

# NORFOLK & WAVENEY LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

Serving the General Practitioners in Norfolk & Waveney



NORFOLK & WAVENEY LMC INVITES YOU TO A MEETING FOR GT YARMOUTH & WAVENEY GPS AT CRESTVIEW SURGERY, LOWESTOFT  
TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER 7-9 PM

Topics for discussion: \* GMS/PMS Review \* New PMS Contract \* Out of Hours \* Estates Strategy \* Meeting with New GtY&W CEO \* AOB  
Call the LMC Office on 01953 608060 for more information

## PCT INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS CLINICAL GOVERNANCE GROUP

*Simon Lockett sits on the Norfolk PCT Independent Contractors Clinical Governance Group. The following issues, raised at the October meeting, probably apply to our constituents in GtY&W as well as in Norfolk.*

- ☀ **BISPHOSPHONATES AND JAW OSTEONECROSIS.** GPs should be cautious about giving bisphosphonates to elderly patients and/or those with cancer and poor dental hygiene because these drugs can cause terrible problems with dental care. Guidance should come round at some stage but, if practices are putting a lot of energy into getting their very elderly patients on to bisphosphonates, then it may be that they should hold fire until the situation becomes clearer. Try Googling a very helpful paper from the European Medicines Agency.
- ☀ **ANTICOAGULATION & MAJOR OPERATIONS.** The local acute Trusts are auditing anti-coagulation around the time of hip and knee replacements. Norfolk PCT thinks the Trusts may be missing some of the less serious consequences (they are pretty confident that someone will twig if patients die of pulmonary embolism) so a letter may well be coming around to practices asking them to report **any** incidents where anti-coagulation around the time of a major operation *may have been* a relevant factor.
- ☀ **NHS NUMBERS.** Apparently, unless the patient is able to tell them, it is almost impossible for dentists and opticians to find out NHS numbers when making an NHS referral: for example an optician making a referral for a cataract or a dentist referring for hospital treatment. How are patients to find out their NHS numbers if they have lost them? Norfolk PCT is trying to avoid patients ringing up, or going to, their GP surgeries just to find it out. There have been discussions about local, or national, mailings or a dedicated telephone line but, as the only reason someone doesn't know their NHS number is that they have already managed to lose it, then it will probably get lost again. SRL suggested it might be tattooed on at birth as part of a (more sophisticated) heel prick. SRL.
- ☀ **PPA REIMBURSEMENT FOR IMPLANON.** Some practices may be confused and believe they can **prescribe** and **provide** Implanon to their **prescribing** patients under the "personally administered" arrangements and, therefore, get funded both for the implant as well as for carrying out the enhanced service. The Prescription Pricing Authority will not fund prescriptions for prescribing patients under the "personally administered" rules - stating that it believes that, as the insertion is otherwise funded, practices should not be claiming the cost of the drug also. So, non-dispensing practices that have bought in stock, or are considering buying in stock, because they believe that they will be able to use it on their prescribing patients, should not buy any more and should, perhaps, consider trying to sell back to the wholesalers what they already have.  
**Practices will only be reimbursed for the implant for dispensing patients.**

## CONTINUING CARE PLANS

Practices may have received the new, two page, questionnaires from the Continuing Care Team at Lakeside requesting information on patients whose care is under review - essentially to see if they are eligible for continuing NHS care (free) or for referral to Social Care (means tested). In the "old" days the form was one side of A4 and the PCT was willing to pay a modest sum for its completion. Things, however, changed when the PCT deemed that providing this information was part of essential services.


Nikki Cocks, from NPCT, and the LMC discussed a sensible way forward; this was passed to the GPC lawyers who replied as follows:

***"As we understand it, the LMC has negotiated that NPCT will only require a diagnosis and a list of medication for a patient with a long-term medical condition. The GP should provide this free of charge - as it falls under S77 of the NHS GMS Regulations 2004. However, if the GP is asked to provide more detailed information, or a medical report/assessment, then this should attract a fee".***

Nikki Cocks recently wrote out to all Norfolk practices accordingly.

We have had no reports that this is an issue in Great Yarmouth & Waveney; however the LMC believes this is a pragmatic way forward and would recommend the same solution should the issue arise.

## The Cameron Fund: *The GPs' own charity*

 The Cameron Fund is the only medical charity which provides help and support solely to general practitioners and their dependants. It aims to meet needs that vary considerably from the elderly in nursing homes to young, chronically sick doctors and their families and those suffering from unexpected and unpredictable problems such as relationship breakdown or financial difficulties following the actions of professional regulatory bodies.

Anyone who knows of someone experiencing difficulties, hardship or distress is urged to draw attention to the Cameron Fund's existence or alternatively to contact Jane Cope, the Services Manager.

E-mail: [janecope@cameronfund.org.uk](mailto:janecope@cameronfund.org.uk) Phone: 020 7388 0796 Address: Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HR

**Note: The Cameron Fund is one of the Charities the Norfolk & Waveney LMC supports**

## **BMA Law** Legal services exclusively for Local Medical Committees

Many practices/GPs are having to change the way they practice or are looking at different ways of developing their existing practices by engaging in APMS work or even tagging extended services onto existing medical contracts. BMA Law has recognised the need for not only a legal service that can assist enterprising GPs who require legal advice in commercial/corporate matters, BUT we have also recognised the need for a much cheaper and more cost effective legal service that moves away from market rate legal fees, or, "never ending" hourly rates.

