

Pharmacy in England: Building on strengths – delivering the future – proposals for legislative change

The Department of Health has published a consultation document on the future of dispensing doctor services in England; this can be accessed at the links below.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_087324

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Healthcare/Medicinespharmacyandindustry/index.htm>

The document contains four genuine options for consultation and these are as follows:

- 1) a pharmaceutical needs assessment with reduced mileage criteria
- 2) the distance from the surgery (not the patient's home, as in the current regulations) to the pharmacy
- 3) the distance from the surgery to two pharmacies (in order to offer as much patient choice as possible)
- 4) no change to the existing rules as set on in the 2005 NHS Pharmaceutical Services Regulations as amended.

The consultation document contains 3 annexes and there are an additional 8 impact assessment documents, in addition to guidance on "how to respond". The deadline for submissions is Thursday 20th November.

The GPC and Dispensing Doctors' Association will be submitting responses arguing for the existing rules to be maintained, and we advise practices also to submit a response. Practices should also inform their patients that their dispensing services are un-

Chlamydia LES

You will by now have seen the Chlamydia Screening LES offered by both the City and County PCTs. The LMC was asked to provide input into the wording and pricing of the LES with a turn around time of just 24 hours! I think the outcome has been very favourable and our LES compares very well with others that I have seen nationally. I would like to

take this opportunity to thank Laurence Bernthal, Practice Manager at Dr Turner and partners at All-estree, who joined me at very short notice indeed in the talks with the PCTs.

John Grenville

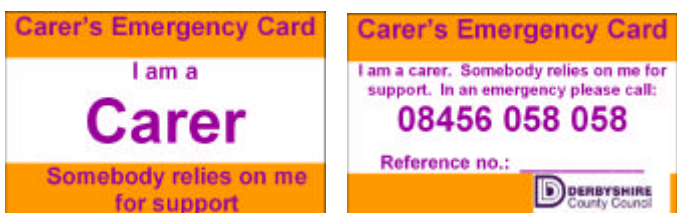
Carer's Emergency Card Scheme

As part of the New Deal for Carers, Derbyshire County Council Adult Social Services has developed an Emergency Card scheme to support the well-being of carers and provide them with some peace of mind that, in an emergency, the person they support will continue to have their needs met.

Carers can record their details with the County Council and will be issued with a card to be carried with them at all times. The card contains a reference number linked to their stored details. Should the carer be unavailable in an emergency, the Council will have details of the person they support, the assistance they usually provide to the individual, and details of Nominated Emergency Contacts the carer would like us to get in touch with.

GP's, ambulance crews, A&E/EMU staff and other health colleagues will have a crucial role in making the scheme work for carers. Please help to promote this service with your colleagues and any carers you are in contact with, and be aware that patients may be carers and carrying a card. If you find a card whilst treating a patient in an emergency, please ensure the Council is contacted so that arrangements can be made to support the cared-for person in line with the carer's instructions.

A carer's leaflet containing a registration form has



been created to promote the scheme. For copies of the leaflet, or for more information on the scheme, please contact David McGill, Project Officer for the New Deal for Carers, on (01629) 531011, or by email at

Deanery induction and refresher scheme

The Deanery has secured funding for 2008-09 to provide a refresher training programme for those doctors who have been out of practice for over two years. National criteria for such programmes are under discussion but entry to the programme would be subject to passing the current GP Specialty Training selection knowledge test and possibly a simulated surgery exercise.

For most individuals a six month supervised programme would be the norm and at the end of the programme, it is expected that the MRCGP Applied Knowledge Test (AKT) and possibly Clinical Skills Assessment (CSA) would be undertaken. Successful completion of these would allow a doctor's return to independent practice. This programme is not for those doctors who are seeking a return to practice following performance concerns.

It is expected that the programme would normally be based in a training practice and an educational grant of £30,000 would be paid to the practice. The grant would cover the doctor's salary / on-costs, supervisor grant and medical defence fees. The contract of employment would be based on the BMA salaried doctor document. The doctor would be personally responsible for fees for the AKT and CSA.

Should you be aware of any doctor who would be eligible for the programme, please ask them to contact the Deanery office for further information.

Additionally the Deanery is exploring the option of an induction programme for EU and other doctors entering general practice who have no experience of working in the NHS. Such a programme would cover important medico-legal issues such as sickness certification, death and cremation regulations, child protection, the Mental Health Act and other legislation. Important concepts such as clinical governance, commissioning etc. would also be addressed.

Please get in touch with the East Midlands Healthcare Workforce Deanery (Tel 0115 846 8276 or email sharon.martin@nottingham.ac.uk) if you know of any individuals who may benefit from such a programme.

Major Incidents and disasters - the role of the GP and the primary health care team

Practices are reminded that it is important for all primary care contractors to have a business continuity

plan for emergency planning. The RCGP's Position Statement is a useful starting point (available at www.rcgp.org.uk).

This booklet considers the preparedness of GPs and primary health care teams in responding to major incidents, including Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN). It also looks at the ability to continue providing essential healthcare in the aftermath of an incident. It discusses the implications of a major incident on GPs, and recommends that practices have a service continuity plan in place, outlining how to deal with an emergency and the recovery of normal services. The guidance suggests the implementation of a specific role for a GP with a special interest in emergency planning, and the incorporation of bioterrorism as part of GPs training.

RCGP Part 1 – Management in Substance Misuse

Thursday 23 October 2008

Limited places available – book now!

Venue: Dunston Innovation Centre in Chesterfield.

Contact Kathryn Walker,

Derbyshire Drug and Alcohol Tream (DAAT)

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F: 01629 585 150

E: kathryn.walker@derbyshire.gov.uk

W: www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/partnerships/key_partners/DAAT.asp

Latest advice

In the past month GPC has issued the following:

Corporate Manslaughter Act 2008

Removal of Patients from GPs lists

Further details are available on application to the LMC office or on the BMA website www.bma.org.uk

How to contact us

Derby & Derbyshire LMC Ltd office is at Norman House, Friar Gate, Derby DE1 1NU. Our telephone number is 01332 210008, fax 01332 341771. Our email address is now office@derbyshirelmc.co.uk. The two Practice/PCT Liaison Officers are Melanie Beatham and Kate Lawrence who will continue to liaise with the same North and Southern practices as before the PCT reorganisation. Their email addresses are: melanie.beatham@derbyshirelmc.co.uk and kate.lawrence@derbyshirelmc.co.uk.