



Kent Local Medical Committee

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

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Making Connections in Thanet CCG February 2018

Drs Ash Peshen and Mark Speller joined Dr Caroline Rickard and Mr Carlo Caruso at the recent CCG/LMC liaison meeting. Dr Tony Martin attended on behalf of the CCG.

Medical School in Kent

The CCG and LMC were still awaiting the announcement regarding the location of the new medical school. Some of the competing regions include Surrey and Essex.

The decision was expected in February 2018. It is now hoped that the decision will be made in March 2018.

General Practice Forward View

The CCG and GP federation recently visited Bromley by Bow to see what aspects of the model could be incorporated into general practice in Thanet. Bromley by Bow is a pioneer health and wellbeing centre in East London, innovating in social prescribing. The centre hosts services to assist with learning new skills and finding employment alongside GP services.

The CCG and federation have made plans for implementing the GP Access initiative (8-8 GP services). It is expected that the federation will be providing a dynamic hub system during the week in which a different practice would provide cover for the extended hours across a Primary Care Home for each night of the week, with weekend appointments being provided from the QEQM hub. Both the CCG and federation agreed that the GP Access initiative has incentivised practices to look at further ways to collaborate.

The CCG is also supporting practices interested in occupying the new GP surgery in Westwood Cross. It is hoped that this would also foster a greater culture of collaboration between the practices involved.

At the CCG Governing Body meeting on 27 February 2018 the CCG will be seeking

authority for the Finance Director to proceed with big developments in Margate and Cliftonville, and Westwood Cross. The CCG and local practices are discussing who should lead on the new developments. The CCG is prepared to lead if necessary to seek to secure the new developments.

GP Federation Update

The CCG and Federation are currently working on a number of projects. The federation is running the ER project from the front of hospitals. This is picking up about 90% of patients seeking to attend A&E. It will also be delivering Improved Access, holding the contract for the whole of Thanet and then sub-contracting the activity to practices and providing weekend cover at the QEQM hub. In future it is considering whether to deliver OOH too from 8pm to midnight at PCH level, running the local base. If this was to occur then the midnight to morning shift is likely to remain with IC24.

It is also working on the complex Acute Response Team project and supporting local practices more generally.

New NHS Standard Contract 2017/19

Practices have been reporting that issues around secondary to primary care interface persist. There are still particular issues around the issuance of MED3 certificates. There was a discussion around the use of the email address for reporting issues to EKHUFT. The LMC agreed to publicise it again following the meeting.

There appears to be a particular issue in relation to tertiary hospitals asking GPs to refer patients onto local specialist services. The LMC had written to Guys and St Thomas about this issue previously but will now follow up with London LMCs to ascertain what it is doing about this issue.

There was a discussion about having GP representation at the junior doctor induction about the issue of secondary to primary care interface. The LMC did previously have a regular slot but it seems that now, with the Trust in difficulty, having a GP slot may not be such a priority. The LMC agreed to speak with the FY2 training lead and to see if, like in West Kent, there could be an entry in the Junior Doctor Handbook highlighting the interface standards.

Weighing, Measuring and Supporting Children

The group discussed an issue that has recently appeared in which the home visiting service of KCHFT had apparently decided it would not weigh babies at the 6-8 weeks stage.

A letter from Paul Bentley, the Chief Executive of KCHFT, to the LMC confirmed that weighing babies at the 6-8 week period was part of a holistic approach and that this was part of the health visitors job. The group added that the extra benefits of this were the same person and scales weighing the baby. It would be more challenging for GPs to take on this role.

The LMC wrote to the local team in Thanet about this issue and will feedback the response.

NHS 111

Practices have been raising concern that NHS 111 has been sending lots of 1hr responders to practices. An example was given about a patient that had called NHS111 with chest pain and shortness of breath. This was received by a practice at 7.30pm when many practices could be closed and unmanned, giving rise to the concern that this could have been easily missed. It was felt that this should not have been referred to the GP because it was potentially acute. There was also a concern about who holds medico-legal responsibility when NHS 111 makes such a decision. There was also speculation that this is an approach designed to manage the ambulance dispositions, albeit potentially inappropriately.

Practices are advised that if they experience such issues that they raise an SI with 111 and the CCG.

Audit +

The CCG will be talking to practices about CCGs accessing data via EMIS for Audit+. This tool is similar to EMIS enterprise. The CCG will

be providing more detail about this in the near future, but it is expected that this will be used to improve practice quality.

Westbrook House

There was a discussion around the arrangements for medical care at Westbrook House. Concerns had been raised whether it was adequate which was leading to increased pressure on local practices.

The CCG reported that this was currently a joint venture with KCC and CCG. KCHFT provides some of the staffing. GP practices had previously been commissioned to provide medical support. However, this is now provided by a geriatrician employed by KCHFT.

The LMC agreed to write to KCHFT for clarification around the medical arrangements for the medical care of this group of patients.

Date of Next Meeting: 17th May 2018

Carlo Caruso
Deputy Clerk