

Devon Local Medical Committee

Devon
for

Newsletter Issue No 51

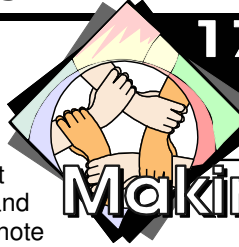
April 2005

Chief Officer's Corner

17/18/19 May 2005

Woodbury Park & St Mellion

The 7th Devon LMC
Primary Care Conference 2005



Making Change Pay

LMC Conference 17th - 19th May

I am not altering the headline from the last edition as this Conference has not yet happened! The details are now firmed up and in particular we have three excellent keynote speakers for the three days with Hamish Meldrum, Stewart Drage and John Bell. The first is the Chairman of GPC and the second a GPC Negotiator and lead on APMS. Both are worth attending to hear regardless of what follows them. The third, John Bell, is a professional speaker and expert on "Change", which as you know is the only constant in the NHS! I heard him speak for the first time in February and I believe you will find him interesting, informative and enlightening as I did. Come and hear what these three have to say and get stuck in to the remainder of what is an important programme for the future. We will be having Cornish GPs as well as a smattering from Somerset so you can learn a little of what our neighbours think too! You need to book your place on what is proving to be a very popular series of events, additional copies can be downloaded from the website or by fax - please contact the office.

VOXPOP Lives!

Please have a peek at John Baker's bit on this at the back of the newsletter - that will cover the "teckie" bits! I am just writing to announce to those who have not yet registered that we now have a growing band of GPs and Practice managers talking to each other through threaded conversations that allow us to address issues and hopefully avoid pitfalls in real time. There is a Pan-Devon Forum for everybody and a more intimate forum for each of the sub-committee

areas of the LMC (which essentially reflect those that refer to a particular DGH). Ask your questions about any topic and you will have access to some 1500 experts (eventually!) and next time you may well be the expert helping your colleagues. It has long been my ambition that such a system should both exist and be used regularly and profitably. Help me with the second bit and get started today!

Partnership Agreements

We have had an increasing number of enquiries about this topic in response to our last article on the subject and I dream of the day when no practice in the County will be without one! Some dreams never come true but some jolly well ought to! Don't leave this one too long - life is far too interesting when you are without a properly revised agreement...

Enhanced Services

Not all "Enhanced Services Floors" are yet signed off and there is no final clarity in the proposed 2005/06 enhanced services commissioning in any of the 8 PCTs. We are probably further forward than we were at the same time last year but we must learn from the difficulties we experienced in working at the right time with the PCTs as they were particularly affected by the QOF assessment visit process. In most cases it is likely that the ES Floor has been exceeded but this will not be ubiquitous and we will have to agree how underspends will be carried over to this coming year and a process to avoid such a problem in the future. Some PCTs have misunderstood what can count against the floor but the recent GPC guidance (the production of which involved me as an LMC representative) has assisted them in understanding where they were in error! We still have some major work to do in one PCT, who will remain nameless for the time being (and permanently if discussions come out appropriately!), and minor work in others. What role do practices have in deciding about enhanced services? Currently it is my view that local enhanced services specifications and funding have to be agreed with the LMC and be shown to be contestable by GPs, primary rather than secondary care, useful to patients, evidence based and not an attempt to replace a

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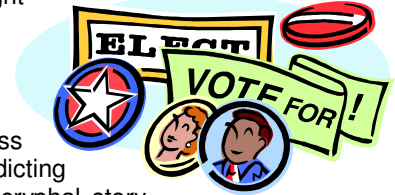
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Devon
for
NEWS
LMC
Devon

secondary care service entirely! (Yes that has been tried!) Practices decide whether to offer to provide such services and so inform their PCT. It is evident that some Practice Managers wish a closer involvement in the process and the LMC welcomes their views and input. I would love to see discussions about future services in Voxpop and it would also be sensible to review whether it remains sensible to offer services provided in the past. Obviously PMS discussions with a PCT are practice specific but general agreement on enhanced services must be done at a supra practice level and cover both PMS and GMS practices and to be truly representative must be reached through the LMC. Divide and conquer is an old tactic which must be resisted and each practice, however confident in its own ability to out negotiate their PCT should remember that sticking together might be more beneficial in the longer term!