We are part of the BMA, and, as a result, are able to offer this unique service to any practice where at least one GP is a member of the BMA. All our lawyers are employed by the BMA and therefore are able to offer much lower fees than market rate. (Please see below for fees).

BMA Law was established 3 years ago mainly servicing the needs of Local Medical Committees by offering highly discounted fees for legal services. This year the BMA Law are running a pilot scheme via some LMCs to offer these favourable rates directly to practices.

We offer a full range of corporate/commercial services including:

1. Setting up and advising on corporate structures for a variety of projects and activities undertaken by GPs.
2. Employment law related to TUPE and corporate structures and activities, including drafting and advising upon employment contracts.
3. Commercial Contract review and in particular in relation to any bidding and tendering process
4. Bidding and tendering advice on the basic legal rules in submitting a robust tender and advice on challenge.
5. Negotiation and advice on larger medical contracts such as Polyclinics or establishment of Walk in Health Centres
6. Financial and VAT advice via our external tax advisors.
7. Seminars and workshops on: Directors Duties and Company Law Reform, Employment Law, Partnership Disputes and Splits, Medical Partnership Agreements, Libel and its Consequences, Negotiation, Local Disputes and Basic Contract Law, Competition Law, Limited Liability Companies and Structures for LMCs

### **FEES**

We have a discounted hourly rate of £180 per hour HOWEVER the majority of our clients prefer a fixed price which we assess according to the type of work involved and then quote a fixed discounted rate to completion. We guarantee that this fixed rate is NEVER increased even if the work undertaken proves to be more complex or demanding than anticipated. This rate will include unlimited conference calls, queries on the issue quoted and e mail or other correspondence. We do not ask for fees up front and invoices are only sent once the work has been completed. All our lawyers are highly experienced and qualified.

**Shanee Baker:** LLB (Hons), LLM, Barrister, **Jonathan Waters:** LLB (Hons), LLM, Mclarb, Mlod, Barrister, **Tim Merritt:** LLB (Hons), & **Eloise Perrott:** Paralegal. **For further details please contact Eloise Perrott on [EPerrott@bma.org.uk](mailto:EPerrott@bma.org.uk) or telephone 0207 383 6976**

### **MUNDESLEY MEDICAL CENTRE: LOCUM COVER**

Requires a Locum to cover sickness for 2 days per week for a minimum of 3 months.

Please contact Linda Horne 01263 724500/[Linda.Horne@nhs.net](mailto:Linda.Horne@nhs.net)

### **WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA A PART TIME SALARIED GP REQUIRED**

- 5 sessions per week
- Friendly practice of 3200 patients
- Recently redeveloped purpose built PCT owned premises
- Nurse Practitioner, 2 Practices Nurses and Phlebotomist
- EMIS LV software with hospital IT links, paperlight practice

If you would like to find out more or arrange an informal visit, please contact Dr Gordon McAnsh Wells Health Centre, Bolts Close, Wells-Next-The-Sea, Norfolk NR23 1JP or telephone 01328 710741 or e-mail [mcansh@doctors.org.uk](mailto:mcansh@doctors.org.uk)

**Application by CV and covering letter please.**

### **THE LAWNS MEDICAL PRACTICE**

Require Salaried GP for 8 sessions per week at this friendly surgery situated in the pleasant market town of Diss.

We have a loyal, happy team of 3 full-time partners, 3 Practice Nurses and a Health Care Assistant, with the usual ancillary staff. The practice is a high QOF achiever.

The post will be salaried for an initial period of 12 months.

**Start date: 01.01.2010**

Please apply in writing with CV to Ann Steele, Practice Manager The Lawns Medical Practice, The Health Centre, Mount Street, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 4WG Tel 01379 643077

### **HOWDALE GROUP PRACTICE, SALARIED GP**

We are looking for a full time, enthusiastic GP to join our happy and friendly, high achieving, dispensing, semi-rural practice from February 2010.

- ◆ 8 sessions per week
- ◆ 7300 patients
- ◆ 4 WTE
- ◆ Very high QOF
- ◆ No OOH
- ◆ Both premises new & purpose built
- ◆ Paperlight EMIS
- ◆ Nurse led Chronic Disease Clinics

Written application with CV to: Mr Darren Martin, Practice Manager, Howdale Group Practice, Howdale Road, Downham Market, Norfolk, PE38 9AF  
For informal enquiries/more information telephone (01366) 383405 ext 212

### **SALARIED GP VACANCY NEWTOWN SURGERY & CAISTER HEALTH CENTRE**

Our progressive and highly active PMS Practice seeks a highly motivated, energetic GP. The Practice is located across two sites in Great Yarmouth and Caister on Sea. Committed to providing high quality evidence based patient care, we are able to provide the following environment for the successful applicant:

- 12000 patients
- 8 Partners (6.5 WTE) supported by experienced, comprehensive nursing team
- Consistently high QOF achievement
- Provision of medical support to local community hospital
- Educational Practice: years 3 & 4 medical students and up to 2 GP registrars
- Active participant in clinical research

The vacancy is a full time position but applications from those interested in part time work would be considered.

To apply please forward CV and covering letter to:  
Jonathan Knights, Business Manager on [jonathanknights@nhs.net](mailto:jonathanknights@nhs.net).

**Closing date 10th December 2009**