

LMC ViewPoint

The newsletter of Leeds Local Medical Committee Limited

October 2017



STATE BACKED INDEMNITY SCHEME & MDU ANNOUNCEMENT

As you will be aware, recently the government pledged to roll out a state backed clinical negligence indemnity scheme for general practice in England by April 2019. This move came after months of sustained lobbying by the BMA's GP committee (GPC) and calls from GPs across the country for government to recognise the scale of rapidly increasing indemnity costs over the last few years (50% between 2010 and 2016).

Following the DH announcement, MDU advised that its membership benefits for GPs working under an NHS England contract who renew/join after 1st Nov will change to '[Transitional Benefits](#)' intended to provide the indemnity until a state-backed scheme is introduced. The Department of Health directly addressed this change of cover by [amending its indemnity factsheet](#).

It is very important for MDU members to be aware that claims-paid coverage is an alternative form of indemnity which requires policy holders to obtain run-off cover at the end of any period of coverage, since it only covers claims which are reported and settled during the period of the cover. This means that claims made and settled in the period up to the introduction of a state backed scheme while the policy remains in force should be honoured. Claims made after the cover has expired, or made before the expiry of the cover but not yet settled, will not be honoured, unless run-off cover is purchased at the end of the period. The Government does not currently plan to include this run-off cover in a state-backed scheme. GPs with claims-paid or claims-made indemnity policies would therefore be required to purchase such cover separately themselves at the point they move to a state backed scheme.

For ease of reference the current views/positions of the three MDOs are available below:

[Medical Defence Union](#)

[Medical Protection Society](#) – and [its comment on the MDU offer](#)

[Medical and Dental Defence Union of Scotland](#) – and [its comment on the MDU offer](#)

With the above information in mind, we would like to remind GPs of the requirement to maintain full indemnity cover before any change to a state-backed scheme in the future.

To read a blog by Dr Richard Vautrey, Leeds LMC Assistant Medical Secretary and Chair of GPC England and GPC UK - published this week in the BMJ - outlining the background to this issue and the work that still needs to be done, please click [here](#).

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY CARE INTERFACE – NEW PATIENT LEAFLET

Building on past work that the GPC has delivered – securing important changes to the hospital contract in 16/17 and 17/19 – a patient information leaflet has been developed and a copy is attached to this edition of Viewpoint. The leaflet has been produced by the GPC in conjunction with NHS England and the National Association for Patient Participation. It explains to patients what they can expect to happen, if they are referred by their GP to see a specialist or consultant at a hospital or a community health centre, and we would encourage practices to use it.

FEEDBACK FROM GP PROVIDER FORUM

Attached to this edition of Viewpoint is a letter of feedback from Dr Chris Mills, Chair of the Leeds GP Provider Forum. This relates to the discussion paper circulated in the summer called 'Developing a vision for general practice in Leeds'. The letter summarises the outcome from the consultation process.

SESSIONAL GP NEWSLETTER

The October sessional GP newsletter has been published which includes a blog from Zoe Norris about the Secretary of State's indemnity announcement, the latest update on Capita and NHS pensions and key questions to ask when working in extended access hubs. The newsletter is available on the BMA website [here](#).

LEEDS SESSIONAL GP EDUCATIONAL FORUM

LSGPEF, the Leeds Sessional GP Educational Forum, has over 60 salaried and locum GP members, who meet for mutual support and education. The group has been running for 16 years and although Doug Pollock, the founding chair, retired in 2016, the group has continued to thrive. All members are welcome to attend the monthly meetings which attract 2 hours CPD, and they also arrange CPR updates.

The group is supported by the LMC and they are in touch with local organisations who run educational meetings, as well as the CCG protected time teaching in TARGET sessions. Members receive a cascade of emails detailing locum work availability, and can reply to practice managers directly. All members work independently - we are neither an agency nor chambers.