Election Update

You will be aware that the LMC (like the old BBC!) seeks to remain impartial in matters of party politics so I will try to honour the tradition. Nevertheless comments from GPs and PMs about the difficulties experienced in predicting superannuation and taxation costs this year remind me of a possibly apocryphal story about Milton Berle the famously "tight" American comedian. At the end of a stay at The Savoy when Harold Wilson was PM and the upper rate of income tax was 19 shillings and 6 old pence in the pound Berle tipped the doorman half a crown. When the doorman looked disdainfully at him Berle said "that is worth £5 to me son!" I hope whoever wins on May 5th that we never get back to such punitive rates BUT I am not prepared to bet on it! Anyway what I meant to talk about was the LMC elections and I just wanted to thank all those who stood and those who chose to retire.



You have seen who was elected already but you should know that Dr Mark Selman has been co-opted to a vacancy in Exeter and Dr Amanda Hall has been co-opted again to Mid Devon. That Amanda was not elected this time is entirely down to me as she was missed off the list of those needing to be re-elected! She has graciously accepted my apology and the committee's decision to co-opt her until 31st March 2007.

I must thank our former members Phil Green, Julian Squires, Rory O'Neill, Chris McIntosh and Adrian Freeman. The first three have served the LMC for more than a decade and I worry that, as you may remember, we "lost" Phil because he took the recent gift of an engraved decanter as a hint rather than a thank you!!! I hope that all our ex members look back on their time with pride as they deserve to do.



Life Insurance Companies – Access to Patients' Medical Records - Dr David Longdon

I am writing with concern about approaches made by life insurance companies who request photocopies of deceased patients' records.

I recently had cause to seek the BMA's advice. It is quite clear from this advice that the agreement between the BMA and the Association of British Insurers is that GPs should **not** provide photocopies of records **whatever** the consent from the policy holder or their executors.

In fact, the insurance company is only entitled to ask for a medical report concerning the condition or conditions which led to the deceased's demise.

In the case I was involved with recently, a leading national insurance company had clearly underwritten life cover for quite a substantial sum of money without asking for a GP report or medical examination at the time of issuing the cover. My suspicion is that they are trying to cut their costs by then wanting to see records with a view to building a case for non-payment through failure of the patient to disclose conditions at the time of taking out the insurance.

Debbie Galbraith, Executive Officer

Requests from Councils for Information on Patients

The Devon LMC are still striving to reduce GPs' input and verification of the Council forms and reports and eventually remove the need for any unnecessary GP paperwork. I have sent a form with this newsletter to each practice for completion by Practice Managers to be returned to me by 31 May 2005.

GPC Sessional GP Sub Committee Elections

GPC is seeking nominations for its sessional GP Sub Committee. This Sub Committee represents all salaried and freelance GPs including locums, assistants, associates, retainees, flexible careers scheme GPs and returner scheme GPs. It meets twice a year and communicates regularly by email to discuss progress and current issues.

Nominations are sought from ALL salaried and freelance/locum GPs in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Eight Sub Committee members will be elected to serve for a two-year term, covering the 2005-06 and 2006-07 sessions. GPC reimburses members' travel expenses for attending meetings and members may also receive a payment for attending meetings. The deadline for nominations is 13 May 2005. If we receive more than eight nominations Electoral Reform Services Limited will administer elections in May. Results will be announced in June.

Nomination forms have been sent to all the sessional GPs on the BMA's database. They are also available on the BMA website. We would be very grateful if you would remind your sessional GPs of this opportunity and deadline for nominations. Please also encourage them to keep us up to date with their contact and work status details. They can do this by emailing: membership@bma.org.uk, Tel: 020 7383 6642 or updating their details via the BMA website. **Fleur Conn, GPC Secretariat.**

Midsummer Medical Ball

Friday 24th June at
The Lord Haldon Hotel, Dunchideock

Following the success of last year's event we expect all tickets to sell. By popular request there will be NO drug company sponsorship so tickets will be refreshingly more expensive and available to all GPs, Consultants, allied medics and, of course, their partners.

AIMS - to promote the having of FUN

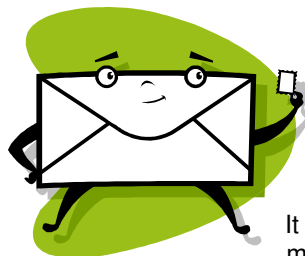
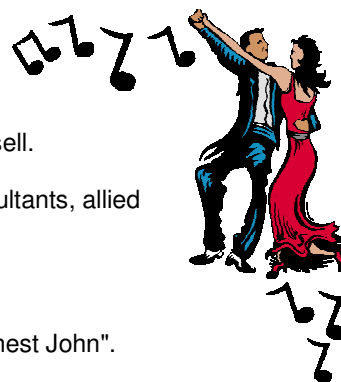
Meet your colleagues.

