

Devon Local Medical Committee

Devon
for
NEWS
LMC
NEWS
DEVON

Newsletter Issue No 74

October 2007

Chief Officer's Corner

Do we feel bullied?

(Would non-rugby fans and Australians please skip a paragraph. Ed.) After watching the England Rugby Team being bullied by South Africa on a flickering pirated French Satellite TV channel in Turkey a few weeks ago I wondered how they would turn it around to at least lose their World Championship with dignity. Watching them against Samoa and Tonga with Jonny Wilkinson back in charge of the three-quarters was more like old times but with Australia looming it needed a little more but, optimist that I am, I have been thinking and saying (particularly to any supporters of teams that are not England) that England could yet do it. Then came the boost England needed with their pre-match team talk being written for them by John O'Neill the President of the Australian Rugby Union when he said "Everybody hates the English". Daft Okker I thought and happily last Saturday afternoon proved me correct with a brilliant and brave performance by the whole England squad and the scrum in particular. Bullies should not prosper – it is bad for them and everybody else if they do.

Why am I wittering on about bullies you ask? Well the Labour Government and its Ministers and the Department of Health are up to their old tricks yet again. Spin is no longer a sufficiently accurate description of how they work – it is more like the very fast cycle on an industrial spin dryer than a mere gentle revolution. For many months Government inspired stories based on disinformation have been appearing throughout the press and it is now firmly in the public arena that GPs are paid about £250k a year to sit around doing less work than has ever been done before. Appallingly slanted so called surveys asked the public (sometimes randomly selected but often, as in the case of "listening exercises" pre-selected from specific groups) what they want from their GP and despite massive hints that the answer the DH desired was "open all hours please with no new resources" 84% of people answered that they were entirely satisfied with access. So 16% were not happy then and the DH view (supported by the CBI who just had to stick their oar in!) is that these are all workers who find it impossible to take time off work to see their GP. Strange then that the largest group wanting Saturday morning opening of surgeries appears to be the over 65s most of whom are retired!!! In any event Alan Johnson, our latest Secretary of Health doing the bidding of GB, has announced that access has to be improved and that he will achieve that by getting PCTs to "work with all new and existing GP practices in their areas to develop greater flexibility in opening hours - our aim

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is that at least half of all GP practices will open on Saturday mornings or one or more evenings each week". Further he said there would be created: "Over 100 new GP practices, including up to 900 GPs, nurses and health care assistants in the 25% of PCTs with the poorest provision. These new practices will increase capacity and offer an innovative range of services, including extended opening hours. They will improve health outcomes in these areas, with more targeted and preventive interventions that identify and tackle illness at an earlier stage."

He also announced: "New resources to enable PCTs to set up 150 GP-run health centres open 7 days a week, 8am to 8pm, situated in easily accessible locations and offering a range of services to ensure more patients have access to GP treatment and advice at a time that is convenient to them, including pre-bookable appointments and walk-in-services and other services."

All interesting stuff of course but not anything that has been discussed with the GPC even in outline let alone in detail and all rushed out in advance of a supposed decision to call a snap General Election in an attempt to show that the NHS is something that the population can safely leave in the charge of the current Government....! Thought through? Costed? Appropriate? Doubtful!

As ever the Government announced the suspiciously round figure of "an extra £100m" for the proposed 150 "new" "GP-run health centres". That would never even cover the build costs so where would that come from? PFI - again - presumably, or perhaps from some of their newly announced "fourteen organisations appointed to offer support services to the NHS through a new agreement, known as the Framework for procuring External Support for Commissioners (FESC)." Those 14 organisations are:

- Aetna Health Services (UK) Ltd
- AXA PPP Healthcare Administration Services Ltd
- BUPA Membership Commissioning Ltd
- CHKS Ltd, trading as Partners In Commissioning
- Dr Foster Limited, trading as Dr Foster Intelligence
- Health Dialog Services Corp
- Humana Europe, Ltd
- KPMG LLP
- McKesson Information Solutions
- McKinsey & Company, Inc. UK
- Navigant Consulting, Inc
- Tribal Consulting Limited
- UnitedHealth Europe Ltd
- WG Consulting Healthcare Ltd



Mr Ben Bradshaw, MP for Exeter and Minister of State within the Department of Health with responsibility for Primary Care, was reported as being asked at a fringe meeting during the recent Labour Party Conference as to whether he was proposing to use "carrots or sticks" to influence "change" in GP services and he is said to have replied "a mixture of both". Well no surprise there then and I spy a stick or 14 above!

