



# Kent Local Medical Committee

8 Roebuck Business Park, Ashford Road Harrietsham Kent ME17 1AB  
Tel: 01622 851197 Fax: 01622851198 Email [Info@kentlmc.org](mailto:Info@kentlmc.org)

## Medway Community Healthcare(MCH)/LMC Newsletter September 2017

Drs Emma Simmons, Naveen Rishi joined Dr Caroline Rickard and Carlo Caruso at the recent LMC/MCH liaison meeting. Dr Simon Collins, Penny Smith and Sue Wilson attended on behalf of MCH.

### Waiting times for MCH Services

The group discussed waiting times and the fact that GPs are not aware of the waiting times for the various services. MCH plan to keep live data on their website which is currently early in the process of being updated.

### Flu Vaccinations

MCH have had no change of contract from the CCG and are providing flu vaccinations to patients on the case load only. The CCG suggested they may be able to fund a programme to assist MCH to widen the service to housebound patients not on their caseload. MCH are currently in ongoing discussions with the CCG and their nursing team to see how they could provide this additional service. They do not believe they will be able to provide this to all practices due to issues with staffing the potential service. If practices can respond to the initial communication from MCH that will assist them in planning delivery of flu vaccinations to their current caseload.

### Multi-Professional Education

The LMC suggested it would be beneficial for Community Nurses to have access to multi professional education sessions with GPs and that this would help promote good working relationships. MCH are looking at setting up an evening event with community nurses and GPs, potentially May 2018. Anticipate it will be midweek. This will be an opportunity for GPs to meet specific services at events and find out how they work.

### Prescription requests

LMC asked MCH if more prescribing nurses would help to reduce burden of prescription requests to general practice. MCH advised that there are currently around 9 Advance Community Practitioners who are able to prescribe. The course to become a prescriber takes 2 years and is at masters level. The course itself has limited capacity, so while there is a desire to train more staff there is a limit as to what can be delivered. A wider discussion followed where we looked at possible alternative solutions. Suggestions include looking at how PGDs could be used, possibly using a GP from MCH to assist the community teams prescribing requests. MCH will raise this with the CCG. MCH are a pilot site of electronic prescribing which may also assist in a solution in the future.

MCH hope to increase generic meds to a year to ease pressure on workload. There have been changes in the South Kent Coast equivalent (Buff form) which LMC will share to see if this could help MCH. Demands from housebound diabetes patients, LMC suggested this could go to the community diabetes team. MCH will include this suggestion in a review of service.

### District nurse communication

Discussion about communication between district nursing team and GPs when assessing need of GP home visit. GPs hope that DNs make visit requests directly to GPs with contact details to enable further assessment to take place.

Date of Next Meeting  
Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

**Caroline Rickard**  
Medical Secretary