

# NORFOLK LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

Wymondham Medical Centre  
The Surgery, Postmill Close  
Wymondham,  
Norfolk, NR18 0RF  
August 2004

August 2004 Flyer

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## PRACTICE WEBSITES

The LMC website has links to 19 practice websites ([www.norfolklmc.org.uk/resources/The NHS in Norfolk>GP Practices with Websites in Norfolk](http://www.norfolklmc.org.uk/resources/TheNHSinNorfolk>GPPracticeswithWebsitesinNorfolk)). Can you check to see if yours is amongst these and if not please let us have your details, e-mailed to [norfolk@btconnect.com](mailto:norfolk@btconnect.com)

absolve them from having to undergo the whole CRB process!

## RISE IN GP MEDICAL REPORT FEES

Please don't shoot the messengers - Eastern Support Services (which will be acting on behalf of the PCTs in most instances) - they need this extra work like the proverbial hole in the head and they sympathise completely with how frustrated/annoyed many of you will be. Hopefully by September we will be in a position to tell you more.

The BMA and the Association of British Insurers (ABI) have agreed a 7% rise in the fee for reports or medical examinations. From 1st July this rose from £60 to £65. Medical Examinations on GPs' own patients are now £71 (up from £66) and fees for supplementary reports have risen from £15.75 to £16.50.

## "Enhanced Criminal Record Disclosures for Primary Medical Practitioners"

Or in plain language - CRB Checks. The Government, in its wisdom, has instructed PCTs to obtain enhanced criminal record disclosures for all primary medical performers who have not thus far provided them to the P/T on whose list their name appears. In essence that means all GPs except those who have undergone a CRB check since 1st April. The exercise, which in Norfolk will be led by Eastern Support Services, is intended to commence on 1st November (or earlier) and it is the government's intention that it should be completed by 1st February 2005 - 3 months! Indeed, officially if a doctor has not undergone a satisfactory check by then s/he cannot work - although the accompanying guidance does suggest that PCTs use their discretion!

You will be hearing from your PCT or Eastern Support Services, setting out precisely how they intend implementing this exercise.

The LMC will work with the PCTs to try to make the exercise as "painless" as possible - but we expect there to be a great deal of gritting of teeth and biting on bullets.

Note: For PMS doctors this will be doubly irksome as they all had to submit evidence last winter to enable them to be included on the PMS Service List (a list which itself was subsumed by the "Performers" list on 1st April this year). Unfortunately this does not

Note: PCTs have to pay for this!

However, if you are asked to provide a report that requires more work than obviously you are at liberty to charge more.

## MEDICAL SECRETARY to THE NORFOLK LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

23rd August 2004

Dear Colleague

As many of you are already aware, Peter Harvey stood down from the position of LMC Medical Secretary at the end of July 2004. I greatly valued the support he gave to the LMC office and I am sure that all of you who had dealings with him will have recognised his contribution to the ever-changing face of primary care in Norfolk. I am pleased to say that Peter has agreed to keep the website running for us. I know he has put an enormous amount of effort into developing this site and it should remain an up-to-date and very worthwhile resource for Norfolk general practitioners.

We took the opportunity to examine the way the LMC office operated and agreed that we really needed to maintain continuity; therefore we were looking for someone who had an intimate knowledge of Norfolk primary care, good communication skills, enthusiasm, but somebody who still had their roots firmly in practice.

I can now announce that we have appointed a successor and am very happy to welcome Simon Lockett as the new LMC Secretary. Many of you will already know Simon well from past dealings with the LMC, as he has previously held the posts of both LMC Secretary and Chairman and, until recently, Chair of the PEC at Broadland PCT. His breadth of knowledge will be of great value to the Committee.

I can assure you all that Simon and I are committed to working closely and, with Susan Payne to ensure the smooth functioning of the office, we will endeavour to continue to provide an effective voice for our constituents in what, I am sure, will be a challenging future.

Ian Hume  
Chairman  
Norfolk LMC

## Closing a Branch Surgery? Changing your Practice Area?

All six Norfolk PCTs have agreed a countywide protocol for both PMS & GMS practices. If you are planning either closing a branch surgery or changing your practice area do get in touch with your PCT so that you don't fall foul of the formal process.

## Nurse Practitioner Referrals to the Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital

Those of you with Nurse Practitioners will have first hand knowledge of the difficulty they can experience in trying to send patients into the Emergency Assessment Unit at the NNUH. Through the good offices of Mrs Benny Harston, Nurse Practitioner at Hoveton/Wroxham and Chair of the RCN Nurse Practitioner Association, along with her colleagues, a protocol has now been prepared and signed off. If you have qualified Nurse Practitioners please check with them that they have received copies of the protocol and have submitted their names for inclusion on the details to be held at the EAU.

The person they should contact is Teresa Knowles at the NNUH on [teresa.knowles@nnuh.nhs.uk](mailto:teresa.knowles@nnuh.nhs.uk)

## ♪ Straight down the Middle ♪ ♫ Cricket Lovely Cricket ♫

What with the Olympics and all we thought you might like a bit of cheering up.

We are very pleased to announce that the GPs have beaten the consultants at both golf and cricket, the winning margins being 4 1/2 to 1/2 in and 8 wickets.