Raise £5 per ticket for Exeter Hospice.

Tickets will cost £40 each for 3-course dinner and dancing to "Honest John".

Feel free to make up tables of 10 or book individually.

Tickets available from Dr Marina Morgan at the RD&E or
Dr Pip Hayes at St Leonards Surgery.



To all my friends and colleagues in Mid Devon

This is just a 'LYTTLE' note to say farewell and thank you.

It is with great sadness that I say farewell to you all, for after 13 years of NHS management I have decided to leave Mid Devon PCT on the 31 March, and have taken the bold step to 'go it alone'!

A 'HUGE' thank you is called for, however, as I have had a fantastic three years working with you all. Although I have worked with some of you more closely than others, I have a fond memory of you all and thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm.

I feel that I have made some tremendous friends in Mid Devon and hope that our paths cross again in the future either professionally or personally.

Together we have seen some exciting, if not at times challenging developments in the patch. I am only sorry that I will not be around to see some of the current developments such as the Crediton Stroke Unit, further ambulatory developments at Tiverton and the development of more sophisticated practice led commissioning take shape.

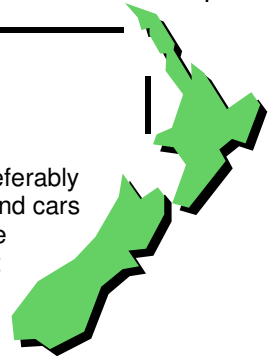
Torquay is not very far away, so please be assured I will look on from a distance with interest. I wish you all my very best wishes for the future.

With much love
Jacqui Lyttle

Exchange Doctor – New Zealand

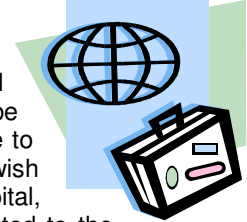
My name is Tom Croker and I'm a GP in Auckland NZ.
I did my training in the UK and hold the MRCGP.

I'm looking to arrange a job swap with a GP in the South West for 3-9 months in 2006, preferably with someone with an interest in Occupational Medicine. I would be keen to swap houses and cars as well. The other possibility would be to do a locum for 3-4 weeks which would require accommodation and use of a car. I work in a very modern 6-doctor practice in an affluent suburb. I do 8-9 sessions of general practice a week together with some occupational medicine. We live in a 2-bedroom house in a lovely suburb of Auckland handy to all city amenities and beaches as well as the practice. If you would like to find out more please contact me via email: tcroker@paradise.net.nz



Peninsula Medical School – Medical Students, Overseas Electives

The School and students are beginning to turn their thoughts towards the excitement of overseas electives in exotic locations, with all the attendant travel immunisation and health protection challenges. Some medical students may be registered with practices throughout the area, although probably mainly based close to the Hospitals. Students are of course free to take advice from whomsoever they wish regarding immunisations etc, but the Occupational Health Service at Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, has been contracted by the Medical School to provide a service dedicated to the forthcoming electives. They will be employing an Occupational Health Nurse with a Diploma in Travel Health, and they are well geared up to current thinking on first aid packs for the medical students, HIV prophylaxis starter packs and so on. The School has a Sub Committee looking at all the issues, and access to Infection Control, Microbiology and related Specialist advice. GPs are welcome to contact Occupational Health at Derriford regarding any queries relating to medical students, be it in relation to electives or any other medical student occupational health matter. Telephone: 01752 763580, email: gerard.woodroof@nhs.net



News Flash – NHS Pensions Agency

The NHS Pensions Agency has finally opened the doors for DDOC to apply to pay pensions in respect of GPs. DDOC made the application on 23 March 2005 the first day the form became available, and is waiting for confirmation and information on how to proceed. As soon as we get this, we will contact everyone again to tell you how things will work and how we will be dealing with the backlog from 1 October 2004.

In the meantime, please do not send any forms to DDOC - we don't know what to do with them and can't process them yet.

