

The New Glasgow LMC Website www.glasgowlmc.co.uk

We are encouraging all Practices to choose the LMC website as their home page. The website is updated daily with essential alerts, news and relevant policy updates from both GGC and National directives - all aiming to assist you in the running of your practice and support practice teams. There are multiple vacancies advertised, a comprehensive LMC library with powerful search engine and useful information relating to the wide range of services we offer here at the LMC. Click the link above and have a look!

Sessional GPs

A number of sessional GPs in GG&C appear to have been unaware that a new GP Form B has been published for use from **1st April 2014**. We have been in contact with Practitioner Services Division (PSD) to see what might be done to improve lines of communication with sessional GPs in GG&C. Meantime we would ask that practices try to ensure that only the current GP Form B is countersigned by practices. To assist we have uploaded the current GP forms A and B and their accompanying notes on completion to the sessional GP area of the Glasgow LMC website at <http://www.glasgowlmc.co.uk/gp-services/sessional-gps/>

We have also uploaded the SPPA circular 2014/02 which details current applicable rates in a variety of situations. These documents are also easily available on the PSD website
<http://www.psd.scot.nhs.uk/professionals/medical/guidance.html>.

We hope to have alerts to changes to superannuation forms and rates on our website in the future and are currently working with PSD to this end.

The New Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD)

GPs need to be aware that from 6th August 2014, there will be a new "Death Certificate" or Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD). There is a local implementation group that has been set up with LMC and practice manager representation. This is extremely important information for all GPs and practice managers. Please ensure that all doctors and key practice staff are aware.

The Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011 was introduced with the aims of:

- Introducing a single system of independent, effective scrutiny to deaths that do not require a PF investigation.
- Improve the quality and accuracy of MCCD.
- Provide improved public health information and strengthened clinical governance in relation to deaths.
- Strengthen clinical governance in relation to deaths-through linkages between the new review system and Health Boards.

Please visit our website for further information:
www.glasgowlmc.co.uk

Commonwealth Games 2014

July 23 – August 3 2014 will see one of the world's most significant multisport events take place in Glasgow.

It has been agreed that GP practices will be issued event day parking permits to facilitate access to patients. These permits will be generic and only for use on GP house calls. GPs are encouraged to carry photographic IDs (passport or driving licence) to allow Police Scotland to verify their identity. Please be prepared. The following traffic links will help, alternatively please log into the following web site for the latest updates: <http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/glasgow2014>

Scotstoun

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=19537&p=0>

Cathkin Braes

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=19501&p=0>

Athletes Village, Vellodrome and Emirates Arena

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=19502&p=0>

Glasgow Green

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=19506&p=0>

Hampden Park

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=19535&p=0>

Ibrox Stadium

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=19507&p=0>

Kelvingrove

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=19536&p=0>

Tollcross

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=19195&p=0>

Cycling Time Trials – Road Closures, Parking Restrictions

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=19638&p=0>

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=19622&p=0>

SECC Precinct

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=19538&p=0>

Merchant City

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=19504&p=0>

Games Route Network

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=19626&p=0>

We have also clarified that workers at Commonwealth Games Venues do not require a GP letter or prescription to allow them to take paracetamol into the venues. Evidently a worker had been advised by their employer that they could not carry paracetamol on their person unless they had GP approval as it would otherwise breach security.

Registrations and Practice Responsibilities

It is important to draw your attention to your responsibilities in terms of registering patients and providing services to those patients residing in your post code areas. There have been reports that some patients have been redirected by reception staff onto other GP surgeries despite the patients residing in the appropriate post code area. This is in breach GMS regulations and hence it is imperative that your practice staff is aware of the practice obligations.

Can we also clarify that patients who are registered with the practice are entitled to GMS contracted services including house visits if appropriate. There has been some confusion about patients who have moved permanently to another area out-with the practice boundary that have asked to remain with the practice and their subsequent entitlement to home visits. If the practice has agreed to keep patients on their registered list under these circumstances the practice are contracted to carry out home visits if appropriate. They may be found to be in breach of contract if they do not.

A full copy of the GMS contract can be found in our LMC library under the section 'contract and contractual guidance'; however for ease we would draw your attention to Pages 76 onwards.

EMIS Webstreaming

This is the new system which "backs up" your EMIS data to a remote EMIS server. Around 40 practices are already signed up and streaming their data. There is no adverse impact on the practice's server performance and the advantages included improved EMIS searches and also another fail safe data backup. Please contact the IT department to sign up.

Windows 7 Upgrade

All GP practices' PCs will be upgraded from XP to Windows 7. This process is ongoing and you will be contacted by the IT department soon about this. We wish to encourage practices to fill out the PC Checklist for all computers as this helps to streamline the process and to minimise disruption to the practice

Fire Arms Licence: Review of National Arrangements on Information Sharing

The Police, British Medical Association, Home Office and representatives of shooting organisations are currently working to secure national agreement to new arrangements on medical input to firearms licensing. The objective is to reach an agreed approach which can be voluntarily adopted by GPs nationally.

It is important to reach an agreed position for a number of reasons:

- Recent reports following shootings by licensed gun owners highlighted the need for better information sharing between GPs and police about medical conditions which could affect a person's suitability to possess a gun.
- Weaknesses in the existing arrangements which could lead to risk to public safety,
- A need for greater clarity about the role of GPs and the role of police, and the circumstances in which GPs should raise issues of concern with the police
- There is a lack of consistency in practice over how police and GPs approach the issue locally.

In the interests of public safety, it is essential to ensure that the police have access to all relevant information, including on medical fitness, when they consider a firearm or shotgun application or the ongoing suitability of a person to continue to possess a gun. This will enable the police to make an informed decision. New arrangements, once agreed, will be underpinned by an information sharing agreement setting out clearly the role of the GP and police.

Pre-chemo Phlebotomy

We have confirmed with the Beatson that all patients who are attending GP practices for pre-chemotherapy bloods will have the right paperwork and forms. This was following reports from practices that patients were turning without the Beatson forms.

Fees for GP Reports

We are receiving increasing queries from practices who have had fee notes returned by a variety of agencies (including solicitors, government departments) as being too 'excessive' and asking for/or offering a reduced amount. Our advice to practices is to get confirmation in writing that their fee for carrying out the work will be honoured before producing or sending the report.

From all the Team at the LMC

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