



Kent Local Medical Committee

Supporting list based personalised care, the partnership model and meaningful collaboration

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To all Kent & Medway GPs

LMC policy on the Multi-specialty Community Provider Contract

Kent LMC strongly supports meaningful collaboration between practices and with other parts of the health and social care economy. We believe that by achieving this level of collaboration the needs of the people of Kent and Medway can be met and that good outcomes will be delivered.

We feel that the nature of this collaboration will vary according to local needs and circumstances, and that practices must feel that they are supported in developing arrangements that reflect their individual decision. There must be no undue haste or coercion.

Kent LMC has read the suite of documents on the MCP Voluntary Contract with interest. At this point, whilst accepting the need for local decision making, we are concerned about the impact of all three versions of MCPs on individual practices. Even though, some of the risk of the Alliance model MCP may be addressed through the mechanism of a limited liability or partnership structure.

We submitted the following statement to the informal stage of the MCP consultation:

"We are concerned that any form of MCP as currently formulated puts at risk the fundamental qualities that the current list based partnership model of general practice provides. Namely the provision of efficient, patient centred, and personalised care, that have been the hallmark of general practice in the NHS. As well as providing for the long-term continuity of care that patients and the public have so valued.

We acknowledge that general practice is under intense pressure and it can only meet this challenge by a process of evolution.

Our view is that general practice can deliver this by building upon the partnership model through meaningful collaboration delivered either through larger partnerships or developing effective federations, and that this will enable the further integration of general practice with community care, and the delivery of local care.

The MCP models as currently proposed threaten to undermine the strengths of the current model of general practice contracting by removing tenure and by the pooling of budgets and risks from across health and social care."

We continue to be absolutely committed to working with and supporting the individual decisions of all practices.

Yours sincerely

Julian Spinks
Chairman

Dr J Spinks
Chairman

Dr G Gupta & Dr S H Meech
Vice Chairmen