When things are finalised, superannuation will either be recorded via surgeries or via the PPSA using GP Solo forms. The agency has decreed that you will be allowed to pension some of your earnings and not others; if you opt out of the pension scheme for Out of Hours earnings, you will not get it on your in hours, so some GPs will need to rethink how they want to be paid for OOH work. Also, several GPs have stated that their original forms to DDOC indicating percentage deductions for pension need to be reviewed - a lot has happened in the six months since we started. To make sure we are collecting the correct amounts we will be sending these again for your completion, but not until our Finance staff has the NHSPA pack so that we know what information we must hold and provide, so please bear with us. Carol Wright, Finance Manager. Tel: 01392 823155. Email: carol.wright@devondoctors.nhs.uk

Comings and Goings April 2005

Welcome to:

Dr Phillip Buschtoens, Walnut Lodge Surgery, Torquay
 Dr Stuart Ralph, Kingsteignton Medical Practice
 Dr Kate Barnett, Chard Road Surgery, Plymouth
 Dr Miranda Coberman, Fremington Medical Centre and Lynton Health Centre
 Dr John Bowyer, East Street Surgery & South Molton Health Centre
 Dr Jain Rashmi, Queens Medical Centre, Barnstaple
 Dr Nina Kaitiff, Church View Surgery, Plymouth
 Dr Helen Willcox, North Road West Medical Centre, Plymouth
 Dr Ian Guildford, Wallingbrook Health Centre, Chulmleigh
 Dr Jason Fearn-Smith, Southernhay House Surgery, Exeter

Goodbye to:

Dr Michael Burdon, Chard Road Surgery, Plymouth
 Dr Andrew Latham, Fremington Medical Centre
 Dr Miranda Coberman, Queens Medical Centre, Barnstaple
 Dr Robin Wilson, Abbey Surgery, Tavistock

Items For Sale

4 Filing Carousels with 8 shelves each (will take Lloyd George MREs).

Cost new would be £1,000 each approx. Will sell all for £2,000 ono. Can be seen in use and will be available when new system arrives.

Please contact Sandie Hampshire, Practice Manager, Woodbury Surgery, Nr Exeter.
 Tel: 01395 233246.

2 carousel filing units for Lloyd George style patient note envelopes.

Any sensible offers considered. Please contact Mrs Lynette Drew, Wonford Green Surgery, Burnthouse Lane, Exeter EX2 6NF. Tel 01392 498869.

Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) and MDS**– Don't Do Anything or Must do Something??**

Since 1999, the DDA has required service providers to take 'reasonable steps' to change any practices or procedures which could make it difficult for a disabled person to use their services. As far as pharmaceutical services are concerned, 'services' would include dispensing, advice on medicines choice and use and the treatment of minor ailments. Providing support to people with disabilities to help them manage and take their prescribed medicine is an essential service in the new contract and pharmacies have a duty to make 'reasonable adjustments' to enable someone with a disability to utilise the service. Reasonable adjustment MAY include the provision of an auxiliary or compliance aid to enable a person, who is disabled, to take their medicines.

Contrary to popular belief the funding identified in the new pharmacy contract is not intended to fund all provision of monitored dosage systems. In a nutshell, patients will be asked to complete an assessment form and pharmacy staff will use a scoring system to determine whether or not patients are eligible for this service. The service might involve the provision of reminder charts, medicines administration records, large print labels or removal of medicine from blister packs into tablet bottles. It might involve supplying medicines in a multi compartment compliance aid. If a patient requires more support than is covered by the essential service, he or she should be

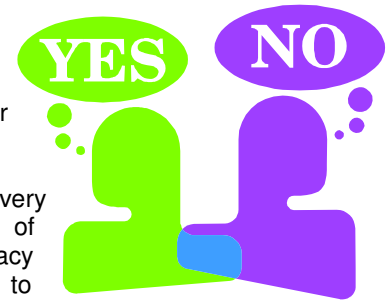
referred to relevant organisations for further assessment.

This service appears to be very complex and is causing lots of concern amongst your pharmacy colleagues. The decision to provide seven day prescriptions for some people who are receiving their medicines in monitored dosage systems still remains with the prescriber and at the end of the day, all professions in the process equally have to consider the DDA in relation to peoples' ability to manage their medicines and make reasonable adjustments, responsibility does not just rest with the pharmacist.

The LPC and the PCTs are all aware that the complexity of the DDA and service provision relating to the pharmacy contract needs addressing and we are starting local discussions about how this process can be managed and the implications for those people who fall outside the DDA. I am aware that some practices are considering stopping issuing seven day prescriptions because of their understanding that the MDS service will now be funded under the new contractual arrangements. This is obviously not the case, so I would ask on behalf of the pharmacy profession that the status quo is maintained for now while we try to resolve local issues.

I am more than happy to come to any practice managers forum or local meetings that may be held to discuss this or any other aspect of the pharmacy contract, which should provide exciting opportunities for general practice and pharmacy to start working more closely together.

