

LMC E-BULLETIN

SOMERSET LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

LMC COUNTY MEETING MARCH—SUMMARY

LMC Study Day – 8th March 2007

A synopsis of the presentations given by the plenary speakers is available on the LMC Website

Annual Conference of LMCs

Is there a topic that you would like the LMC to submit as a motion for the conference to discuss? If carried, such motions become binding on the GPC as the basis for policy.

IT Support for Practices

The LMC will be meeting with representatives of the two PCT directorates responsible for IT (Communications and Primary Care) to establish a regular liaison meeting. Meanwhile, all practices are invited to attend the regular practice IT leads meetings held in Taunton. The PCT has confirmed that money has been identified to help bring hardware in Mendip and South Somerset practices up to date during the next 12 months and incorporate them in the rolling replacement programme that has been running in Taunton Deane and Coast.

Pharmacy applications

The LMC will ask the PCT in future to notify dispensing practices of any change in pharmaceutical provision in their locality, on the grounds that any potential loss of dispensing patients is significant.

Out of Hours Session Payment Rates

The LMC is asking their negotiating team to enter into discussions with the ambulance service over out of hours pay and conditions as soon as this year's round of enhanced services negotiations is complete.

Enhanced Services 2007-2008

It is anticipated that these will continue broadly as in the current year. The PCT is to review its whole Smoking Cessation service including the ES element, and triptorelin (Decapeptyl) will be the preferred LHRH analogue treatment. Note that for gynaecological indications this should be provided by the hospital trust. Practices that plan to withdraw from any ES provision are asked to contact the LMC office in advance.

PMS Group

PMS practices are being invited to join a Somerset e-group to share knowledge and experience, and to provide early warning of any problems.

Clinical Pathway Problems

If you encounter an unexpected problem with a patient obtaining access to services that appears to be part of the move to PBR/PBC – e.g patients being referred back to the practice for re-referral in the middle of investigation or treatment of a specific condition – please let the LMC office know so we can collate reports for the PCT to act on.

GPC Response to DDRB Report

The GPC has called an urgent meeting of LMC Secretaries in London on 19th April before the next GPC meeting to discuss the profession's response to the zero percent pay rise. We would welcome comments from practices on what course of action you think most appropriate for the GPC and LMC to take.

Meetings

County Executive Group	Mon 2 April	East Somerset Trust	Wed 18 April
Communications Group	Tues 3 April	County PM's Meeting	Wed 18 April
LMC County Meeting	Thurs 12 April	South Somerset PM's	Wed 18 April
Mendip Practice Managers	Tues 17 April	County Executive Group	Mon 30 April
Somerset Coast PM's	Tues 17 April		