I return to my title. Do we feel bullied? If so then how should the profession respond?

221 users of Devon Voice (Pan Devon Forum – GP bashing etc) have read a copy of a letter written by Peter Holden to his MP in which he writes of the reality of the negotiations that occurred leading to the "new contract" and exposes some of the spin that has been propagated to attempt to show an untrue account of what has happened since agreement was freely reached between the parties concerned. New ministers and civil servants know nothing of what actually happened and continue to attempt to re-write the GP contract by public announcement from a position of ignorance, self-interest and prejudice. GPs remain amongst the most trusted people in Britain whereas Politicians rank down with journalists as the least trusted. Is that one reason why over the last few months GPs have been a target for such attack by both Government and the "fourth estate"? Whatever the answer I believe the profession has to stand up to the bullies, talk and listen openly to the people we serve, our patients, and resist attempts to provide cheaper less holistic care, as good and efficient health care is not as easy as to provide as so called "reformers" would have us believe. Let us ask our patients open and honest questions about what they believe they need and how such needs should be met and funded. Perhaps the annual patient survey could be locally amended to serve such a purpose?

Are these all National problems that have little effect on Devonshire GPs and patients? Sadly the good relationships built over years with PCOs and the profession locally could be threatened by yet more "solutions" to Metropolitan problems being centrally imposed upon places where the problems either do not exist at all or are markedly different. One size rarely fits all and a solution for one is a disruptive problem for another.

Enhanced Services

As you will be aware the enhanced services specifications and payments have now been agreed across all three PCOs in the county. In the case of Devon PCT practices please accept my apologies for the delay in them being finalised. Both the PCT and LMC team have agreed that we will seek to agree matters for 2008/09 by the start of the new financial year.

What you may not be aware of is that in all three PCOs the enhanced services floor was exceeded in 2006/07 and the outturn was uplifted by 1% so that any extra investment was continued and uplifted. This is unusual in national terms and an example of how working closely together can benefit both patients and practices.

In the Devon PCT area there has been an added complication of working to standardise the various specifications and payments across the whole patch as the six predecessor PCTs had all been subject to separate negotiation and had had different outcomes to those negotiations. This has meant that inevitably specifications and payments have changed for many with respect to individual enhanced services and therefore a new decision has to be taken by practices with respect to what services they wish to provide. We have attempted to be as fair as possible in any adjustment to specifications and payments BUT it is inevitable that some practices will be paid more for the same work and some others may be paid less. Please remember though that across the whole county more funding for enhanced services is available than ever before.

Negotiation on enhanced services and other matters is a complex thing and it is not an exact science. The LMC is looking to change how it negotiates and is considering what skills and expertise should be available within the negotiating team. One matter under consideration is that Practice Management should be represented on the team and I seek views of our readers as to that idea. Please get back to me via the usual routes – Devon Voice (where there is a thread on Negotiation training in the Pan Devon Forum): email to peter@devonlmc.org; by mail, if that is the Post Office gets its act together!

Devon LMC AGM

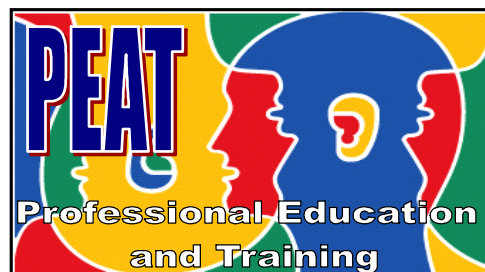
Dr Charlie Daniels was re-elected last week for a two year term as Chairman of Devon LMC. Similarly Dr Ian Tressider was also re-elected for two years as Treasurer. I take this opportunity to thank them for their ongoing service.