For further information, please contact the co-chair, Dr Kumud Verdi, at: dr.kumud.verdi@gmail.com

'OUR PROFESSION OUR FUTURE' LEEDS ROADSHOW - 30th November 2017

The BMA's GP committee, GPC, is holding a series of roadshows in England over the next six months on working together at scale. Leeds LMC is co-hosting the first event scheduled to be held **7 – 9 pm, Thursday 30th November at Weetwood Hall Conference Centre, Otley Road, Leeds, LS16 5PS.**

The BMA is not promoting any particular 'at-scale' model, but recognises that some practices are considering this as an option in response to the very difficult environment in which we currently find ourselves. There was a clear recognition at the 2017 LMC conference that, in areas where change does take place, GPs need to be at the forefront, controlling the future of general practice for the benefit of the profession and patients.

Leeds LMC is working in partnership with the GPC to help inform GPs about the different models that exist, and the different aims and experiences GPs have had in pursuing these models, drawing on examples from across the country. This is also an opportunity to listen and learn from LMCs and GPs about their local context, and provide a space for GPs to come together and discuss the future of general practice in their area.

The format for the evening event would be to begin with a short section on the current context and different models of working at scale, followed by a description of the current situation in the Leeds area. The latter part of the evening would then be a Q&A/open discussion to talk through local issues and options.

Please share within your practice to help promote this very informative event. For further information and to register, please see the Eventbrite page for the roadshow at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/our-profession-our-future-tickets-38533840755>

MSK EARLY INTERVENTION CLINIC - UPDATE

We are grateful to Dr Steve Brennan, Leeds Community Healthcare Trust, for providing the following update on the work of the Early Intervention Clinic:

“The EIC has been up and running since late April and I thought it would be a good time to update the referring clinicians on how the project is progressing. Currently I am seeing referred patients at Manor Park Surgery on a Thursday and Wharfedale Hospital on a Friday. Referrals to the clinic have slowly increased over the months but there is plenty of spare capacity, so please do keep the referrals coming. The clinic will accept referrals for all patients who have been signed off work by their GP with a **new** onset MSK problem; please refer asap as ideally I would aim to see suitable patients within 5 days of being certified unfit for work. All referrals should be sent by email on the EIC referral form to earlyinterventionclinic@nhs.net.

The data so far reveals a 50:50 split between female and male patients. It will be no surprise to you that 60% of those referred have spinal pain with the remaining 40% split evenly between lower limb OA and shoulder pain.

In July the clinic was visited by a delegation from The Work Foundation led by Dame Carol Black, Health Adviser to the Department of Work and Pensions. The group were very keen to support the EIC project and if proven to be successful to see the model replicated nationally. Next month we are meeting with Michael McDonnell, Director of Strategy at NHS England, so all eyes are on Leeds.

I am hoping to have a stand at the next round of Target meetings so if you have any queries feel free to have a chat. If you need to make contact with me at other times you can reach me at the email address above or by phone 07957379082.

Thanks for your support, Dr Steve Brennan, stephenbrennan@nhs.net.”

RCGP APPRAISAL AND REVALIDATION SURVEY

The RCGP has launched its new revalidation survey for 2017 aimed at establishing how GPs feel about appraisal and revalidation and what the College can do to support them in the future.

Since its last appraisal and revalidation survey [in 2015](#), the RCGP has produced a number of resources and worked closely with stakeholders across the UK, including the BMA, to reduce the burden of regulation and increase the value of appraisal and revalidation for GPs.

It is hoping to hear from as many GPs as possible to find out how much progress has been made and what it could be doing better. The 2017 survey can be accessed [here](#).

PHE IMMUNISATION PGD TEMPLATES

Please find attached to this edition of Viewpoint Public Health England's PGD templates for the following PGDs:

- Td/IPV (Revaxis®) PGD v02.00
- DTaP/IPV PGD v02.00

These PGDs are to replace the current versions on their expiry on the 1 November 2017 and the 1 December 2017 respectively, and a summary of the key amendments can be found in the change history on page 2 of the documents.

