



Kent Local Medical Committee

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

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Making Connections in Medway CCG November 2018

Drs Julian Spinks, Naveen Rishi, Kavita Pancholi, Om Singh, Chidambaram Balachander and Mr Carlo Caruso attended the recent LMC/Medway CCG liaison meeting. Dr Peter Green attended on behalf of the CCG.

Mental Health Services Working Group

GPs are still experiencing significant issues with rejection of referrals. GPs are seeing patients that are acutely unwell being returned to practices, despite the referrals meeting the service's criteria. This is a significant issue for practices who are left deprived of appropriate assistance for managing the patient. The CCG agreed to update the group on the progress of the working group before the next liaison meeting.

North Kent Pathology Services (NKPS)

The issues with the performance of the NKPS continue to impact upon general practice. There has been marginal improvements but its shortcomings remain a significant issue for GPs. The CCG agrees there are useful lessons that can be learned from the mobilisation of the NKPS.

The CCG confirmed that Order Comms is still awaiting deployment and it was unable to confirm the timetable. It is awaiting a further update.

The concern about how the NKPS will interact with the Improved Access Hubs was noted and the CCG agreed to explore this with NKPS.

New NHS Standard Hospital Contract 2017/19

The group received the following documents:

[Clinical Guidance: Onward Referral](#)
[Implementation toolkit for local systems](#)

The CCG and LMC agreed that the [Clinical Guidance: Onward Referral](#) was very simple, useful and emphasised good clinical practice. It also reflected the contractual requirements. The CCG agreed to recommend to the Trust that it could adopt the guidance

as policy. The CCG are working with MFT, and other providers, on practical implementation. The LMC agreed to discuss the document with the Trust at the forthcoming CCG/MFT liaison meeting.

The CCG reported that MFT is now running on a block contract. Performance meetings are now clinically led and focused on developing clinical pathways. There has been significant change at Executive Level. Diane Hamilton-Fairley, previously Medical Director, has taken up the post of Director of Strategy. Dr David Sulch has been appointed Medical Director. James Devine has replaced Lesley Dwyer as Chief Executive.

The CCG has noted the significant deficit that MFT is currently running, and that this may affect plans for service transformation.

eRS

The group has noted that the number of local issues to do with eRS is decreasing. However, eRS issues with tertiary services continue.

GPC DDRB letter

The group discussed the letter from Richard Vautrey, Chair of the General Practitioner Committee, asking CCGs to implement the recommendations of the DDRB. It was noted that NHSE wrote to CCGs directing them not to acquiesce to the request.

Dermatology

The LMC had expressed concern about the specification for the new dermatology service that the CCG is currently in the process of procuring. The concerns regard the pathway for wound care.

The specification for the Dermatology service requires general practice to follow up wounds. However, neither suture removal nor the assessment and treatment of skin wounds resulting from planned procedures are part of the GP contract. Furthermore, it does not recognise that wound care, in Medway, is commissioned from Medway Community

Health (MCH) and not general practice. Should the CCG wish to proceed with the specification and seek to involve general practice in wound care provision then the CCG needs to put in place appropriate arrangements. The CCG agreed to review the specification

MSK Triage Service

GPs reported that the service is regularly not providing feedback for patients that are being seen by it. GPs that are experiencing this are asked to report their concerns to the CCG via MCCG.gpconcerns@nhs.net.

GP Federation

The CCG and Medway Practice Alliance (MPA) reported that the Improved Access hubs are beginning to work really well, with it achieving a high rate of patient satisfaction. It is managing to fill most slots but there appear to be some difficulty with filling slots in some locations.

MPA is applying for the next way of clinical pharmacist in general practice scheme. The bid is based on aligning pharmacists across both hubs and practices, which will include supporting practices to look after nursing home patients.

There will soon be a communication to practices about the positive impact that the federation has made. The federation has been successful in attracting doctors to the area, with 55 doctors now on its locum bank from both the local area and beyond. Most have reported positive experiences from working with MPA.

Pre-assessment anaemia

It appears that the protocol for the pre-assessment clinic will result in certain patients being rejected. The protocol does not appear to be suitable for all patients. The CCG has agreed to follow this up with MFT.

Date of Next Meeting:

Thursday 21st March 2019.

Carlo Caruso

On behalf of Kent LMC