Sarah Hale - Executive Officer

If your practice is not a member and you wish to join as an individual do contact us. Individual membership is £100 and members receive the same discount on course fees as they would if the practice were members. You would only need to attend two all day events at £100 a day to recover your membership fee.

Over the next year PEAT will be developing practice based support for practice members, so it is still an advantage for the practice to join, but this year – why not join as an individual. For further details please contact Janice on 01392 834020 or

janice@devonlmc.org



Debbie Galbraith - Executive Officer

Reminders! 'Get a note from your Doctor' requests (GANFYD's) do not and should not form part of your routine activity. These are just irritants and really are driving many GPs crazy. Every Tom, Dick, Harry and Organisation still feels they can insist on a GP's verification. They should not!! We battle on with Housing Associations and councils etc, etc and once again I would like to say: "Please don't do them - think of your colleagues who have neither the time nor inclination to do them at all!"

If any arrive that you feel need a letter from the LMC then please forward them to me.

USE IT OR LOSE IT! PBC... A reality? Oh yes. A Possibility? Oh yes. An Opportunity? Oh YES, YES, YES! (*Was that a "Sally met Harry" moment Debbie? Ed.*) You are the key "premiership" players in this game and are already on the playing field. You just need to use the right tactics with the right players. Remember waiting on the subs bench are the threats.... SERCO, Virgin, United Health, Boots, Sainsbury's etc. You can keep them out of the game! You controlling PBC would be better for you, your patients and your PCT. Any offer of taking this on should be snatched up by your PCT and you should snatch up any offer from your PCT of a blank cheque book and I know that there is one PCT in the area that making such an offer! Thank you XXXXXX!

(*Censured to avoid embarrassing other PCOs. Ed.*)

Gardasil Update



Dear member,

You may recall some weeks ago receiving a memo from the PCT regarding the prescribing of Gardasil. The gist of the memo was to strongly discourage you from prescribing Gardasil, whilst not explicitly banning you from doing so.

The LMC is concerned at this type of approach from the PCT, and believes that this may lead to situations in which GPs (against their better judgment) refuse requests from parents to vaccinate their daughters. This may put such a GP at medicolegal risk. Devon County LMC has fully debated this issue, and the purpose of writing to you now is to reiterate our support for any practitioner who prescribed in line with their clinical opinion and the national formulary.

We look forward to the publication of a definitive national vaccination programme, but in the meantime we defend the rights of individual GPs to prescribe in a way that they believe to be clinically appropriate.

Yours,

Dr Mark Sanford-Wood (Chairman Devon County LMC)



Updating Email Addresses

- **Practices** - Please note that the LMC does not have access to the NHS address books. If you update your email address could you please inform the LMC. Also please update us if your staff members change, especially the Practice Managers.
- **SGPs** – many thanks to all those SGPs who have provided the office with their current email address. For those still outstanding, we look forward to hearing from you!!!

Please pass any amendments and details to linda@devonlmc.org – many thanks?

Comings & Goings

Welcome

- Dr Andrew Bower, Fair Park Surgery, Bow

Goodbyes

- Dr Peter Selley, Fair Park Surgery, Bow
- Dr McAllister (Buckfastleigh) & Dr Jan Brayshaw – off to NZ end Sept

Moving Dr Cathy Pritchard has moved from Bideford to Bradworthy

Available for Work....

