

Devon Local Medical Committee

Newsletter Issue No 95 - July 2009

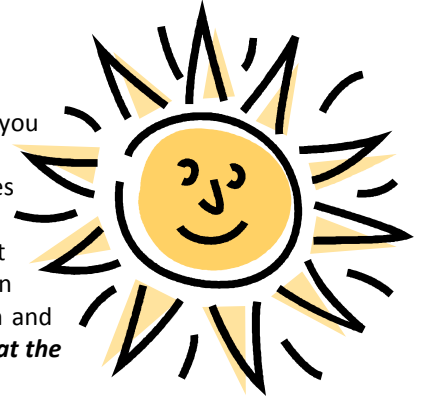
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Chief Officer's Corner

Devon LMC AGM

I rarely advertise the AGM this far in advance of its date but this time I hope to get you to reserve the date in your diaries! We will look at the proposals for the review of the LMC, hear from the Cameron Fund which supports GPs and their families in times of financial trouble and our Keynote Speaker will be Mr Andrew Lansley who I predict will be Secretary of State for Health in a future Conservative Government once we are finally allowed to give our view of the current bunch! He has been Shadow SoS for over five years, understands his brief and sees GPs as the solution and not the problem which will make a pleasant change! **The important time to attend at the Exeter Racecourse is 14:00 hrs on Wednesday 23rd September.**



Contract reviews in Devon PCT

You will be aware of the ongoing programme of visits to both GMS and PMS practices by the Devon PCT primary care team to determine what services are provided to patients in return for the funding per weighted patient provided for essential and additional services. It is my strong advice that you should request the presence of the LMC at any meeting involving this matter. We have been and will continue to be in close discussion with the PCT and hopefully you will have received the agreed letter from the LMC re the processes for these meetings and their follow up. Essentially there are times when going it alone is sensible - this is NOT one of those times.

Booster jabs for 14+ children in Devon PCT

A couple of weeks ago an email went to Devon practices suggesting that school nurses would stop providing DPT and polio boosters to this elusive group and that practices should take on this work from within current funding. It suggested that the LMC was happy with this but that was not the case as the Public Health Directorate had mistaken our agreement that all practices have a funding stream (often miniscule) to cover picking up the task of providing "catch up" jabs to those who missed them at school. I have spoken with Dr Virginia Pearson, Director of Public Health for the Devon PCT and we have agreed that schools remain the best place to catch this group of patients and that she will explore other ways of providing this service at schools if the school nursing service cannot cope. More details as we have them.

GPC By-Election in South Devon and Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly

I wish to thank Dr Gary Tudor from Torquay for his service to South Devon GPs in his roles as a General Practitioner Committee member and as a member of Devon LMC. He has recently resigned from the GPC and his sound advice will be missed. Thank you Gary.

The by-election will be held over the next few weeks and I encourage you to vote. There are two candidates with links to Devon LMC, Beth McCarron-Nash, formerly a GP partner in Honiton and an ex-member of Devon LMC who is now resident in Cornwall and Charlie Daniels, current Chairman of Devon LMC. Charlie retires as Chairman of the LMC at our AGM in September and hopes to take up Gary's task nationally. Beth is a current GPC negotiator elected to GPC via LMC Conference. There is a third candidate, Dr Mark McCartney, from (or near) Pensilva in Cornwall.

Swine Flu in Devon

The numbers of infected Devonians is rising with a pocket of infection in Exeter University. We have just had our third death UK wide which is far less than we would expect with "normal" flu. All three have had serious illnesses before contracting the virus but these deaths should lead us to continue to take the sensible precautions with which we are all so familiar. Of course front line health professionals are at risk as is always the case whenever an epidemic or pandemic threatens the population. Keep washing your hands seems to be the best advice!

The National Patient Survey

You will not be surprised that even the poorly drafted and unvalidated National Patient Survey has confirmed that 91% of patients are satisfied with the service they receive from their

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General Practice. Similarly you will not be shocked to learn that the results for PES7 and PES8 are shaping to lead to a huge loss of income to those very same practices as that was so clearly predicted when the questions were seen. The DH has at last acknowledged that an appeal process exists and those that followed LMC advice to continue their own CFEP or GPAQ survey will have the best evidence of what their patients genuinely believe! Do not worry if you did not do your own survey as historical data should help BUT I see no reason why a proper survey done as soon as possible might not be helpful. Full details of the results as they apply to you and appeal mechanisms are available at <http://results.gp-patient.co.uk/report/main.aspx> We will be happy to help and advise you as usual.

