

Précis of the December 2011 meeting of the Derbyshire LMC

LMC website: <http://www.derbyshirelmc.org.uk>

BMA website: <http://www.bma.org.uk/>

Derbyshire LMC met on the afternoon of 1st December 2011 at Santos Higham Farm. The Chair was shared by Dr J Ashcroft and Dr R Tinker, Dr Mark Bermingham, Dr Greg Crowley, Dr Peter Enoch, Dr Kaysia Gale, Dr Murali Gembali, Dr Brian Hands, Dr Andy Jordan, Dr Sean King, Dr Paddy Kinsella, Dr Jenny North, Dr Brendan Ryan, Dr Paul Weston-Smith, Dr Mark Wood, Kate Lawrence, Lisa Soultana, Helen Watts (LMC Clerk). Jackie Pendleton, Chief Operating Officer, North Derbyshire GP Commissioning Consortium and Gareth McCague LPC Executive Officer and Angela Parry, GP registrar at Whittington Moor surgery were in attendance.

SPEAKER

There were no speakers at this meeting. The Committee were asked if they would like anyone invited to future meetings, it was suggested that EMAS may be approached.

MATTERS ARISING

CONDOM DISTRIBUTION

The Condom distribution project was discussed during a 'lively' GPOG, the LMC is aware of at least 55 out of 136 Practices are not planning to sign up, further meetings are scheduled. To be updated in the January LMC meeting.

PCT CLUSTER

The NHS Operating Framework for 2012/13 is now out and allows for £25/head management allowance. Jackie Pendleton advised that the CCGs average in Derbyshire is currently £27/head. She noted that the 4 hour A&E target is to continue. No capping or minimum waiting times are allowed, in effect giving Commissioners little control. Patients will be able to choose their hospital according to waiting lists, more information is due to be announced in December. It is harder for the smaller CCGs to keep to their allowances as all will have some similar overhead costs.

Concerns were about list-cleansing as both Practice income and CCG budgets could be affected, however Derbyshire PCT has historically done this on a regular basis and the lists are generally very good. Practices were advised to check their 'removed patients lists' and patients who may spend time abroad, carefully. The new proposed NHS Structure from the BMA was circulated.

AOB ITEMS

There has been little feedback from Practices within Derbyshire following the recent '111' launch in Chesterfield, Matlock and Bakewell. Post meeting note: A discrepancy has arisen in the call-handler's scripts, Dr Grenville emailed Practices with the following update on Friday 2nd December: "*There is a set of outcomes that reads "the individual needs to be seen by the GP practice within [2, 6, 12, 24] hours. If the practice is not open within this period they need to be seen by the out of hours service". There is another set of outcomes which does read that the patient needs to contact the practice, rather than be seen by the practice. This is unacceptable. Peter, in his capacity as the GPC Lead on '111', will be taking the matter up at national level.*"

OFFICERS MEETING REPORT

Dr Tinker gave an overview of the Officer's Meeting that had taken place on 18th October. She reported that both sets of Minutes and Accounts had been reviewed and were agreed. Developments have taken place since the two new staff joined the team including investment in new computers, a new website and new accounting system. It was decided to maintain the levy at its current rate for the time being. Items discussed included the Health and Social Care Bill, transfers of work between secondary and primary care.

AGM

Notice was given that the LMC's AGM will be held with the 5th January meeting.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Next years' Annual Conference will be in Liverpool on 22nd and 23rd May, Derbyshire can send four delegates. The Committee felt it appropriate for Dr Peter Williams as the LMC Chair and Dr John Grenville, LMC Secretary to attend, the remaining two places were put to vote and Dr Bermingham and Dr Tinker were then also nominated.

WIDOWERS PENSIONS

Dr Ashcroft read the reply that has been received from the BMA following Dr Grenville's letter enquiring about Widowers Pensions that were accrued by female doctors prior to 6 April 1988. The BMA explained that whilst the Court accepted that the current position amounted to discrimination, it had lost the judicial review on the grounds that the cost of rectification was prohibitive. The BMA was not given leave to appeal and had to pay 90% of Government's legal costs. The Committee felt that it would like Dr Grenville to review a copy of the original judgement.

CAMERON FUND

This is the only medical charity that financially supports Doctors and their families in times of hardship. It was agreed to donate the December member's travel expense payments to the charity again this year.

NRT AND PHARMACY

There is a need to establish what role General Practice should play in Smoking Cessation both now and in the future, that discussion needs to take place. There is a historical problem that NRT has not been funded correctly. GPOG recognise the need to check CCGs are happy for the LES to be Countywide; a further meeting with Tony Morkane is to be arranged.

GPOG

The General Practice Operational Group is now headed by Keith Mann, Head of Primary Care. The key items discussed were: Premises, Payments for Extended Hours, CVD Screening, Condoms, Fairer Funding and Generic Email addresses. Note: Clive Newman will be checking that Practices are accessing their generic email addresses.

FAIRER FUNDING

Jackie Pendleton summarised that 7 Practices have not signed up due to specific differences with each Practice, but many are rural Practices. Four of them are GMS and they will undergo further review by the CCGs. A letter that has been received by Dr Grenville from Mark Todd, Chairman of NHS Derby City and NHS Derbyshire County, Mr Todd recognised the LMC's contribution to the high level of support given by GPs (91%) to the new FF formula and thanked both Dr Grenville and the LMC for their role in the project.

CORRESPONDENCE

The article in GPC News issue 4 regarding 'Practice Nurse Indemnity' no longer being covered by the RCN was discussed. Practices do have vicarious liability for their staff and should consult their Medical Defence Organisations. Dr Ashcroft summarised the GP's Contract 2012/13 changes.

OFFICE REPORT

The Minutes from the Team Meeting 10th November were accepted. Lisa Sultana explained that she will 'soft launch' the website to the Committee on 12th December for their feedback and then launch to all in January.

AOB

- a) BICA Forms. Dr Williams recalled the LMC in the past saying we would not complete these until the form is made electronic, which so far is not the case. Dr Grenville will write to Call Derbyshire to clarify their requirements.
- b) Dr Weston Smith mentioned that he'd had two recent incidents where no information was left for his surgery following patients being brought in by EMAS. One case took two days for the information to come from EMAS. Could Dr Grenville write to EMAS to clarify what their standard procedures are with regard to passing on patient information to the next clinician?