

# LMC E-BULLETIN

## SOMERSET LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

### LMC COUNTY MEETING FEBRUARY—SUMMARY

#### Yeovil constituency representatives

The meeting was sorry to receive the resignation of Dr Iris Agnew as a representative for the Yeovil constituency and has passed on its thanks for all her hard work during her time on the LMC.

We were pleased to welcome Dr Simon Bonnington as one of the two new representatives for the Yeovil area, the other one being Dr Richard More who is rejoining the committee.

#### LMC Study Day

We were pleased to hear that planning was well advanced for this useful event to be held at Taunton Racecourse on Thursday March 8<sup>th</sup>. Practices will have received separate notification but places are still available to book via the LMC office

#### Decontamination

EU regulations will come into force in April that will make the procedures for the sterilisation of surgical instruments in most practices unsatisfactory. The new PCT has not arranged a central sterile supply service as was once mooted and it seems that, at least for the foreseeable future, using single-use, disposable instruments will be most practical. We are grateful to Wessex LMC for informing us about a contract they hold with Williams Medical which Somerset practices may join by

#### LMC Office Move

The move has unfortunately been delayed for 2-3 weeks due to problems with the installation of IT and phone lines at East Reach, an update will be issued as soon as a date is confirmed.

simply quoting an order number. The LMC is working on "fine-tuning" the arrangement for Somerset practices but does have concerns about the extra costs which may be incurred. The LMC would be grateful if any practices that have costed minor surgical procedures would share the data with the office so that future Enhanced Service negotiations may be well informed.

#### Poultry Workers and Influenza Immunisation

Recent events in Suffolk have raised this matter's importance although we have no reports of practices being besieged by anxious chicken farmers. Reports indicate that many practices have surplus vaccine but the LMC office may be contacted to offer a brokering service should supplies run short in your surgery.

Incidentally, practices are advised never to believe a cock turkey who says he has avian 'flu; it's bound to only be a cold.

#### LMC Budget & Levy

The committee resolved to accept the advice of its finance subcommittee that practices be asked to pay an extra one penny per patient per year in 2007-8. This will make the levy stand at 47p in Somerset which compares favourably with the levies charged by other neighbouring LMCs. (Devon currently 58p)

#### Meetings March

South West Regional LMCs	Thurs 1 Mar	W(h)ither General Practice	Thurs 8 Mar
GPC/LMC	Thurs 1 Mar	Somerset PCT/LMC	Thurs 15 Mar
County Executive Group	Mon 5 Mar	Somerset County LMC	Thurs 15 Mar
Mendip Practice Managers	Tues 6 Mar	Som Coast Practice Managers	Thurs 23 Mar
T&S Trust C&B	Weds 7 Mar	South West Ambulance Trust	Thurs 29 Mar