BMA ARM in Liverpool

I am writing this piece from Liverpool sitting in the BT Conference Hall. Air conditioning seems an alien idea in the hall and my shorts yesterday caused a stir when I spoke supporting the motion that the GMC, which is now merely a Government Quango, should be funded entirely by Government. I think we won the argument but we narrowly lost the vote! The view that paying the piper somehow gives us a say in the tune to be played held sway. I think that such a belief with regard to the GMC and this Government is sadly deluded!!

Guest Articles

We are running a series of articles from LMC Officers and members and I hope this will become an ongoing element of Purple Pages. The following article by Preston De Mendonca may well be his last as he will be retiring from both his practice and as Chairman of the Plymouth LMC Sub-Committee later this year.

Local Committee Chairman – Views on Years Ahead...

“If you like me feel that General Practice has become a desiccated husk of a thing, buffeted by ill winds and, simply awaiting the next creaking cartload of misery to be delivered; it is with a curious sense of resignation mixed with a puzzling amount of release that I have to tell you that the cart has arrived.” So says Lucy Mangan, journalist for the Guardian.

The manner of its coming is the apparently innocuously titled missive to PCTs from Ben Dyson (Director of Primary Care Commissioning) at the DoH called the PMS review guide and toolkit.

This will entail all Practices, but initially PMS Practices, once the darling prodigal sons of government invention, being minutely re-examined in the light of the new GMS contract, to discover whether their once trailblazing ideas have been subsumed by the advances (sic.) in the new contract, and any matters which are considered “already paid for” (my quotes) will be at peril of financial recovery by the PCT.

“Hooray!” shout the MPIG supported GMS old guard – “the b****rs bagged all the free development money—the Prodigals!”. BUT, shortly, there will be a similar reckoning to (re-) discover why there are funding anomalies between the GMS old guard, and expect more recovery there too. Never mind the quality feel the width is to be the new maxim in the coming age of austerity.

Hah! You knew it all along. A profession at the end of its tether, negotiated with the Government on a whole

range of issues and grievances and the chimera to address most of these to mutual content was the better – paid – high – trust – low – monitoring – no – new – work – without – new – money – all – live – happily – ever - after shiny New Contract!

But no, you were silly muttonheads, as the last four years have shown. There has been dissemblance and deceit, changes to QOF, extended hours, pay freezes and ratcheting up of consumer (we are all consumers now) expectation, and grinding down of traditional GP investment, for the new Prodigals on the block; NHS Direct (to your GP) PFI (Pretty Flipping Incredible), APMS, C&B (ha ha) Private Providers, Darzi Centres and the greediest of all, the Summary Care Record—all with gold plated income streams – guaranteed by the neutered old guard NHS managers, at risk of P45s, who have watched the resources of the NHS squandered on the new caprices of the politicians who are certainly world class at commissioning with other people’s money.

Well the time to pay the piper is upon us, and cartloads of misery are being readied for regular dispatch, which will ultimately disgorge at your doors unless you can deflect them to someone else’s. If all of this makes you feel somewhat less than well, febrile even—go and see your GP urgently—and make sure they give you, the consumer what you want, when you want it or else! You can’t be too careful; it might be that swine flu we keep hearing about.

Preston de Mendonca (Retiring Chair Plymouth LMC)

2nd International Meeting on Conversation Analysis and Clinical Encounters 21-23 July 2009 Peninsula Medical School, Plymouth

Clinicians, students and teachers of future clinicians are invited to join us on the final day of this meeting where we will be showcasing some of the best examples of conversation analytic (CA) research. The day is designed to encourage debate and cross fertilization of ideas between health care practitioners, educators and researchers, in particular looking at how CA can inform communication skills programmes by focusing in on the dynamics of the practitioner-patient relationship.

For further information and registration forms see
<http://www.pcmd.ac.uk/caandclinicalencounters>



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PCO Liaison Manager – Debbie Galbraith...

HPV - Just a quick reminder.. The National Programme for HPV vaccinations and catch up is Cervarix.

If a patient requests Gardasil and not the chosen vaccine then you will have to use your medical judgment and if you decided to go ahead then it will be either on an FP10 and will come out of your prescribing budget or the patient can choose to have a private script although this will have to be carried out at a neighbouring practice as you will not be able to charge your own patient privately.

Also if the patient is not within the programme age then again you must use your clinical judgement. If you then decide to prescribe to the particular patient you'll need to use an FP10 or send them privately to another practice.