DR Pradeep Mishra MB BS



- Completed 3 Year VTS August 2007 from Yeovil in Somerset
- Looking for Locum work throughout Devon from October 2007 and willing to travel Available for short, medium and long-term appointments. Check my availability on www.pradeepmishra.com
- Eventually looking for Partnership/Salaried position in Devon
- Hard working, flexible, confident and reliable GP.
- Patient centred, reliable, caring and committed to delivery to highest standards of care.
- Proficient in most Clinical IT Systems
- Excellent nGMS, PMS, QOF and PbC awareness
- CV and certificates available on request
- Reputable local referees
- Mobile: 07793151611, Home Phone: 01935 415568
- Email: drpmishra@gmail.com

Dr Jane Whitehurst MBChB, MRCP (dist.), DCH, DFFP, DTM&H

- I completed my VTS training in Exeter in 2005 and have recently returned to the area after working as a physician and lecturer in Uganda.
- I currently work as a Staff Grade Doctor at Hospiscare, Exeter and hope to obtain a part-time salaried GP post to complement this.
- I am available for short and long-term locums Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, in Exeter and the surrounding area.
- My CV is available on request.

Please contact me on 07912 687 220
Email: JanelWhitehurst@doctors.org.uk

<p>Dr. Anna Griffiths MBChB DRCOG DFFP MRCGP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reliable, enthusiastic GP Locum based in Exeter. • Completed VTS July 2007. • Worked in the Torbay and Exeter areas for the past four years – familiar with local systems. • Good QOF awareness. • Looking for short to long term locum work within a reasonable travelling distance of Exeter. <p>For further information and my CV please contact:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Email: annag@medhoc.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mobile 0781 396 2627 Home no. 01392 204 295</p>	<p>Dr Devina Leopold MBBch DRCO, MRCGP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am a hard working and competent doctor, who qualified on the Cardiff (Gwent) VTS scheme in Feb 2007. CV available on request. • Having recently moved to Ipplepen due to my husband's relocation within the NHS. • I am now looking for locum work within the Teinbridge, Torquay, Newton Abbot, and Totnes area from October 2007. <p style="text-align: right;">Tel: 07743 329 113</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Email: devinaparekh2003@yahoo.co.uk</p>
Vacancies	
<p>Ivybridge Health Centre Tel: 01752 690777 Email: enquiries.ivyhc@nhs.net Closing date: 19 October. Interviews planned for 31 October.</p>	<p>Due to reconfiguration within our forward thinking Practice the following opportunities have arisen:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Practice Nurse - Grade F An experienced Practice Nurse is required for a minimum of 25 hours/week. Respiratory qualification desirable</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Practice/Treatment Room Nurse - Grade E 20 hours/week minimum</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Phlebotomist/Health Care Assistant 31½ hours/week minimum Venepuncture is an essential skill.</p> <p>All post holders would be required to cover holiday and sickness absence and have excellent clinical, people and computer skills. Salaries according to experience, plus pension scheme. If you would like to join our enthusiastic and committed nursing team please contact Christina Fletcher for further details and application form.</p>
<p>Abbey Road Surgery 56 Abbey Road Torquay TQ2 5NH</p> <p>Tel: 01803 290000 Email julia.ellis@nhs.net</p>	<p>Practice Nurse Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To join our established nursing team, 16 to 20 hours per week. • Experience preferred but training will be given. • NHS Scale 5 or 6 depending on experience. <p>Phlebotomist required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To join our established nursing team • Further training will be offered to candidates wishing to gain more healthcare experience • 4 mornings per week • NHS grade 2 or 3 dependent on experience. <p>For further information or to apply by letter and CV: Mrs Julia Ellis Practice Manager</p>
<p>Withycombe Lodge Surgery 123 Torquay Road Paignton Devon TQ3 2SG</p> <p>Closing date 3 December 2007 Interviews TBA January 2008</p>	<p>GP Paignton Fulltime (8 Sessions per week) Partner required for small, friendly, patient focussed, well organised, 2 doctor (1.5 WTE) practice in Paignton. We are a PMS practice with 2,300 patients looking for the right person, preferably experienced in minor surgery, to replace our retiring senior partner from 1st May 2008. The Practice is innovative, forward thinking and highly motivated with high standards of patient care and a consistent high QOF achievement. Our philosophy is to provide pro-active holistic care to our patients, with close links with local practices for PBC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are a Training Practice currently planning new premises (PFI) • EMIS PCS • No OOH but opportunities available locally. • Partnership with mutual assessment for the first year. • Torbay is a highly desirable locality for Sailing, Surfing, Walking – come and work in an area where other people go on holiday. <p style="text-align: right;">Informal visits/enquiries welcomed Please apply for an application pack to Ms Lesley Jones, Practice Manager.</p>

