**GLASGOW LMC LIMITED E-NEWS Easter 2017**

**C**

**abinet Secretary Announcements 2017/18 Funding**

£71.6m of additional funding was announced by the Cabinet Secretary Shona Robison on 10th March at the Scottish LMC Conference. £60m of this will be in direct support of GP practices and £11.6m will be GP pay and expenses. She also made the commitment that investment in direct support of general practice will reach an additional £250m per year by 2021.

There will be further details on the actual breakdown of the £60m spend but these figures have been announced-

GP Pharmacy Fund increased from £7.8m to £12m which funds pharmacists working in GP practices; £2m for training nurse practitioners and practices nurses; GP Recruitment and Retention Fund increasing to £5m from £1m.

**R**

**esponsibility for Test Results**

We are extremely pleased that the principle of “whoever orders a test should be clinically responsible for the result” was supported by Shona Robison at the LMC Conference. It is now Scottish Government policy. She said,”It is a patient safety issue. The clinician who requests the investigation is responsible for acting on the results.”

**S**

**ick Leave Payments**

Another announcement by the Cabinet Secretary was to increase the maximum amount of sickness pay that can be claimed for locum cover due a GP partner’s absence to £1,734.18 per week. This is line with the current maternity leave reimbursement and internal locum payments will be covered. She announced that it will no longer be discretionary for Boards to give payments and she removed the link to GPs and patient list size ratios. The full details will be part of the Statement of Financial Entitlement (SFE) for 2017/18.

GPs are advised not to make any changes to their current sickness policies in the meantime until the SFE is published later this year.

**E**

**nhanced Services 2017/18**

We have agreed with the Board to take Contraceptive Implants and IUCD Fitting out of the Stability Agreement. We heard concerns from practices that workload for LARCs was increasing and a stability agreement based on historical funding was financially punitive.

The Stability Funding Agreement for 2017/18 will continue of those Enhanced Services that were part of last year’s agreement.

**P**

**ractice Managers Event**

We were delighted to host the Practice Managers Event at the Golden Jubilee on 22nd March. Over 70 PMs attended and heard Ian Mackie’s talks on Overseas Visitors and the new NHS Complaints process, as well as Dr John Ip’s presentation on the contract for 2017/18. We are very grateful for the support from the Board (via Primary care Support) who help fund these events.

**O**

**verseas Visitors**

Following the informative presentation by Ian Mackie, Primary Care Support, we thought it would be useful to reiterate some general principles which practices might wish to be mindful of. Firstly it is important to remember that all patients requiring emergency or immediately necessary treatment must be provided with that treatment and all individuals currently within the asylum system are entitled to register with a GP irrespective of their asylum status.

In addition to that practices may wish to have regard to the statement from the Royal College of General Practitioners that "Based on the principle that General Practitioners have a duty of care to all people seeking healthcare, the Royal College of General Practitioners believes that General Practitioners should not be expected to police access to healthcare and turn people away when they are at their most vulnerable." The full RCGP guidance can be found at <http://www.rcgp.org.uk/policy/rcgp-policy-areas/asylum-seekers-and-vulnerable-migrants.aspx>.

**N**

**ew NHS Complaints Handling Policy**

Practice Managers should have received the documentation from Primary care Support. The new policy went live in April 2017 and it is important that practices update their internal policies and processes in line with the new NHS Complaints Handling Policy. The main change in the new policy is the Early Resolution category for complaints that can be resolved within 5 days. GPs and practice managers need to be aware of the updated timescales of responding to and resolving of complaints as well as the reporting requirements too. Further information on this is available from Ian Mackie. Please contact the LMC office.

**S**

**essional GP Training Day**

It’s been a busy month! We held our annual Sessional GP Training day on Saturday 18th March at the Campanile Hotel. Over 50 GPs attended this event for BLS and child protection training, updates on the new GP contract, and also workshops examining how locums, practices and the Board can work better together to improve capacity and sustainability.

**S**

**PIRE**

The public information campaign for the Scottish Primary Care Information Resource was launched in March. Information packs were sent out to all GP practices. Please contact NHS Inform on 0800 22 44 88 if you have not received your practice information pack. Prior to formal switch on, practice will be asked for consent. The SPIRE project has the support of SGPC, RCGP and patient groups. For patients who wish to opt out of the anonymised SPIRE data extractions, READ code 9NuD for EMIS; or #9NuD for Vision. Further information is available on <http://spire.scot/>

**P**

**ractice Workforce Survey**

The LMC is developing a workforce survey that builds on the quarterly SGPC vacancy survey. We will be collecting practice anonymous information on the current GP numbers and sessions worked, Practice Nurse and HCA workforce and capacity and also the vacancy and future retirement situation in the practice. This information is important for us to quantify the scale of the workforce shortage currently and help us with our engagement locally and nationally on workforce planning for general practice. We will be emailing all practices soon and we would like to encourage all practices to participate in the survey.

