



Kent Local Medical Committee

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Kent LMC/East Kent Hospitals University Foundation Trust Interface Meeting November 2017

Drs Penny Barley, Mark Speller, Senthil Balasubramaniam and Gaurav Gupta joined Dr John Allingham at the recent meeting with East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust. Dr Paul Stevens and Mr Rupert Williamson attended on behalf of the Trust.

Who is in charge?

The 'Dear Pooled List' letters remain an issue that is unlikely to be resolved until the PAS update which cannot occur until at least March. This issue will be reviewed at the next meeting.

PSA Monitoring

This remains work in progress and there is some progress on establishing a pathway. The LMC will follow up with Karen Benbow and Bill Millar to see if work can be done to fund the follow up as an enhanced service.

Testing for Bacterial Vaginosis

This simply reiterates the public health guidance to use vaginal pH to inform treatment and there has been no further traffic to the LMC office on this issue.

Discharge Summaries

The Trust shared a flow chart of blood results that can be added to the EDN. It was agreed that although it was possible to access these via DART it would be trialled and the LMC office would seek feedback to see if the additional effort for junior doctors was worthwhile.

A&E attendance information/prescribing information

The Trust has already actioned the inclusion on number of attendances in last 12 months on the A&E letter. It was noted

this is of particular use to sessionals/locums who work in settings where the full record is not available. The question of including the drug history was raised, but it was agreed this is of limited value since the information is supplied by the patient and may not be accurate.

Outpatient contact details and new Clinical Imaging Information Line

The direct dial numbers and email addresses for the Outpatient appointments (OPA) teams were tabled and have been published via CCG newsletters.

Clinical Imaging

The delays for reports are partly due to the very high number of requests for CT and MRI generated in East Kent. These requests are both from GPs and internally from within the hospital. Paul Stevens reminded that the quality of the clinical information provided by the referrer aided the reporting process, and also reported that there has been a 17% increase in direct access MRI referrals in the last 12 months. Reporting for MRIs is currently at 6 weeks but this time is falling. Any issues caused as a result of reporting delays should be addressed to CCG quality teams who can receive patient identifiable information. Details about a new clinical Imaging Information Line will be shared within one month.

Nurse Practitioners ordering X-rays

This is proceeding through the EKHUFT governance process and that NPs who have undertaken IRMA training will soon be able to request radiology.

You have been referred/ National Leaflet from BMA

LMC shared this with EKHUFT and discussed the possibility of a local help line for issues relating to it. The Trust expressed concern that PALS was the only service that could deal with this as a single point of access issue and it would be overwhelmed. CCGs have agreed to print these leaflets and it was agreed that to avoid any delays the generic hospital switchboard number will be included in the leaflets for now.

Analysis of Kent and Medway STP

The Trust shared the recently published data showing EKHUFTs performance against other trusts and STPs. Many concerns were highlighted in this document including the lowest number of GPs per capita in the whole country.

Inappropriate Transfer of Work

The definition of what can be referred on between consultants was considered. This has been discussed at the tri-partite meeting including CCGs/EKHUFT and LMC and will be taken forward.

Trial of DMARD Prescribing

A trial of DMARD prescribing involving a tiers of care approach that has been piloted in SKC and involves community monitoring by nurse specialists employed by the CCG. There were concerns that there might be proposals to move this specialist work out of hospitals into primary care. Paul Stevens agreed to send the service specification to the LMC and discuss further at the next SKC liaison meeting.

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 7th June 2018.

John Allingham
Medical Secretary