<p>Marlborough Street Surgery 1 Marlborough Street Devonport Plymouth PL1 4AE Closing date: 9th November 2007</p>	<p>GP Required - Plymouth</p> <p>GP required to join 2 existing part time GPs for 6 sessions per week at a friendly inner city PMS practice. To commence end November if possible. Further details on application. Please apply to Sara Weymouth, Practice Manager. Tel: (01752) 568864 – email sara.weymouth@nhs.net</p>
<p>Dr Turner & Partners Topsham Surgery Holman Way Topsham Devon EX3 0EN</p> <p>Closing Date 31 October 2007</p>	<p>Salaried GP Required</p> <p>We are a friendly well organised 7 Doctor Practice committed to high standards of patient care. We are seeking a Salaried Doctor to enhance our team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 day per week on a Friday • List Size 6700 • Paper Light EMIS PCS • Training Practice • High QOF achievers • Friendly, forward thinking, highly committed Practice Team • Excellent Primary Health Care Team <p>Please apply in writing with CV to Mrs Sandra Preece, Practice Manager email: Sandra.preece@nhs.net</p>
<p>South West Regional Ambulance Trust</p> <p>Application packs are available by calling the Recruitment Hotline on 01392 261559 and quoting the reference number or alternatively you can apply on line at www.jobs.nhs.uk.</p> <p>Ref: 076/07 Base: Trust HQ, Exeter Salary: £18,720.20 Closing Date: 26/10/07</p> 	<p>GP Medical Advisor - SWRAT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The recently configured South West Regional Ambulance Trust now encompasses the four counties of Dorset, Somerset, Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. The new Trust is a key provider of Emergency, Unscheduled /Urgent Care much of which has a Primary Care focus. • To support the Trust in delivering its key strategic objectives the post holder will join the team and help steer the development and implementation of new service delivery models enhancing both patient delivery services and clinical outcomes. • The Trust also provides Urgent Care/GP out of hours medical cover for the counties of Dorset and Somerset and therefore supports the management of a large cohort of sessional GPs to deliver urgent care. • The role will clinically lead the team of GP Clinical Advisors who collectively support the GP workforce in Urgent Care. • The role will compliment the Trusts Medical Advisor for Emergency Medicine thereby giving the Trust expert clinical advice on both acute and primary care matters. • This exciting new role will support the cultural change across the Trust through a transformational programme of management and leadership development in relation to “Out of Hospital Care”.
 <p>PENINSULA MEDICAL SCHOOL UNIVERSITIES OF EXETER & PLYMOUTH</p> <p>Peninsula College of Medicine & Dentistry</p> <p>Closing Date: 12 noon Wednesday 17 October 2007</p>	<p>Community Sub-Dean, Plymouth 3 sessions per week on a 2 year fixed term contract.</p> <p>The Peninsula College of Medicine & Dentistry is seeking to appoint an experienced General Practitioner passionate about medical education and community care, to the role of Community Sub-Dean for the Plymouth Locality.</p> <p>The role of Community Sub-Dean is pivotal in sustaining and improving a collaborative approach between the NHS and all healthcare professionals and the Peninsula Medical School in the delivery of undergraduate education, primarily within the community of Plymouth but the area also covers East Cornwall, South Hams & West Devon, Plymouth & Torbay.</p> <p>For an informal discussion please contact Professor Rob Sneyd, Vice Dean Physical and Human Resources on tel: 01752 437358 or e-mail robert.sneyd@pms.ac.uk although applications must be made in accordance with the details shown below.</p> <p>Further details can be obtained via the job vacancies section of the PMS website www.pms.ac.uk.</p> <p>Applications are invited in writing with current c.v to Linda Lucas, College Personnel Co-ordinator Linda.lucas@pms.ac.uk Ref No: A0389/PMS2</p>