We understand that thanks are due to Tesh Patel and Nick Wilford for organising the two teams

**General Practice Rules OK!**

## The LMC Locum List

Norfolk LMC has, for many years, compiled and distributed a list of doctors willing to undertake locum work. Every now and again we hear of attempts by commercial agencies to get hold of copies - they will go to extraordinary lengths (and tell the most inventive stories) to this end. We now gather they are targeting PCTs which, thankfully, have been vigilant. This locum list is a very useful resource for Norfolk's GPs - lets be honest your levies pay for its compilation and maintenance - and we don't see why profit making organisations should benefit. Possibly even more importantly, it contains locums' home addresses and telephone numbers which they have given permission to be shared with Norfolk GP practices but not with locum agencies. The LMC office has to be very careful with whom it shares this information and would encourage GP practices to destroy out of date copies and treat the information contained therein in confidence.

## FERTILITY SERVICES

The Norfolk Subfertility Plenary Group is anxious that referrals for fertility investigations are made direct to:

The Norfolk Fertility Clinic  
10 Princes Street  
Norwich, NR3 1AE  
Tel/Fax: 01603 633944

This also applies to women with polycystic ovaries who have undergone investigation at the NNUH O&G Dept and who are trying to conceive

## New Vaccines for the Childhood Immunisation Programme

On 10th August the CMO, CNO and CPO wrote to all GPs etc about the forthcoming changes to the vaccines provided for the routine childhood immunisation programme. This was emailed to your practice managers on 9th (note the LMC office had it the day before it was even written!) A copy is on the website.

## Erectile Dysfunction

We have received a rider to the item in our last newsletter. In the pursuit of accuracy can we confirm that, according to central guidelines and those from TAG, when it comes to "severe distress" both the first and ongoing prescriptions are the responsibility of the "specialist" concerned - not GPs.

## RULES ON NEW PHARMACIES to be "EASED"

We are still awaiting clear guidance on just how the "easing" of these rules might impinge on GPs. All we know to date is as follows:

(1) Pharmacies located in shopping centres over 15,000 square metres **must be away from town centres**



(2) Pharmacies that are set up by consortia establishing new one-stop primary care centres **must offer a wide range of primary care and community based services in addition to usual GP services, for instance dentistry, optometry, podiatry or other social or community based services to a substantial population of around 18,000 - 20,000 patients**

(3) Pharmacies that are wholly internet or mail-order based **must provide a fully professional service, and**

(4) Pharmacies that commit to opening more than 100 hours per week **must stick to this commitment**

At the moment any changes to the current rules will require new legislation and this is unlikely to be introduced until after the next general election.

As far as we know there are no plans to change the ruling that GPs may not dispense to patients who live within a 1 mile radius of a pharmacy.

shift) to support the argument that it is not in the baselines of either nGMS or PMS.

## Advertisement

### Fifth Doctor Wanted New Partner or Salaried Doctor

Fifth doctor wanted to join a four-partner dispensing GMS practice of 8,600 patients. High aspirations.

Recently moved into state of the art PFI premises with rooms for GP Trainer and Trainee

Nurse Practitioner and Nurse-led clinics  
EMIS PCS Beacon Practice  
Paper Light  
No Out of Hours

For more information or to arrange an informal visit please contact:

Mike Trett, Practice & Business Manager  
Long Stratton Medical Partnership  
Swan Lane Surgery, Swan Lane  
Tharston, NR15 2UY

Tel: 01508 530781  
Email: [mike.trett@nhs.net](mailto:mike.trett@nhs.net)

## Advertisement

### PMS Part-time Salaried GP The Harleston Medical Centre, Norfolk

Small, friendly practice on Norfolk/Suffolk border. Purpose built premises, 2600 patient list size. Part dispensing practice with nurse-led triage system and Primary Care Team. Computerised with Vision 3. Flexible negotiable hours. Approximately 6 sessions a week - no Out of Hours.

For a practice profile or further information please apply to:

The Practice Manager, Mrs M Howell  
The Harleston Medical Centre  
Paddock Road, Harleston  
Norfolk IP20 9AR

Tel: 01379 852213

## APPRAISAL FUNDING

The GPC, the NHS Confederation and the DoH have not yet agreed the issue of appraisal funding. In particular the following two documents need to be agreed between the negotiating parties:

- An amendment to the Statement of Financial Entitlements
- supporting guidance to PCTs in respect of appraisal funding for both GMS and PMS

Until the SFE is amended practices should note that the figure for the Appraisal Premium (see para 2.4(c) of the SFE) has not been finalised

## LES - Treatment Room Services

A three partner practice, situated not a million miles from its nearest secondary trust, has analysed the number of patients it saw for postoperative wound care from 1st January to the 1st June this year. It identified 45 patients which took a total of 40 hours of nursing time - 2.16 for removal of sutures only and 38 for repeat wound care consultations.

Imagine this multiplied by all the similar practices that do not have a local LES for "treatment room procedures" (most).

It is the kind of information that practices will find useful when renegotiating their contracts with PCTs. Similarly the LMC can make good use of this data (anonymised) in its dialogue with the trusts.

May we encourage all practices to keep a wary eye on any unresourced workload (primarily 2/1

## Advertisement

### The Elsie Bertram Diabetes Centre

The NNUH is seeking two Trust General Practitioners to work for one clinic session per week (or one Trust Practitioner to do two sessions each week) in the Elsie Bertram Diabetes Centre

This is an exciting opportunity to work with a well resourced, multi disciplinary, team in one of the leading diabetes centres in the UK. (The only UK centre to be awarded a Charter Mark for Quality twice, in 1997 and 2000)

Please direct informal enquiries to Dr Richard Greenwood, Clinical Director, tel: 01603 286769 or email: [richard.greenwood@nnuh.nhs.uk](mailto:richard.greenwood@nnuh.nhs.uk)

Interested applicants are invited to submit their CV with covering letter and the names and contact numbers of two referees to Human

Resources - Medical Staffing, Norfolk & Norwich  
University Hospital, Colney Lane, Norwich NR4  
7UY