

LMC E-BULLETIN

SOMERSET LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

Summary of significant points arising from Somerset LMC meeting 11th October 2007

Darzi Report and Extended Access

Despite the abandoning of a general election, there is still considerable political pressure to extend practice opening hours despite the low priority the public gives this. The LMC will be entering into discussion with the PCT as to how this matter is best resolved, and meantime we advise practices to make no changes until these discussions are complete.

Flu immunisation for Poultry Workers

The PCT has agreed to pay the IOS fee for the immunisation of poultry workers requesting a flu jab this autumn.

Destruction of Controlled Drug Stock

The PCT has also agreed that the Prescribing Advisers, who are the "authorised officers" of the PCT to supervise CD destruction, will carry with them the "DOOM" kits required for the purpose. Please remember that GPs and practices should NOT take back unused CD stock from patients or relatives – it should be returned to a community pharmacy.

Practice Based Commissioning

DES 2006/07 – Allocation to Patient Services

Practices are reminded that the PCT will need to approve your plans for the use of any money provided through the second part of the DES to confirm that it is going to patient services. However, the definition of these is fairly flexible

LES 2007/08 – Prescribing targets.

Each of the 5 targets will be banded, with

bands attracting payments from 1-5 pence per patient depending on your percentage achievement. The sums are fairly small – 25ppp in total – but the LMC feels this arrangement is fairer than all or nothing targets.

Access Survey 2007-2008

Release of this bulletin was delayed whilst we waited for the DH to reconsider how the survey will be conducted. Patients will after all again be identified using the PCT Exeter system, but this year you will have to contact the DH directly if you want to opt out

Ambulance Control Requests to Delay Admission

Just a reminder that if a GP feels he or she has come under unreasonable pressure to allow an admission to be delayed beyond their original request, please would you make sure this is notified to the LMC office for onward transmission to the PCT

Herpes Virus Immunisation for Girls

It is now anticipated that the national programme will start in the autumn of 2008. In the meantime current LMC advice is as summarised in the September Newsletter.

Choice of Practitioner in Drug Dependence

Whilst practices are expected to offer reasonable access to a choice of practitioner for GMS/PMS services the LMC does not believe that this applies to the prescribing of controlled drugs as an Enhanced Service. Such patients should be informed that they may only see their designated doctor (or his/her deputy if on leave) for CD prescriptions.

Meetings

Pri Care commissioning managers	Thurs 1 Nov	LMC County Meeting	Thurs 8 Nov
Mendip Practice Managers	Thurs 1 Nov	LMC Communications Meeting	Thurs 15 Nov
County Executive Group	Mon 5 Nov	PEC Extended opening hours group	Thurs 15 Nov
Mentors for PMs	Tues 6 Nov	Somerset Coast PMs	Tues 20 Nov
Somerset LMC & PCT	Thurs 8 Nov	LMCs Secretary's Conference	Thurs 22 Nov
		LMC Meeting with PEC	Thurs 29 Nov