

LMC E-BULLETIN

SOMERSET LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

Summary of significant points arising from Somerset LMC Meeting April 10th 2008

NEW LMC CHAIRMAN

Dr Barry Moyse of Creech St Michael (barry.moyse@somerset.nhs.uk) was elected Chairman of the committee for the term 2008-2012, with Dr Sue Roberts from Bridgwater (sue.roberts@somerset.nhs.uk) moving from the post of Treasurer to be Vice-Chairman. Dr Alan Wilson (Ilminster) becomes the new Treasurer.

EXTENDED HOURS

Discussions continue with the PCT on the draft LES for Somerset. Practices already offering the service report generally low take up so far, but please let us know if your experience is different. We would also be grateful for the results of any patient surveys that you have undertaken as we would like to collate these to try and get a broad view of patient demand for extended hours appointments. Please send these to lmcoffice@somerset.nhs.uk

INFECTION CONTROL

Updated Comprehensive guidance on MRSA, including the choice of dressings for colonised wounds, can be found at:

<http://www.somersetpct.nhs.uk/InfectionControl/Shared%20Documents/J320MRSA%20Policy.pdf>

Practices may be contacted about patients developing MRSA bacteraemia in hospital in the course of root cause analysis as to its origins. A new strain of Clostridium difficile, 027, is beginning to turn up in the UK. This produces consistently high levels of toxin and therefore more symptoms, and is more likely

to affect patients who have not recently been treated with an antibiotic. It has high levels of resistance to quinolones which should be avoided if you are in doubt.

GP CLINICAL ADVISERS TO THE PCT

Thanks to those who volunteered. The list has been sent to the PCT, but we are still seeking GPs with an interest in Childhood Immunisation, Near Patient Testing (DMARDSs) Choose and Book and Services for Violent Patients. Please contact us if you can help. The PCT has agreed to pay backfill costs as necessary.

SOMERSET GP EDUCATION TRUST

Reports a very positive response from GPs so far with 62 already signed up. The first elements of their programme will be announced shortly

PRACTICE BASED COMMISSIONING

We have been asked to clarify that the PCT allocation to WyvernHealth.com mentioned last month is not strictly "freed up resource" but a subvention to support the agreed programmes. The LMC discussed a draft PBC LES for 2008/09 which the committee felt required some modification

PHARMACY WHITE PAPER

This proposes changes to the rules on dispensing that could have a serious effect on rural practices, and which would almost certainly lead to the closure of some small branch surgeries. With 1/3 of Somerset practices having at least some dispensing patients, the implications for the county are considerable and the LMC will ensure that the GPC negotiators are aware of this.

Meetings

County Executive Group	Mon 28th April	Practice Managers County Leads	Tues 13th May
South Somerset Practice Managers	Tues 29th April	LMC/SWAST	Tues 13th May
Somerset Provider Organisation	Tues 29th April	Somerset Coast Practice Managers	Thurs 15th May
LMC/PCT	Thurs 8th May	LMC/EST	Wed 21st May
County LMC	Thurs 8th May	LMC/PEC/County PMs	Thurs 22nd May
		LMC/PEC	Thurs 29th May