcontracts/employmentcontracts/sessional\\_gps/locumagreements.jsp](http://www.bma.org.uk/employmentandcontracts/employmentcontracts/sessional_gps/locumagreements.jsp)

### How to contact us

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