These PGDs require organisational authorisation in line with HMR2012 before they are a legally valid PGD. It is advised that PHE PGD templates are organisationally authorised in accordance with local procedures before sharing with providers.

These, along with all the other immunisation PGD templates, are available on the [PHE website](#), and a link has also been added to the GPC's [PGD guidance page](#).

ANTIBIOTIC CAMPAIGN

Many of you have commented about the launch of Public Health England's latest antibiotic campaign and practices have started receiving material related to this. Last Monday Dr Richard Vautrey did several media interviews, including for BBC Look North, to both support the message about the importance of reducing the use of antibiotics but also to emphasise the point that many patients with self-limiting viral infections do not need make an appointment to see their GP.

SEASONAL FLU VACCINE OFFERS 2018-19

We are informed that the LMC Buying Group will be sending out details of the flu vaccine offers for 2018-19 to members for whom they have an email address. Full details are attached to this edition of Viewpoint. If you have any questions, please contact Helen Shuker, Head of Operations, on 0115 979 6910 or visit the website: www.lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk

THE HEALTH FOUNDATION – REPORT ON NHS WORKFORCE CHALLENGE

The Health Foundation has recently published a report 'Rising pressures: the NHS workforce challenge' which can be accessed on their website: <http://reader.health.org.uk/rising-pressure-nhs-workforce-challenge>.

The report analyses the profile and trends of the NHS workforce in England. It contains some interesting information on numbers of GPs and the fall in the number of nurses, particularly in community nursing and mental health, available at:

<http://reader.health.org.uk/rising-pressure-nhs-workforce-challenge/1-executive-summary>

<http://reader.health.org.uk/rising-pressure-nhs-workforce-challenge/4-the-nhs-workforce-in-england-profile-and-trends>

WEST YORKSHIRE & HARROGATE PARTNERSHIP - SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS

The West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership weekly updates can now be visited via the following channels:

- New website is now live at www.wyhpartnership.co.uk
- You can also view this update and previous weeks at: www.wyhpartnership.co.uk/blog
- Twitter address is: @wyhpartnership in case you would like to follow us
- Moving forward the weekly update will be shorter with latest news being added to our website where appropriate. If you would like anything adding, please email the team.

Please share this information within your practice.

16 DAYS OF ACTION AGAINST DOMESTIC ABUSE – BOOK YOUR FREE COURSE TODAY

On behalf of Targeted Services Leeds City Council, please see attached flyer on free workshops around domestic violence & abuse themes.

Places are limited and will be prioritised for professionals working within the 2Gether area (CHESS & Networks). Please contact Hannah.Crossley@leeds.gcsx.gov.uk as soon as possible if you would like to book a place on any of the workshops across the two days.

Bookings to be submitted by 17th November 2017.

THE IMPORTANCE OF LEEDS LMC SOCIAL MEDIA

The LMC would like to ask for your support in helping boost our social media channels. Help us spread awareness and knowledge about the LMC, what we do and how we can represent and support the interests of General Practitioners in Leeds. By doing so, we want to help, support and engage better with GPs.

Visit our Social Media networks TODAY and be part of the professional voice of Leeds General Practice!



Facebook - **Like** our page [Leeds Local Medical Committee](#)



Twitter - **Follow** us at [@LeedsImc](#)



Visit our **website** and contribute to our blogs [LeedsImc.org](#)

CURRENT KEY DISCUSSION AREAS BY THE LMCplease contact the LMC Office for current status.....

- Copies of presentations from the Leeds LMC premises event
- New GP training contract

GENERAL INFORMATION DISTRIBUTED TO PRACTICES THIS MONTH

Listed below is information the LMC has sent to practices recently. If for any reason you would like another copy and/or further information, please contact us.

- Information re the indemnity scheme distributed to practices on 17 and 18 October
- Information relating to GPR reimbursements circulated to training practices on 26 October