**I**

**T Snippets**

**EMISWeb**

All EMIS practices are now being offered to have their data streamed into EMISWeb. This is the new version of EMIS and in the future will allow clinicians to access their EMIS data from the ‘cloud’. Currently, the main advantages for practices are additional off-site data backup. It can allow access to EMIS data even when the server is down, and also extra search functions are available for users. We encourage EMIS practice to take this up. Please contact the Mentoring Team for further information.

**Docman 75500**

The Board is continuing to work closely with PCTI to ensure that the problems experienced by practices with the new version are resolved. The roll out of 75500 has been suspended until the fixes are in place and concerns are addressed.

**Server 2008 Upgrade**

The roll out schedule for this server upgrade is continuing. So far over 80 practices have been upgraded. The server down time is usually around 24 hours - from midday to midday.

**Email Fraud**

Reports are still coming in for attempts to defraud GP practices. Please be alert to any emails purporting to be from trusted people asking for money transfers. Do not click on any links from emails as fraudsters can set up fake email pages that look very convincing. If you do receive a scam email please report it to action fraud <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report-a-fraud/how-to-report-a-fraud>

**B**

**MA GP Speed dating event**

The BMA are holding a “GP Speed dating event” on Saturday 3rd June in Glasgow aimed at bringing together practices seeking to recruit new GPs and GPs looking for practice opportunities. For further details of the event please contact **localscotland@bma.org.uk**

### N

### ational Health Service Superannuation Scheme Scotland NHS Pension Scheme Membership for GP Locums

Sessional GPs are asked to note that from April 2017 with regard to employees’ rate there have been changes in the threshold earnings limits but no change in the contribution rates. Full details can be found on the SPPA website which will enable you to view the relevant circular, 01/2017 where the full details of the changes are held.

**P**

**rinciples for releasing electronic medical information for insurance under the Access to Medical Reports Act 1998 - UK**

In January 2017, the Association of British Insurers published a set of high level principles on requesting and obtaining medical information electronically from GPs. The principles were developed with input from the BMA and the ICO. Compliance with these principles will ensure that the release of electronic medical information for insurance purposes will be in line, or be a higher data protection standard, than the current paper-based system. The new guiding principles can be found on the ABI’s website <https://www.abi.org.uk/globalassets/sitecore/files/documents/publications/public/2017/health/requesting-and-obtaining-medical-information-electronically.pdf> ©BMA GPC News

**G**

**PC Firearms guidance launched - UK**

After several months of very detailed and hard work which has necessitated garnering input and expertise from several different stakeholders, and taking QC opinion, we are pleased to be able to share the BMA's new guidance on firearms https://www.bma.org.uk/advice/employment/ethics/ethics-a-to-z/firearms

In drawing up this guidance we have carefully considered all aspects of licensing exhaustively and we are happy that our advice falls within all ethical and legal opinion we have received. The GPC Task and Finish group responsible for this guidance was at all times cognisant of the importance of producing safe, ethical and legal guidance relating to the current system and at publication we will have discharged that responsibility. However, both GPC and the Professional Fees Committee (PFC) will continue to engage with the Home Office to press for improvements to a system which continues to grave anxieties for many of us.

For further information on the rationale and reasoning behind this guidance, please see this blog written by GPC England Executive team member, Mark Sanford-Wood, who led the work of the Task and Finish Group. ©BMA GPC News

**C**

**hild Protection and GP Data Sharing**

Just a reminder that the Child Protection Team have moved to Yorkhill and should practices need advice on sharing child medical records with either social work or police please call the team on 0141 451 6605.

**F**

**rom the Team at the LMC**

Dr Alastair Taylor, Chairman

Dr Mark Fawcett, Vice-Chairman

Dr John Ip, Medical Secretary

Dr Patricia Moultrie, Medical Secretary

Mary Fingland, Business Coordinator

Ian Mackie, P.C.Training & Development Mgr.

Elaine McLaren, Admin Assistant

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