Sue Taylor, Chief Officer, Devon LPCs. Tel: 01392 834022. Email: sue.taylor@devon-lpc.org.uk.





Community Pharmacists Advice to Care Homes Scheme in North and East Devon

Community Pharmacists have been contracted to provide General Pharmaceutical Advice to Care Homes locally for a number of years. This contract has been reviewed by East Devon PCT, Exeter PCT, Mid Devon PCT and North Devon PCT together with the North and East Devon Local Pharmaceutical Committee & the Commission for Social Care Inspection. A new Community Pharmacists advice to care homes scheme has been developed based on the South and West Devon model launched last year. It will run from **1st April 2005 to 31st March 2006 in North and East Devon**. This is an excellent opportunity to start utilising the skills of community pharmacists in improving the care of this vulnerable group of patients and to start developing locally enhanced services in line with the new pharmacy contract.

The new scheme will have four parts, and **Part 3** of the scheme is a simple medication review for each resident of a care home who is taking any medication. This optional **Patient Medication Review** will involve a minor degree of participation from GPs. This small amount of participation will benefit the practice in terms of the nGMS contract. The Organisational Aspiration contains two important elements that this level of participation contributes towards:

- records & information
- medicines management

The service to be offered is a simple level 1, medication review on Form CH3. Similar Prescription Reviews Schemes are already successfully running across the patch so you will be used to the format. Pharmacists will ensure that consent has been obtained by a representative of the Care Home, which will permit a Medication Administration Record Chart based patient medication review. The pharmacists will be asked to forward copies of the form CH3 to the patient's GP so that any recommendations can be reviewed and acted upon. The GP will then be asked to retain one copy for the patient records, and return the others to the pharmacist to ensure that a copy is left with the pharmacist, the home and an anonymous copy forwarded to the PCT. This closes the audit loop for the Pharmacist, the Care Home & the PCT as suggested by the Counter Fraud Team.

We hope that you will welcome this initiative. If you have any queries or would like further information about this scheme, please do not hesitate to contact either:

John Horrocks, Director of Primary Care & Modernisation, Exeter PCT Tel: 01392 687108

Anne Bond, Head of Primary Care, Mid Devon PCT. Tel: 01392 449760

Kevin Hale, Head of Primary Care, North Devon PCT. Tel: 01769 575100

Debbie Hart, Primary Care Development Lead, East Devon PCT. Tel: 01392 207809

Sue Taylor, Devon LPC. Tel: 01392 834022. ipcdevon@cix.co.uk

Available for Locum Work

Dr Jill Kershaw, MRCP MRCGP

Experienced GP familiar with nGMS available from April 2005 for locum work in North and Mid Devon and North-East Cornwall.

Please contact me for full CV. Email CJKershaw@tesco.net. Tel: 01409 231662
Mobile 07774 921702.

VACANCIES

Bere Alston Surgery
Station Road
Bere Alston
Yelverton
PL20 7EJ
Tel: 01822 840269

GP Locum

We are looking for a locum to cover changes in our partnership. Post from June or July 2005, according to your availability, for three months. Our ideal would be a full time locum covering 8-10 sessions each week, though reduced commitments would be considered.

We are a small friendly rural practice (3250 list) with a strong ethos of high quality care. Integrated primary care nursing and health visitor team
Physiotherapy, podiatry, counselling, midwifery, GP hospital beds
Paperless (iSoft Synergy). Village pharmacy.

Active "Friends of Surgery" group

Further information contact: Dr Ted Leverton

Email: Tleverton@aol.com or Tel: 01822-840880 Mel White
(PracticeManager) mel.white@nhs.net