I do hope this reminder helped any other queries please contact me on 07966594921 or the office number 01392 834020

New Born Baby Checks - The next meeting will be held on 20th July I will update you all by email.

GANFYDS - These are still an on going battle please keep forwarding me any issues on requests sent to GP's. Latest is pupils missing exams, still a few 'bus passes' and 'housing' keep sneaking in. Also we seem to be getting letter requests from South West water asking for GP input into a customer's water consumption!. All these and more are still not the responsibility of the GP and although I can't say "please don't do them" (as I know its difficult when you have the patient in front of you).. The more that are done by GP's the more will be requested by various councils and organisations. So be strong!

Have a good summer ... Kind regards Debbie

The Diving Diseases Research Centre (DDRC): Offshore Medics

DDRC Professional Services is a World leading training facility based in Plymouth; we have been providing high quality medical and clinical training for some 10 years. We are about to launch a new course aimed at personnel wishing to become Offshore Medics, the course will be accredited by the HSE and is a requirement for all personnel wishing to work offshore as a medic.




An Offshore Medic will already be either a qualified nurse, paramedic or similar; their role offshore is to provide health related help and advice for the rig crew. This means that they will have to be

capable of helping the crew with basic medical advice. Part of the course requires that the students attend a GPs surgery to observe

diagnosis. DDRC is looking for doctors surgeries that would be happy to accept students for this observation role.

Anyone interested in getting involved with this exciting new development can contact Peter Atkey at DDRC either by phone 01752 209999 ext 214 or email pete.atkey@ddrc.org - www.ddrc.org

 Royal College of General Practitioners <small>TAMAR FACULTY</small>	Exeter GP CPD Evenings Autumn 2009
	Every Third Wednesday 7:00 - 8:00 - RD&E Wonford Postgrad Medical Centre Refreshments from 6:30 - 7:00 All local clinicians, particularly GPs and GPs in Training are welcome.
16 Sep - David Kernick - Headache 21 Oct - Michael Hutton - Back Pain A look at the new NICE guidance 18 Nov - Richard Telford - Preparing the patient for routine surgery, what role for the GP	
Further details contact Dr David Bossano - RCGP Tamar Faculty Tutor for Exeter email - davidbossano@nhs.net	

GP Required - Safeguarding Children

Evidence of the escalation of issues relating to the safeguarding of children following the recent high profile incidents widely covered in the media and Lord Laming's resultant report was discussed at a meeting of the LMC Pastoral Support Network in June.

Following an audit of practices which took place in March focusing on all aspects of safeguarding children across the PCT area training needs will be identified to ensure that all practices meet Department of Health guidelines. A 'best practice' standard of care is emerging from recent high level reviews and will alter the culture of primary care response to the issues.

At present we have one GP advising the LMC, monitoring and reporting on the issues surrounding safeguarding children but a need has been identified for some additional help. Ideally we would like someone in the Plymouth/Torbay areas, as the Devon Local Safeguarding Children Board doesn't cover those unitary authorities. If as a GP you are interested in assisting the LMC in this area of concern, please contact Sarah Hale, Director of Operations 01392 83402.

Comings and Goings...	
Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michelle Freeburn, Bow Medical Practice John Lockwood, Ivybridge Health Centre
Goodbye	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michelle Freeburn, Okement Surgery Janet Mallett, Ivybridge Health Centre
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allan Bennett, Pinhoe Surgery, Exeter

Available for Work...**www.devonlmc.org/locum****Locums urgently required – Plymouth Area**

Locums available for immediate work please contact the LMC office on 01392 834020

Dr Yoshiko Hatanaka MBBS BSc nMRCGP

Female GP available at short notice for locum work from 10th August 2009. Reliable, friendly and hard-working. Plymouth VTS trained. Familiar with Microtest and Synergy. A fast learner and keen to learn new systems. Please contact on email: yoshiko.hatanaka@nhs.net or mobile: 07870413259

Dr Joe Bruynseels, nMRCGP(09), MBChB(02), BMedSci(99)

Available for locum from August 09 at short notice. Plymouth based but willing to travel. Plymouth VTS, Elm surgery. Friendly, flexible and reliable. jbruynseels@yahoo.co.uk or mob: 07976 594288

Dr Heidi McDowell MBChB. nMRCGP.DRCOG. DFSRH

Plymouth based GP available for short & long term locum work from August 2009, willing to travel. Friendly, reliable & hardworking. Plymouth VTS trained - North Rd West Medical Centre. Please contact me for further information drheidi@hotmail.co.uk or 07817869872

