

MOTIONS FOR ANNUAL LMC CONFERENCE 2011

1. That this Conference
Expresses its extreme concern over the proposals in the Education and Training White Paper.
2. That this Conference
Is concerned that the Government's proposals on education and training will lead to severe shortages of GPs (across the UK) over the next few years.
3. That this Conference
believes that GP Clinical Commissioning (GPCC) is a misnomer. Clinical Led Rationing Boards would be more descriptive.
4. That this Conference
believes that GPs charged with responsibility of allocating Eighty Billion pounds of NHS funding annually will fail if Ninety Billion pounds annually is actually required.
5. That this Conference
believes that any future patient surveys of quality standards in general practice should take into account the increasing use of telephone consultations.
6. That this Conference
believes that the exponential growth in points of access for medical care and advice for patients leaves them (especially the elderly) at best confused and at worst disadvantaged and hence that "111" is one number too far.
7. That this conference
 - (i) totally rejects the idea that there should be a central booking agency for GP appointments,
 - (ii) suggests that any so-called genius who considers the idea in the future, consults patients (especially frail and elderly patients and those who do not speak English as a first language) before putting pen to paper
8. That this conference
recognises that choosing healthcare is more complex than buying banking services, holidays or baked beans. The concept that "the customer is always right" is not always right in healthcare and should not be accepted uncritically.
9. That this conference notes the increasingly widespread decisions by PCTs not to commission certain services, including minor cosmetic surgery and
 - (i) believes that the time is right to reconsider the ban on practices providing such services privately to their own patients
 - (ii) instructs GPC to re-open negotiations with the Department of Health on this issue.
10. That this Conference
 - (i) notes that most newly qualified GPs become sessional Doctors
 - (ii) believes that in order to safeguard the future of general practice, individual practices have an obligation to ensure that the supply of partnerships meets the demand.
11. That this conference
believes the Government's offer of Commissioning to GPs is, to paraphrase Don Corleone, an offer we can't refuse.
12. That this Conference
 - (i) calls upon the Secretary of State to exercise his powers under Section 24(3)(b) of the Coroners Act 1988 to ensure that all Local Authorities set reasonable rates for Coroners to remunerate GPs for the provision of reports regarding deceased patients

(ii) requests GPC to hold discussions with the Coroners Society with a view to developing a joint approach to the Secretary of State on this matter.