**DUDLEY LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE**

**www.dudleylmc.org**

Dudley LMC

C/o Atlantic House

Chairman Dr. Harcharan Singh Sahni Dudley Rd

Lye Secretary Dr. Tim Horsburgh Stourbridge

Treasurer Dr. Vipin Mittal W. Midlands

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**Minutes 03/05/13**

**PRESENT**: Dr Singh Sahni (Chairman), Dr T. Horsburgh (Secretary), Dr Blackman, Dr Dawes, Dr Khan, Dr Nancarrow, Dr Prashara and Dr Suleman.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies have been received from Dr Mittal (Treasurer), Dr Bhardwaj, Dr Johal, Dr Saroufeem, Dr Collins Public Health and Dr Handa GPC Black Country rep.

**2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES** – The minutes of the meeting held on the 12/04/13 were confirmed and signed as correct.

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

3.1 Blue Badge Scheme – If patients appeal against the decision made to withdraw their blue badge and social services request medical details, a fee for this work is appropriate. Following a request from a local GP the use of a standardised letter for the patient to give to social services and other organisations including schools and employers covering payment and consent is currently being developed.

3.2 Respite Care – Following discussion at April LMC meeting a formal letter has been sent to Maggie Venables raising LMC members concerns regarding the timely access of patients to social care support, the adequacy of available resources and the difficulties with the decision making between CCG funded intermediate care facilities and social care support services.

**Action:** Maggie Venables will be invited to attend a LMC meeting to discuss matters and resolve issues.

3.3 Deceased patient records – There is no obligation under the Access to Medical Records Act other than to hold the records of deceased patients, assess eligibility for access and then to allow access to the records or supply copies of records. Health professionals may charge a professional fee to cover the costs of giving access to the records that is not covered by legislation. The local area team will deal with patient notes if they have been archived.

Letters threatening breach notices have been issued to local practices for failure to return medical records after as little as seven days after receiving the request.

**Action:** Dr Horsburgh to contact the BMA and GPC to clarify the regulations regarding the return of records.

**4. CHAIRMAN’S AND MEMBER’S COMMUNICATIONS**

4.1 New DES – The CCG will assist practices to obtain the information required to complete the risk profiling scheme to anticipate the needs of physically and mentally vulnerable patients to achieve the DES.

4.2 LMC Buyers Groups Federation – Practices are able to use their membership of this organisation to make savings on regular purchases via a system of block contracting.

4.3 MMR national catch up campaign – The programme aims to prevent measles outbreaks by vaccinating as many unvaccinated and partially vaccinated 10-16 year olds. GPs are been asked to search their patient lists to identify the target group and invite them to attend for immunisation. Public Health England are proposing £1.50 to identify and write to 10-16 year olds and £7.64 to any 16+ who present to the surgery. Dudley has a 93% vaccination level.

4.4 National clinical audits – The Clinical Audit Support Unit within the Health and Social Care Information Centre will be requesting permission to extract data from primary care clinical systems for a number of different audits including: national diabetes audit and national COPD audit programme. The Health and Social Care Information Centre complies with the relevant legislation and standards including data protection. However, concerns were raised by LMC members as to whether this is a one off audit or could more sensitive data be accessed at a later date and the time period that practice information can be accessed.

**Action:** Dr Horsburgh to clarify the situation.

**5.** **CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP**

5.1 WMLETB – Feedback at next meeting.

5.2 Funding arrangements for the costs of properties transferring to NHS Property Services Ltd and Community Health Partnerships Ltd in 2013-14 – The Department of Health has written to assure practitioners that NHS bodies which funded the relevant holdings and operating costs during 2012-13 and earlier years will continue to do so.

Advice written in *Negotiating News for LMC s* suggests that legal advice should be sought regarding transfers.

The question was raised regarding the funding of space in surgeries currently occupied by practice nurses and health visitors.

**Action:** Dr Horsburgh to discuss with Matt Hartland.

**6**. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE BMA & RCGP**

6.1 Negotiating News for 7, 14 and 28 April received, topics discussed include initial valuations for notional rent and stamp duty land tax.

6.2 GPC Newsletter – Items debated include premises costs. See LMC website.

6.3 Focus on excessive prescribing updated March 2013 – Updated to continue supporting LMCs in their work with Primary Care Organisations and CCGs on prescribing matters. See LMC website.

6.4 Minor Surgery Course –To be held at University Hospital, North Staffordshire, ST4 7PA on 9th and 10th May. Course content based on recommendations by the RCGP and RCS.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE GPC WEST MIDLANDS / BCLMC Group**

7.1 AGM of GPCWM – The number of future meetings is to be reduced to two negotiators meetings, a nuts and bolts meeting and annual AGM. The GPCWM website is to be downsized. The failing NHS 111 service, procurement process and potential savings from the transformation of pathology service were discussed.

**8.** **CORRESPONDENCE** **FROM THE PCT, HOSPITAL TRUSTS & DH**

8.1 Pharmacy Applications – Nil received.

8.2 Primary Care Development Committee –

Primary Care Strategy – Strategy to be presented to the Board on 4 July following further consultation at the CCG Members event on 14 May.

IT and Information Strategy – The migration of practices from iSOFT to EMIS web will be completed as planned. A programme to migrate GP practices to the Dudleyccg domain is being constructed.

Primary Care Foundation – The programme led by the Primary Care Foundation is complete with 100% compliance from member practices, relevant outcomes will be used to inform the Primary Care Strategy.

Primary Care Development Programme – The EVTS programme is to be renamed Dudley GPwSI Development Programme. The appointment of two GPwSI with a specialism in Commissioning/Engagement and Neurology to commence.

**9.** **MISCELLANEOUS**

9.1 MTRAC – No update.

9.2 Walsall LMC News received.

9.3 South Staffordshire Newsletter received.

**10. AOB**

10.1 A letter of thanks only will be sent from the LMC to retiring GP Dominic Faux.

10.2 Mental Health pathway has now been resolved – A self referral process enables patients to be seen by a gateway worker who then sign posts the patient to the appropriate service such as CBT. A risk assessment for counselling has to be completed by the patient.

10.3 Difficulties arising from notes review and summary of new patients discussed.

10.4 Darren Mercieca GMC Regional Liaison Adviser has fed back information regarding multi source feedback recommendations and Responsible Officer protocol from April LMC meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Friday 7 June 2013, 12:45pm at Atlantic House, Dudley Rd, Lye, DY9 8EL.

Lunch will be provided.