To advertise here please email janice@devonlmc.org - Adverts are also available on the web www.devonlmc.org

Enhance Study – Nurse-led care of Hypertension in General Practice

Dear Colleague

Dr Lindsay Smith, a GP in Somerset, and I, along with Dr Chris Clark and Professor John Campbell of the Peninsula Medical School and other colleagues have prepared a research proposal which is a study of nurse-led care of hypertension in primary care.

However, it has been pointed out to us that we may not be up to date about the various models of care that GPs are using such as nurse prescribing, the use of PGDs and shared care arrangements for hypertension. **To this end we would be very grateful if a practice member could kindly complete the one-page questionnaire delivered with this newsletter and return it to the address at the bottom of the paper.** (Devon LMC have put an electronic version at www.devonlmc.info/news/472 – which you can fill in electronically and return to the email address below). We are grateful to Devon and Somerset LMCs for their support of this initiative and we will gladly provide feedback to practices as to their current state of development with regard to other practices if they should so wish. Please can you indicate this when you return your questionnaire.

If you have any queries about this please do not hesitate to contact me.

Phil Evans, GP and Clinical Research Fellow, Peninsula Medical School - philip.evans@pms.ac.uk

Conferences, Courses & Information

Yoga and Pampering Break

Ilington Country House Hotel, 2-4 Nov 2007

Weekend suitable for beginners and intermediate yogis of all ages.

Full board, all yoga, meditation and workshop sessions included in price starting from £240 per person

Chill out time provided at no extra charge!

Non participating partners welcome.

Complementary therapies available for small extra fee.

Further details contact Sarah Hale (British Wheel of Yoga) 07849 391166 www.sarahsyoga.co.uk



THE BRITISH WHEEL OF
YOGA

RCGP Tamar Faculty

The McConaghey Memorial Lecture 2007

'The Sustainable Retreat'

Speaker: Professor James Lovelock,

Proposer of the Gaia Hypothesis

7.00 pm, Tuesday, 13 November 2007

The Arundell Arms Hotel, Lifton, Devon

Dinner (optional) at 8.15 pm

For further details, please contact: Liz Bell, Tamar Faculty Administrator Tel 01392 262744; Email liz.bell@pms.ac.uk



For Sale:

2 Security car-park posts complete with 4 sets of keys

Can be bolted into concrete.

Buyer collects - £60 for the pair.

If you are interested please contact

Mrs Louise Lillicrap, Practice Manager, Greenwood Surgery, 1 Greenwood Surgery, Brixham, TQ5 9HN.

Tel: 01803 854479 Fax: 01803 854898 web: www.greenwoodsurgery.co.uk

BMA Plymouth Division Meeting

Plymouth Medical Centre, Derriford Hospital - 21 November 2007

- Light buffet/bar at 1730hrs; meeting from 1830hrs; dinner TBA
- Guest speaker:
Professor Parveen Kumar, Immediate Past President of the BMA
- To attend please contact - Philip Pearson, Chairman, BMA Plymouth Division
Philip.Pearson@phnt.swest.nhs.uk



You are invited to the first in an occasional series of meetings with movers and shakers in the BMA. Professor Parveen Kumar is, without doubt, one of these. She is renowned as a gastroenterologist and hepatologist, but she is perhaps best known as the co-editor of 'Kumar & Clark's Clinical Medicine', one of the clearest medical texts in print today. Because of this and her infectious enthusiasm, she has acquired an unofficial international fan club. Most recently, she has been the BMA's ceremonial president, but this has not prevented her from intervening on the BMA's behalf in the recent MTAS debacle.

We have asked her to address "The Future of Medical Education and Training" - particularly apposite given the report into MMC / MTAS by Prof Sir John Tooke, published today. There will be the opportunity for questions. All medics in the Plymouth area (from medical student to retired) are welcome to attend and join us.