or phone our reception staff on 01822-840269

<p>Whipton Surgery 378 Pinhoe Road Exeter EX4 8EG Tel: 01392 462770 Closing Date: 30 May 2005.</p>	<p align="center">Partnership Vacancy from 1 July 2005</p> <p>We are looking for a replacement partner to work ¾ sessions per week in an expanding training practice. We would consider applicants seeking a salaried GP post.</p> <p>Please apply in writing with CV to: Dr Guy Harrill & Sally Bunkall. You are welcome to contact us for an informal visit or to discuss the job – Tel: 01392 462085 during surgery hours or email: whipton.doctors@gp-L83115.nhs.uk</p>
<p>Bere Alston Surgery Station Road Bere Alston Yelverton PL20 7EJ Tel: 01822 840269 Closing date: 9 May 2005</p>	<p align="center">GP Partner or Partners</p> <p>Enthusiastic and committed doctors? Looking for the opportunity of a lifetime? Our forward thinking PMS practice is looking for you! Up to 14 sessions available with a wide range of career options.</p> <p>Our community is on the Devon/Cornwall border, close to Plymouth, Tavistock and Dartmoor. We need a commitment to team work and evidence of a positive attitude to change.</p> <p>Further details and information pack: Dr Ted Leverton: Tleverton@aol.com 01822-840880 Mel White (Practice Manager) mel.white@nhs.net or phone our reception staff on 01822-840269 Opportunities available from early summer, but we will wait for the right candidate/s!</p>
<p>The Health Centre 9-10 East Street South Molton EX36 3BZ Tel: 01769 573811</p>	<p align="center">We are looking for a part-time Practice Nurse to work in a small, friendly practice</p> <p>We are a PMS training practice with 3 WTE partners and a registrar. We are looking for a part-time nurse (possibly 1-2 days per week) with enough flexibility and willingness to be able to cover in times of need, to join our nursing team.</p> <p>It is possible that the regular hours may increase. Salary to be negotiated depending on previous experience – a special interest in asthma would be an asset.</p> <p>Please send your application and CV by Friday 6th May 2005 to The Practice Manager</p>
<p>Ashburton Surgery 1 Eastern Road Ashburton TQ13 7AP Tel: 01364 652440 Closing date: 20 May 2005</p>	<p align="center">GP Flexible Career Opportunity</p> <p>Have you thought about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing traditional working patterns? • Making time for yourself to pursue other interests? • Being part of a forward-looking, supportive team in an educationally-strong practice? • Working in a delightful part of South Devon on the southern edge of Dartmoor? <p>The vacancy is available now for the equivalent of 4 sessions a week/208 sessions per year under the Flexible Careers Scheme. For more information, contact Richard Mitchell, the Practice Manager: 01364 652440 or email: r.mitchell@nhs.net.</p>
<p>Beech House Surgery Shebbear Beaworthy North Devon EX21 5RU Tel: 01409 281221</p>	<p align="center">Half-time Salaried GP</p> <p>Our well organised paper-light Torex Synergy dispensing practice seeks a half time salaried doctor to share the benefits of a high QOF achievement and to continue providing good quality personal care to a rural population.</p> <p>Some flexibility on commitment and terms.</p> <p>Application (with CV) to Dr Stephen Miller. Informal enquiries and visits welcome.</p>
<p>The Mannamead Surgery 22 Eggbuckland Road Mannamead Plymouth PL3 5HE Tel: 01752 223652</p>	<p align="center">GP Locum</p> <p>Required for 2 weeks commencing 15 August and 22 August 2005. 3 full-days per week, preferably Monday, Wednesday and Friday or 6 sessions per week.</p> <p>Rates paid in accordance with BMA or LMC recommendations</p> <p>For further enquiries please contact Sue Smith, Practice Manager on 01752 223652, or email: susan.smith6@nhs.net</p>

<p>The Barton Surgery Barton Terrace Dawlish EX7 9QH Tel: 01626 888877</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Salaried Doctor</p> <p>We are looking for a GP to join our busy team working in a new purpose built surgery, alongside a new Community Hospital. We currently have nine GPs looking after 12500 patients. We are busy, motivated and paper light using the INPS Vision system. If you would like to join our team and would like to work five sessions or more please contact Janine Payne, Primary Care Manager for more information on 01626 888877 or Janine.payne@nhs.net. Flexible Career Scheme applicants welcome.</p>
<p>Northam Surgery Bay View Rd Northam Bideford EX39 1AZ. Closing date: 9th May 2005</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Salaried GP (6 sessions a week)</p> <p>Stunning sea views from the surgery and great opportunities for all sorts of sports. This hardworking, fun loving team needs an enthusiastic doctor for a year from August 2005 (although starting date can be negotiated).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PMS, training practice, 10,000 patients ▪ Fully computerised – EMIS ▪ High achieving, supportive team. <p>Informal chat/visit welcomed. Please contact Dr Anthony Moore on 01237 474994. Formal applications by means of full CV together with names of 2 referees to Jane Clark, Practice Manager.</p>
<p>Castle Gardens Surgery Castle Hill Gardens Torrington Devon EX38 8EU Tel: 01805-623917 Email:susan.crane@gp-l83105.nhs.uk</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Full-Time GP Vacancy</p> <p>Due to the retirement of our Senior Partner, we are looking for a full-time (8 sessions) replacement partner to join us. Present staff include another full-time partner, a job-sharing couple and a salaried GP (2 men and 2 women).</p> <p>We are a dispensing, rural practice with a list size of 6,200. We look after a cottage hospital and there is no out of hours. To arrange a visit or to receive the Practice and locality profiles please contact our Practice Manager, Sue Crane.</p>
<p>College Surgery College Road Cullompton Devon EX15 1TG Closing date 11 May 2005</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Experienced F Grade Practice Nurse</p> <p>Required to cover maternity leave for 6 months, could be extended, Commencing July 2005</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 sessions a week • Previous experience essential • Paid annual leave included pro rata <p>For informal enquiries please contact: Emma Healey on 01884 831300. Applications in writing with CV to Mrs E Healey, Nurse Manager.</p>

