**DUDLEY LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE**

**www.dudleylmc.org**

Dudley LMC

c/o Dudley CCG

Chairman Dr. Harcharan Singh Sahni 2nd Floor

Brierley Hill Health Centre Secretary Dr. Tim Horsburgh Venture Way

Treasurer Dr. Vipin Mittal Brierley Hill

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**Minutes 03/03/17**

**PRESENT**: Dr Singh Sahni (Chairman), Dr Horsburgh (Secretary), Dr Mittal (Treasurer), Dr Bhardwaj, Dr Kanhaiya, Dr Nancarrow, Dr Ahmad (GPC Black Country rep), Dr Abuaffan (Public Health).

**1. APOLOGIES**: Dr Dawes, Dr Plant, Dr Prashara, Jacquelyn Horwood (Practice Manager Rep).

**2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 03/02/17were signed as correct.

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

3.1 Primary Care Development Steering Group (PCDSG) / MCP Developments – A brief session was held on 27/02/2017 for GPs to meet organisations with the potential to fulfil the role of main contractor; further detailed discussions were held on 28/02/2017 with organisations including Optima Health part of United Health Care in USA, Ribera Salud, a Spanish ACO company and The Practice Group, a combined Dudley Group and Birmingham Community Trust group and Interserve. A Collaborative meeting is arranged for 08/03/2017, which will inform the membership of the outline of the discussions with potential main contractors to date, in addition to giving the membership the opportunity to express their opinion as to the suitability of individual organisations or partnerships of organisations as main future providers in the MCP.

3.2 Urgent Care Centre / GP overflow – Dr Shukla previously raised the question as to whether it is appropriate for practices to re-direct patients to the Urgent Care Centre (UCC) when there is a lack of available GP appointments. The response given was that as GPs have a responsibility towards their patients and practices should not be advising them to attend the UCC. Redirection will reduce the continuity of care provided by the practice. The UCC is carrying out an audit as to the reasons patients attend for medical review, the difficulty of obtaining accurate unbiased information was acknowledged.

3.3 Long Term Conditions – The PCCC approved the recommendation the amended thresholds for G1 and G3 indicators in the DQOFH 2017/18 with the aspiration that they return to the higher upper limit the following year. Payments during 2017/18 are to be made on a monthly basis, 50% block payment and 50% on performance.

3.4 Limited Prescribing List – In Dudley approximately £2 million per year are spent on widely available over the counter medicines; discussions have been held at Locality meetings, a period of public consultation is to be held running up to 26/04/2017. Some medications such as paracetamol seem controversial with some GPs advocating their continued prescribing and other practices having encouraged their patients to purchase this product over the counter. Issues surrounding curbing the autonomy of the prescriber and cost saving were debated.

**Action:** Dr Horsburgh to circulate list to LMC members for discussion and to draft a letter recommending discretionary prescribing of some items on the limited prescribing list.

3.5 Premises Funding Applications – Practices who are successful in their application for funding for their premises are entitled to 100% funding through GPFV.

3.6 Gower Gardens – Dr Lewis raised the issues of Gower Gardens a nursing home with beds for 22 patients suffering from dementia and the impact that this is having on local GP practices. The district nursing team have also raised concerns regarding the suitability of equipment including beds and staff competency.

**Action:** Dr Horsburgh and Dr Lewis are to meet with the management team to discuss the issues.

Dr Shather is to retire from his practice in Bilston Street, Dudley, the patients are likely to be dispersed to the local practices if a replacement partner cannot be found.

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

4.1 School medical certificates – The parents of Dudley school children have been asked to provide a medical certificate to validate their child’s absence from school.

**Action:** Dr Horsburgh to circulate a standard letter including the reasons why doctors are unwilling to provide medical certificates for this purpose and national guidelines for practices to give to parents.

4.2 Firearms Update – The BMA is in the process of constructing advice to add to existing guidance, once the embargo has been lifted it will be shared with LMCs.