Peninsula Institute CPD Roadshow

- Do you find it hard to find the time/energy/resources to meet your learning needs?
- Do you want to know more about educational activity in your area?
- Are you unsure about what revalidation will mean for you?
- Do you want to meet like minded GPs and discuss how to keep up to date, how to maintain your enthusiasm, how to survive?!

<p>Then come to one of our CPD Roadshows: Meet other GPs to discuss your learning Find out what support is available to you Get an update on revalidation Meet with educationalists and help shape how we deliver education</p>	<p>7pm start, Refreshments provided</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 October Torbay • 23 October Exeter • 25 October Plymouth • 6 November North Devon • 29 November Truro
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For more info and to book a place contact:

Trudi Geach - NHS South West, Peninsula Institute, Tel: (01752) 437192 Trudi.geach@peninsuladeanery.ac.uk

Devon PCT - Choose & Book Service Improvement Event's

Monday 13 November
 The Devon Hotel
 Matford
 Exeter
 EX2 8XU

Monday 26 November
 The Barnstaple Hotel
 Braunton Road
 Barnstaple
 North Devon EX31 1LE

The Choose & Book Team would like to invite C&B users, GP's & Consultants, from both Primary Care & Secondary Care to one of the above integrated workshop - Service Improvement Event's.

The aim of the day is to highlight issues, learn from one another and improve the patient journey services provided by the electronic booking system.

Event flyer and C&B Questionnaire – see www.devonlmc.info/news/471

The good, the bad and the ugly...

A round up of recent guidance and documents newly published on **Devon Voice**. URLs point to the new web site, if you have any trouble downloading these or any previously mentioned papers please call John Baker at the LMC Office or email john@devonlmc.org

DH - New framework to help PCTs deliver services locally - 5 Oct

The Department of Health today announced the names of fourteen organisations appointed to offer support services to the NHS through a new agreement, known as the Framework for procuring External Support for Commissioners (FESC).

- Link - www.devonlmc.info/news/470

Our NHS Our Future: NHS next stage review

- Interim Report - 4 Oct

- Summary - 8 Pages - <http://tinyurl.com/2wq54s>
- Full Report - 58 Pages - <http://tinyurl.com/2ok8gr>
- DH Web Site - <http://tinyurl.com/2s4xyu>
- LMC Web Full Item - www.devonlmc.info/news/467

Extract from DH Press Release

- Patients to have better access to GPs at weekends and in the evening
- 100 new GP practices to open in areas with the worst provision
- 150 new health centres to open 7 days a week, 8 to 8
 - MRSA screening for all elective and emergency admissions

Improving the quality of patient care to ensure a universally world-class health service, outlined as an essential goal by Lord Darzi in his interim report on the future of the NHS, was welcomed today by the Secretary of State Alan Johnson.

The interim report on the 'Our NHS, Our Future' review, published today, sets out Lord Darzi's emerging vision to develop an NHS which will deliver effective, higher quality services that are safe, personalised to individual needs, and equally available to all. To achieve this, greater influence must be placed in the hands of local NHS staff and others working in partnership across the service, based on the best available evidence, using the latest technological innovations and responding to the needs of local communities.

GPC Guidance - Mental Capacity Act Questions and Answers

These questions and answers (Q&As) have been prepared by the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) in liaison with Central Consultants and Specialists Committee (CCSC), Professional Fees Committee (PFC), Ethics and the Psychiatry Subcommittee in advance of the full implementation of the Mental Capacity Act. The Act will affect GPs in a number of ways and the circumstances in which they are likely to be involved are detailed later in this guidance.