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR FORWARD-THINKING GPs
TO JOIN OUR EXPANDING PRIMARY CARE SERVICE**

We are looking for dynamic and innovative General Practitioners who can contribute to our developing agenda. We are interested in GPs who want to develop portfolio careers and GPwSI roles through working within the Acute GP Service or by developing new and additional primary care services as part of Practice-Based Commissioning. This is an exciting opportunity to become part of an expanding and innovative team who are constantly developing new ways of working, challenging traditional models of care and integrating with other sectors of health and social services.

Salary scale: £57,370 to £74,658 pro rata, depending on experience.

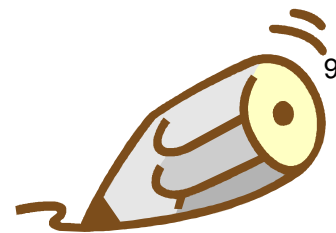
For an informal discussion and further information please contact Linda Trebilcock, Primary Care Service Manager, on 01752 314952. For an application pack please contact Teresa Duggan, Medical Staffing Officer, on 01752 763 117 or e-mail to: Teresa.Duggan@pcs-tr.swest.nhs.uk

Closing date for applications is 4pm on Monday 16th May 2005.

PART-TIME POST SOUGHT - FINANCE SPECIALIST/PRACTICE MANAGER

Experienced Practice Manager with expertise in Finance (Accounts, GMS Contract and Commissioning) is looking for part-time work in Torquay/Exeter/Plymouth area. Familiar with all areas of PM work, but with special expertise in Finance and HR. Any suggestions please contact Polly Ellison on 07967 272920. Email: polly.ellison@nhs.net

CONFERENCES, COURSES AND INFORMATION



**Royal College of General Practitioners
Tamar Faculty Annual Study Day and AGM**
(AGM held at lunchtime, members invited to attend)

'Fits and Families at the Front Line'

Tuesday 10 May 2005

The Lord Haldon Hotel, Dunchideock, Exeter 09.15 – 16.30

Cost: Members - £30.00. Non-member GPs - £35.00. GP Registrars - £15.00.

Nurses and Managers – no charge.

Details from Liz Bell, Tamar Faculty. Tel: 01392 403010. Email: liz.bell@pms.ac.uk



Devon & Cornwall Multiple Sclerosis Society 2005 Conference ***Run That by Me Again***

Date, Time and Venue

Saturday 14th May

10.00am – 4.00pm

The LOOP Centre

Bittern Road

Sowton Industrial Estate

Exeter EX2 7NG

Price – (in line with National Centre charging policy)

£10 unwaged. £20 waged. The price includes lunch and refreshments throughout the day.

The day is for all those affected by MS. This includes all those living with MS, their carers both family and paid and anyone working with those living with MS.

There are a number of speakers confirmed for the day, including:

Dr Steve Margison – Neuropsychologist, Treliske Hospital

Memory and thinking with MS

Dr Alasdair Coles – Cambridge Research Project - Myelin Repair

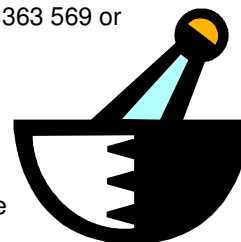
Mike O'Donovan – Chief Executive, MS Society - Looking to the future?

Martin Hunt – Head of Service Development, MS Society - Looking at the NSF and what it means for you

For further information please contact the organisers on the regional phone line 01626 363 569 or email devonandcornwallmssociety@hotmail.com

Countdown to the New Pharmacy Contract

The new pharmacy contract goes live on the 1st April. PCTs have been working with the Devon LPCs to develop initial pharmaceutical needs assessments which will be published on their websites from the 1st April 2005, in line with the requirements for the changes to the control of entry.



