



# PBC NEWSLETTER

The regular Practice Based Commissioning bulletin

Issue 2 - 22nd November 2006

Welcome to the second edition of the LCRPCT Practice Based Commissioning Newsletter. Following feedback received from the first edition, we are focussing on the key themes that have been raised by practices and link managers. As always, we encourage two-way communication and welcome your views, suggestions and articles. Please contact [gill.williamson@lcrpct.nhs.uk](mailto:gill.williamson@lcrpct.nhs.uk).

## Diabetic Specialist Nurses

The principal aim of this service is to provide high quality diabetic care closer to home. At present this service is only available in the South and CNWL areas. If you would like to hear more about this service, or are interested in extending it, please contact your local PBC link manager.

A revised set of referral criteria has recently been agreed and are outlined below, but they can also be found, along with all Leicestershire Diabetes Guidelines, on the website which is [www.leicestershirediabetes.org.uk](http://www.leicestershirediabetes.org.uk)

### Inclusions

- Insulin start for Type 2's
- Established Type 1's (not under secondary care) that would benefit from specialist nurse input
- Poor glycaemic control despite intensive management
- Recurrent hypoglycaemic episodes
- DESMOND education programme for newly diagnosed type 2's

- Advice regarding glucose control during recurrent illness
- Travel advice
- Device or monitoring problems

### Exclusions

- Children below the age of 18 (16-18 years could be seen under a shared care basis if UHL feel they would benefit from specialist nurse input)
- Newly diagnosed Type 1's
- Pre Conceptual Care
- Pregnancy
- Gestational Diabetes
- Renal patients of CKD 4 or more unless referred by secondary care

**NB** Routine care and annual review will remain the responsibility of the GP

### Contact Numbers

Charnwood and North West Leics -  
01509 410265  
South Leicestershire - 0116 2785022

## Clinical Engagement

Catherine Griffiths (Chief Executive) has been working with GPs to consider how clinical engagement in service planning can best be achieved. She is eager to ensure that non-PEC GPs are able to influence the business of the PCT. It has been agreed that there will be seven Locality Groups, each of which will identify a representative to sit on a Strategic Commissioning Group. Views and opinions of this group will feed into the PEC, which has five GP members. Catherine and Kevin Herbert (Deputy Chief Executive) will be attending Locality Meetings during November to discuss these arrangements. Catherine has produced a paper that describes the structures in more detail. This has been widely circulated but if you wish to receive a copy, please email Gill Williamson (PA to Sue Lock) at [gill.Williamson@lcrpct.nhs.uk](mailto:gill.Williamson@lcrpct.nhs.uk)

## Oxygen Prescribing

In April 2006 a new contract for the supply of oxygen was introduced with Air Products as the supplier for the East Midlands. Having looked at the initial data from the PPA, it appears that prescribing costs for oxygen have risen substantially since then, although this doesn't appear to be linked to increased need. This additional cost will start to be reflected in GP prescribing budgets in the near future.

The main costs are incurred when patients are prescribed oxygen in an emergency, as the tariff for emergency oxygen is 3 times the cost of routine supply. Prescribers therefore, need to follow up the initial prescription with a request for routine supply, otherwise the oxygen continues to be supplied at the emergency tariff. This can mean that a patient's supply remains on this higher tariff forever.

Work is beginning, to look at how this might be addressed including how prescribers and GP practices can get more timely information on which patients have been prescribed oxygen, and more detail will be available in the near future.

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Long Term Conditions Programme Manager,  
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[Angela.young@lcrpct.nhs.uk](mailto:Angela.young@lcrpct.nhs.uk)

## H Pylori Update

On 1st December, the PCT is launching new Leicestershire-wide guidelines on the management of dyspepsia in primary care. The guidelines reflect the NICE guidance and set out the interventions that should be routinely taken in primary care, including H. Pylori 'test and treat', before referral for endoscopy - unless red flag symptoms are present. H.Pylori testing arrangements need to be in place.

GP referrals that do not document that these interventions have been undertaken in primary care will be returned by UHL and the community hospitals, unless exceptional circumstances are present.

## Focus on South Leicestershire Zone – Update on National Primary Development Team (NPDT) for Practice Based Commissioning

Four practices from the South Leicestershire Zone are involved in the NPDT PBC Wave 2 Scheme. The practices involved are:

- Dr Prideaux (Bushloe End Surgery)
- Dr Aram (Countesthorpe Health Centre)
- Dr Davies (Central Surgery)
- Dr Baker (Wigston Central Surgery)

The practices have been working hard over the last few months on several different projects. Specifically the group, led by Dr Isabel Kuncewicz, have made excellent progress in redesigning a new patient pathway for patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. Details of this pathway will be sent to all practices shortly. To complement the new pathway the British Lung Foundation, in partnership with Central Surgery Oadby and Leicestershire County and Rutland PCT, is launching a new Breathe Easy group to help people with lung disease in Leicester. The group will offer support and information to anyone living with lung disease (including carers) to help them cope with day to day living.

As from 16th October, the group meets on the third Monday of every month at 1.30pm at Oadby Trinity Methodist Church, Harborough Rd, Leicester, situated near Oadby Parade Shopper's Car Park. As well as a speaker there is the chance to have a cup of tea and meet other people who are living with lung conditions.

If you would like more information about Leicester South Breathe Easy please contact the Midlands Office on 0116 249 5780 or for more information about The British Lung Foundation log onto [www.lunguk.org](http://www.lunguk.org)

If you require further details about the redesigned COPD pathway please contact Marie Patchett 0116 286 2803.

## Data Validation

Practices currently receive a dataset and pivot table each month detailing their patients that have been admitted to any hospital. These datasets are distributed to practices in a secure manner via the Secure Online Report Distribution system (SORD).

From feedback received from practices, common data validation themes that arise include:

- No NHS number
- Patient left practice/not registered with the practice
- No record of spell (i.e. no letter from hospital – in particular Obstetrics)
- Queries regarding the HRG/clinical coding
- More general queries regarding patient pathways

We are currently agreeing a process to resolve data queries with providers in line with the Department of Health's Payment by Results guidance.

It is anticipated that the process will be forwarded to practices within the next few weeks.

For further information please contact your link manager, Stephanie Webb at [Stephanie.webb@lcrpct.nhs.uk](mailto:Stephanie.webb@lcrpct.nhs.uk)

## DES

The time is approaching when DES plans need to be approved. The majority of plans have now been returned. If you have not yet sent a plan in to your link manager please can you do so as soon possible.

The PCT would like to approve all DES plans prior to the end of November so that this first DES payment can be made.

## ABOUT THE NEXT ISSUE:

Please forward any articles, suggestions or comments to Gill Williamson  
[gill.williamson@lcrpct.nhs.uk](mailto:gill.williamson@lcrpct.nhs.uk).