- Link - www.devonlmc.info/news/464



Community Hospital – Updates

The “GPC - Focus on Community Hospital GPs” originally produced back in 2005 has recently been updated as at the 1 October - <http://tinyurl.com/2u3xhd> - The GPC has also produced a discussion document for LMCs and practice based commissioners on “Developing community hospitals and services for the future” - <http://tinyurl.com/2otjk3>

Treating non-hazardous wastes for landfill – “Your Waste - Your Responsibility”

Overview - From 30 October 2007, non-hazardous waste must be treated before it can be landfilled. This requirement stems from the Landfill Directive, which aims to reduce our reliance on landfill as a waste management option and minimise the environmental impact of landfill sites. To meet this aim it is important that waste producers find better ways to manage their waste. Now is a good time for waste producers to review how they manage their waste, including whether it needs to be produced at all and whether what they do produce needs to be landfilled.

- Link - <http://tinyurl.com/2pm448>

DH England : Seasonal Flu Campaign - young people at risk urged to get the jab - 28 Sept

The Government has launched its winter Flu campaign.

- DH Site - <http://tinyurl.com/2dc5mb>
- Link - www.devonlmc.info/news/462

NHS Pension Scheme Review - Agreement between NHS Employers and the NHS trade unions

This paper sets out the final terms of the agreement reached between NHS Employers and NHS staff side at the Pensions Review Steering Group. Within the overall NHS pension arrangements, the agreement sets out a two scheme structure for active members

of the NHS Pension Scheme with new entrants joining the New NHS Pension Scheme and existing members staying in a revised version of the current Pension Scheme, the NHS Pension Scheme (1 April 2008 and after terms) and being given a choice as to whether to remain in this

for both past and future service or to transfer to the New NHS Pension Scheme for both past and future service benefits (including any added years they are buying).

- Link - www.devonlmc.info/news/463

DH- New legislation for PCT Professional Executive Committees - 25 Sept

New Directions governing function and membership of PECs.

1. The Primary Care Trust (Executive Committees and Standing Financial Instructions) Directions 2007
 2. New Regulations governing PEC remuneration
- Link - www.devonlmc.info/news/460

New FAQ on Choice DES from PCC - 4 Sept '07

Produced by Primary Care Contracting who are located at <http://tinyurl.com/2paar4>

- FAQ link - <http://tinyurl.com/3dnwz1>

GMS Formula Review: report to plenary and the Departments of Health in England and Wales - Summary of Consultation - 10 Sept '07

NHS Employers and the British Medical Association's General Practitioners Committee today (10 September 2007) publish a joint report on the outcome of the consultation on the review of the global sum allocation formula for practice funding. The report follows a three month consultation to seek the views of GPs, Primary Care Organisations and other stakeholders on a number of proposals to change the formula. It is the result of over 18 months of work in which the Formula Review Group (FRG) conducted a detailed examination of all factors in the current General Practice funding formula and investigated a number of additional factors for possible inclusion in a revised formula. The FRG's report will now be submitted to the health departments who will consider if, how and when they wish to see the recommendations of the formula review group taken forward. The GPC and NHS Employers will then discuss next steps.

- Report link - <http://tinyurl.com/23wn99>

These items plus many others are discussed on Devon Voice
Visit www.devonlmc.org to register...

Free Lockharts Legal Surgery

Lockharts Solicitors are specialists who provide tailored legal services to the health sector.

Ros Parkin, Managing Partner will be at the Devon LMC offices on Tuesday 13 November conducting a free legal surgery for GPs and practices. Places are limited, to book please contact John Baker at the LMC Office.

Lockharts have experience of a wide range of health and general subjects including:

- **Advice on NHS statutes and regulatory work**
- **Partnership:** - Partnership deeds & associated agreements, Partnership variations & dissolutions, Mediation & arbitration of disputes
- **Practice Based Commissioning:** - Consortium Agreements; PBC Contracts, Provider Agreements, APMS/SPMS Contracts
- **Premises:** - Surgery development & finance, Surgery licenses & leases, Property transfers, Remortgaging, Property agreements
- **Other issues:** - Employment matters, Wills, trusts & probate, Rural dispensing, NHSLA dispute resolution, Business development & consultancy, Charitable trusts & inheritance tax mitigation, Intellectual Property & trade marks

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