Dr Catherine Hall MBChB DRCOG nMRCGP

Hardworking, enthusiastic and reliable GP available for short and long term locum work from August 2009. Exeter based but willing to travel. For further information and CV please contact me on catherinemhall@aol.com or 07850 452294

Dr. Edward Teesdale MBBS MRCS MRCGP

Plymouth VTS trained at South Brent Health Centre. Enthusiastic and hardworking with an interest in minor surgery. Available for short and long term locum / salaried work from August 2009. Plymouth based but happy to travel. For further information and CV please contact me on 07989 577150 or e-mail edteesdale@googlemail.com

Dr Shilpa Mathew MBBS nMRCGP

Available for short and longterm locum work from sept 3 Sept 09 willing to travel. Enthusiastic, hardworking and reliable. Plymouth VTS trained -Southway Surgery. Familiar with Microtest Evolution and Emis. For more information and CV contact 07949377476 or email shilpamathew@nhs.net

Dr Robert Allen MB BS BSc MRCS nMRCGP

Hardworking, friendly and reliable GP looking for short and long term locum work from August 2009. Plymouth VTS trained with registrar year at the Rame Group Practice in Torpoint. Previously surgically trained with strong interest in ENT. Based in Plymouth but happy to travel. For further information and CV please contact me on 07974 070218 or email roballen1977@yahoo.co.uk

Experienced Practice Nurse - Alison Faizey - Plymouth

4 years experience. I will be available Mon-Fri 9:30am-2:00pm all year. I will be undertaking a cervical smear and immunisation update. alisonfaizey@talktalk.net 01752 846097

Manager looking for work – Tracy Keogh – Exeter Area

Currently managing a 7,000 patient GP Registrar training practice, looking to relocate in and around the surrounding areas of Exeter, please feel free to email me further to discuss tracykeogh@nhs.net

Vacancies/Adverts...**www.devonlmc.org/adverts****Full-time Partner (8 sessions) – Plymouth**

Details: The Budshead Medical Practice, 433 Budshead Road, Plymouth, PL5 4DU
Please submit CVs to Mrs Elaine Boardman - email elaine.boardman@nhs.net

Salaried GP opportunity (5/6 sessions) – Mid Devon**Details:** Bow Practice Partnership

Contact: Michelle Freeburn - michellefreeburn@nhs.net
Godfreys Gardens, Bow, Crediton EX17 6HT

Full time Nurse Practitioner - North Plymouth

Contact: Craig Smith-Avery, Managing Partner,
Knowle House Surgery, 4 Meavy Way, Crownhill, Plymouth, PL5 3JB
Tel 01752 315869.

Part Time Nurse Practitioner - Plymouth

Details: Marlborough Street Surgery. Twenty hours per week
Contact: Mrs Sharon Kershaw, Practice Manager 01752 568864

Bank Practice Nurse Required – Honiton

Details: Honiton Surgery, to cover holidays and sickness absence.
Contact: Sally Dawes on 01404 548544
Closing date: 10th July, 2009

Nurses – Custody and Forensic Services - Devon & Cornwall

Ideally you will be a RN, with 4 years post qualification experience and will have completed the Intermediate Life Support course.

Contact: nicola.law@medacs.com

Forensic Medical Examiners - Devon & Cornwall

Ideally you will be a Doctor/GP, with broad experience, post-registration training and an interest in forensic work.

Contact: Julie.nicholls@medacs.com

Conferences/Meetings/Events...**www.devonlmc.org/diary****The Exeter Medico-Legal Society Conference 2009 Litigation and how to avoid it?**

Friday 25 September 2009 - All day - University of Exeter www.devonlmc.org/news/925

RCGP Tamar Faculty - GP CPD Evenings - Summer 2009

Exeter - 7:00 – Autumn PGMC, RD&E - www.devonlmc.org/news/1011

- **16 Jul** - Drs. Bip Patel and Chris Sheldon - OSA and Bronchiectasis
- **16 Sep** - David Kernick - Headache
- **21 Oct** - Michael Hutton - Back Pain A look at the new NICE guidance

18 Nov - Richard Telford - Preparing the patient for routine surgery

Plymouth - First Tues of the month 7:00 - PGMC, Derriford - www.devonlmc.org/news/988

7 July - Dr Steven Alder, Consultant Neurologist - Stroke Management

Articles and adverts within the Devon LMC Newsletter must not be assumed to be approved or endorsed by the Devon LMC

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