The contractors have six months to implement the new contract; the PCTs will assume responsibility for monitoring from the 1st October. In this article I wanted to update you on the Advanced Services contained in the contract and what you might expect.

Medicines Use Review (MUR) and Prescription Intervention Service

The above service will be the only advanced service available from the beginning of the new contract and is the first national clinical service available from community pharmacies.

The service involves the pharmacist conducting a structured review with the patient about their medicines use. The MUR is intended to be a planned review with regular patients of the pharmacy; the prescription intervention service involves the same review process but arises from a specific issue being identified during the course of dispensing a prescription. The review process is the same for both. The aim of the service is to improve patient knowledge, concordance and use of medicines. Access to the patient's medical record or clinical information about the patient is not required, so this review is not a duplication of the medicines use reviews undertaken by the practices.

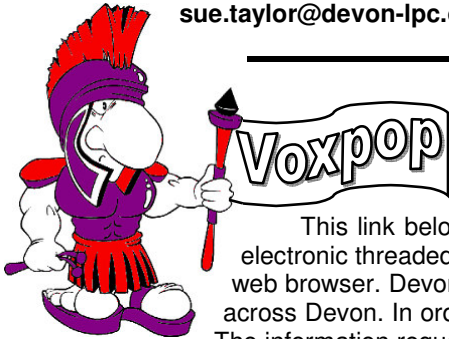
What's involved?

Pharmacists will check the patient's knowledge of their medication regime, and the suitability of the dosage form, identify unwanted medicines and make suggestions to improve clinical effectiveness. An NHS form will be completed for each MUR/Prescription Intervention undertaken. Copies will be given to the patient and to their GP and kept in the pharmacy.

Pharmacies can only offer the advanced service once they are offering the full range of essential services, and once the pharmacists and premises have been accredited. Pharmacies may not offer more than 200 reviews in the first year (i.e. 2005), this figure will be reviewed on an ongoing basis. The money is allocated within the global sum and is not a service commissioned by the PCTs.

The Devon LPCs have asked the PCTs to identify specific patient groups who would be appropriate for targeting, based on the needs of the local health economy. We are also encouraging our local contractors to discuss the advanced services in general with their local practices as there may be problems or issues identified that practices or other professionals may want to take action on.

For further information please contact Sue Taylor, Chief Officer, Devon LPCs on 01392 834022 or sue.taylor@devon-lpc.org.uk.



VOXPOP Registration

After some teething trouble the registration process for Voxpop is going very well. If you are yet to receive an email inviting you to join, you can manually register on the net...

This link below allows remote registration of new members to Voxpop. Voxpop is an electronic threaded discussion medium which allows people to debate issues via a standard web browser. Devon LMC is making this facility available to every GP and Practice Manager across Devon. In order to register for Voxpop follow this link and please fill out the brief form.

The information requested has been kept to a minimum to afford easy access to all. Once you have registered via this route your registration request will be logged with the Voxpop server. LMC staff will then verify your inclusion and will activate your account. When this has happened the server will inform you by e-mail and your account will be ready to use.

<http://www.webmedix.net/voxpop3/registration.html>

Summary of recent postings to the web

The following items have recently been posted on the Devon LMC website.

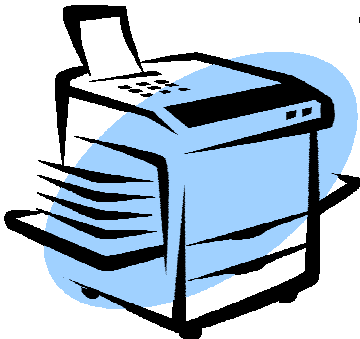
<http://www.devonlmc.org/Whats-hot.htm>

Various GPC documents recently posted include:

- GPC FAQ FOI – April 2005
- Standard General Medical Services Contract Variation Notice – April 2005
- GPC Guidance - Medical performers list for GPs applying as individuals – April 2005
- GPC Guidance - Removal of patients from GP lists – April 2005
- Statement on PMS Uplift for 05/06 - PMS (Payments for Specific Purposes) Directions – April 2005
- GPC Guidance - Focus on Assessment of GP Pensionable Earnings – March 2005
- GPC Guidance - Focus on The Dynamising Factor – March 2005
- Note on.... Non-GP partners' pension contributions and tax relief – March 2005

Local items:

- Devon LMC Motions to Conference 2005



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Please contact John Baker,
Devon LMC Secretariat Tel: 01392 834020.