4.3 Collaborative Fees – Phil Cowley

(CCG Finance) attended the LMC meeting to provide feedback on collaborative fees, the arrangement covering services where clinical professionals in the NHS assist Local Authorities in fulfilling their responsibilities by providing an informed clinical opinion. A letter from Dr Geddes, Head of Primary Care Commissioning NHSE regarding which fees will be transferred to Local Authority including examination of the visually impaired, child protection and pre fostering and adoption examination and reports was discussed. This transfer of fees is thought to have a minimal impact, discussions regarding the phased transfer has not yet commenced. Phil Cowley will provide an update when the changes are implemented.

Dr Ahmad raised the issue of difficulty claiming for these fees and the lack of transparency regarding collaborative fees experienced by practices in the Walsall area. Phil Coley and Dr Horsburgh will investigate the payments pathway for GPs and ensure payments to GPs are made – approx. £30K per year paid to practices. This matter is to be discussed by the Regional LMC reps at the Nuts and Bolts next week.

4.4 New GMS Contract – The BMA GPC has concluded negotiations and reached agreement with NHS Employers on changes to the GP contract for 2017/18. See LMC website. Dr Ahmad will present contract changes at Black Country meetings

4.5 Familial Hypercholesterolaemia – British Heart Foundation (BHF) nurses will be providing screening clinics in primary care, however there could be un-resourced implications in the form of extra GP consultations. The failure of the BHF to engage with primary care was noted. The issues are being raised by WMLMCLG with BHF.

**5.** **CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP / NHS ENGLAND**

5.1 The Primary Care Commissioning Committee – Issues discussed included adult seasonal flu vaccination costs, new GMC contract and Wi-Fi in practices for staff use.

5.2 Clinical Development Committee – No update.

5.3 Sustainability and Transformation Plans – No update as the last meeting was cancelled.

**6. PUBLIC HEALTH**

6.1. Update – The re-structuring of the Public Health department has now been completed, information as to who to contact for what issues will be provided. The lifestyle services for the 18+ have been integrated and the contract awarded to Solutions 4 Health. The potential benefit of having a GP on the steering group was discussed – please contact Dr Horsburgh if you are interested.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE BMA / RCGP**

7.1 GPC News – no February news

7.2 GPF View Update – No update.

7.3 Sessional Doctor Newsletter – See LMC website.

7.4 Working Together to Sustain General Practice –Dr Horsburgh attended the meeting held on 23 February 2017; topics debated included collaborative working and the MCP model.

**Action:** Dr Horsburgh to circulate slides to LMC members when available.

7.5 General Practitioners Defence Fund – Nominations are being sought for a member of the LMC to become a representative on the GPDF committee. Application forms can be obtained from Dr Horsburgh.

7.6 General Practice Forward View – A Black Country event aiming to raise awareness of GPFV in addition to showcasing examples of best practice and learning from innovations already occurring in the locality is to be held 6 April 2017 at West Bromwich Albion Football Club. Dr Horsburgh can be contacted for the details.

**8.** **CORRESPONDENCE FROM WM RLMC / BMA BC DIVISION**

8.1 Nuts and Bolts – The WMRLMCLG Nuts and Bolts meeting will be held on 08/03/2017, 4 seats are available, however, they have to be funded by the LMC.

**9.** **CORRESPONDENCE** **FROM NHS TRUSTS, DH, GMC**

9.1 Pharmacy Applications – Nil.

9.2 PCSE – See LMC website.

**10. MISCELLANEOUS**

10.1 Walsall, S. Staffordshire and Worcester Newsletters- received.

10.2 MPS course –‘Taking charge of complaints’ training is to be held on 29 March 2017 in Birmingham.

10.3 Dr Ahmad will be standing for re-election to the role of Regional GPC Representative.

**11. AOB**

11.1 Notional rent – Dr Dawes previously raised the issue of the reduction in notional rent when NHS

professionals such as midwives use a clinical room in a practice to provide a NHS service to the practice patients without paying for the room. Dr Ahmad has raised the issues at the GPC. The LMC members raised their concerns as to the negative impact this approach will have on collaborative working – the fundamental approach of the MCP.

NEXT MEETING**: Friday 7 April 2017, 12:45pm at Brierley Hill Health and Social Care Centre, Orange Room, CCG offices, (second floor).**

Lunch will be provided.