

GP SUB-COMMITTEE OF NHS Lothian Area Medical Committee

Monday 14th October 2019

7.30pm

Novotel Edinburgh Park Hotel, 15 Lochside Avenue, Edinburgh EH12 9DJ

Chair - Dr Iain Morrison

MINUTES

1. **Attending** – Dr Jenny English, Dr Iain Morrison (Chair), Dr Euan Alexander, Dr Robin Balfour, Dr Carl Bickler, Dr Gordon Black, Dr Stuart Blake, Dr Jim Cowan, Dr Elaine Duncan, Dr Agata Dunsmore, Dr Morgan Flynn, Dr Andrew Forder, Dr Kerri Greene, Dr Steven Haigh, Dr Janet Henderson, Dr Katharine Hill, Dr Annie Lomas, Dr Ramon McDermott, Dr Catriona Morton, Dr Elizabeth Murray, Dr Nick Payne, Dr Hamish Reid, Dr Amy Small, Dr Elizabeth Strachan, Dr Jon Turvill, Dr Laura Tweedie, Dr Ros Wight, Dr Tracey Gillies, Ms Alison McNeillage, Mr David Small, Dr Nigel Williams

Apologies – Dr AD Begg, Dr Peter Cairns, Ms Theresa Cameron, Dr Brian Cook, Dr Rachel Hardie, Dr Catherine Smith, Dr Sian Tucker

2. **Minutes of last meeting, 9th September 2019**

The minutes of the meeting were approved as accurate.

3. **Matters Arising / Actions from last meeting**

Updates on actions were given as follows;

3.1 Example letters from Secondary Care, GenderGP and ADHD Direct have been provided to TG who has referred them on as appropriate. Further information/advice will be circulated once this is received. **ONGOING**

3.2 TG has stressed with Secondary Care the need to send enquiries to Primary Care clinical mailboxes rather than individual mailboxes, and a reminder of the process is being re-circulated. **CLOSED**

4. **Chair's Business**

- 4.1 **Challenging Behaviour update**

Chair highlighted the slide presentation issued in advance of the meeting and informed attendees that a doctor from Boroughloch Practice who currently

provide this service, attended a recent Chairs Group meeting. A presentation on the current model of the Challenging Behaviour policy was given at Chairs Group and it was agreed that this would also be shared with GP Sub Committee.

Committee agreed that the slide presentation be shared with GP practices across Lothian.

5. GMS Oversight Group

DS gave an overview of the key points from GMS Oversight Group.

The latest iteration of the PCIP Trackers is nearing completion by each of the HSCPs in advance of submission to Scottish Government by end of October 2019.

The Travel Health service is progressing with the aim to have the proposed hub and spoke model in place for April 2020 – this is an ambitious target and GP Sub Committee will be kept updated on progress.

Circulars will be issued to practices in advance of the forthcoming Data collection exercise.

Work continues on the Risk Register for implementation of the new contract, and an update will be taken to a future GMS Oversight Group meeting.

6. Gynaecology Cancer Meeting update

CM highlighted the key points from the paper issued in advance of the meeting.

The emphasis on a more extensive care package was highlighted, and in particular a focus on getting patients in better health ahead of any surgery.

The paper also highlighted a number of specific cancer issues.

Committee were also made aware of the intention to have a named lead on cases, making it easier for GPs when dealing with these patients.

7. Sustainability Team update

CM highlighted the key points from the paper circulated in advance of the meeting which covered the 4 specialties of Urology, Dermatology, ENT & Ophthalmology, all of which have long waiting lists.

Work is underway which aims to bring in a national standardised approach to downgrading of referrals including whether the GP is informed and who should communicate any change to the patient.

This was discussed at length and it was suggested that regardless of who communicates any downgrading to the patient, it would be helpful if the GP was also made aware of the reasons why the case was downgraded so that it could be taken as a learning point.

It was also suggested that renewed clarification of the referral categories would be helpful to GPs as the traditional list was no longer available. It was noted that for the most common cases, RefHelp and SCI Gateway would make the decision for you based on the answers given to questions, however others are less clear.

Attendees were asked to send CM any other suggestions of education that GPs would find helpful.

The encouraging levels of input and discussions around learning on this subject were noted. It was also suggested that it would be helpful to look at all referrals over a given time period to understand how many of these cases resulted in a downgrading and/or cancer diagnosis.

Action: CM/GP Sub Office to look into gathering data for all referrals over a given time period to understand the percentage of these cases that result in a downgrading and/or cancer diagnosis.

8. Sexual Health Service Group update

AL highlighted 3 key points from the paper issued in advance of the meeting;

- Wishes clinic – this is the name of the newly-branded Spittal Street clinic for women with complex needs including addictions, homelessness, sexual health and sex workers. The rebranding aims to take away the stigma previously associated with the service and make it more accessible to all vulnerable women.
- The STI pathway on RefHelp has been updated and is more streamlined, and GPs were encouraged to familiarise themselves with the new process.
- Coil fitting – AL wanted to gauge interest across Lothian from other GPs and possibly also Practice Nurses who would be interested in taking on coil

fittings under a shared care agreement or enhanced service. This would help to alleviate the current waiting time of nearly 2 months at Chalmers clinic.

The Diploma in Sexual Health is not a requirement, although those involved would need to hold a Letter of Competency. Further training requirements/ time required needs to be confirmed.

Action: AL to confirm the training and time requirement for those interested in getting involved in a coil fitting service.

The opportunity to look at expanding the scope of the current VLARC enhanced service was also discussed briefly, and it was agreed that this should be looked into further.

Action: LMC Office to discuss the possibility of changing the scope of the current VLARC enhanced service with PCCO.

9. Medical Secretaries Business

9.1 – GP IT Reprovision evening, 23rd October 2019, Surgeon's Hall

Chair highlighted this event which was recently advertised to all GPs and encouraged committee member to attend if possible.

10. For Information

10.1 Substance Abuse Enhanced Service Development Group

Chair highlighted the paper issued in advance.

10.2 Performers List – Annual reminder

Chair highlighted the paper issued in advance.

11. AOCB

None

Date of next meeting – Monday, 11th November 2019

Future 2019 meeting dates

Monday, 9 December