

Dorset LDC Meeting

Held on Tuesday 9th December 2008

At Poole Post Graduate Centre 7.45pm

Bournemouth and Poole PCT sent the Dorset LDC A Contract Discussion Paper, for negotiating contracts for 2009. This LDC meeting was arranged to discuss this paper primarily.

1. Apologies

- Mike Wills-Wood

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Not all members had had the time to look over the minutes - they were handed out during the meeting and decided to place them on the LDC Website.

3. NHS Dental Contract Discussion Paper

It was stressed that this paper was for Bournemouth and Poole PCT only, and if successful it was likely Dorset PCT would follow suit.

Points to be raised to Bournemouth and Poole PCT

A. Martyn Rogers has said it is not in their plans to give lower UDA value practices an increase in value unless they can justify why they should.

- The LDC felt this is unfair - what will happen if UDA's are decreased?

B. Is the PCT looking for more evening and Saturday services? Is there money available for this?

- The chairman felt the PCT will expect this from all practices.

C. The draft document of this paper - when published - should be sent to all Primary Care Dentists.

D. UDA variation between Bournemouth and Poole and Dorset is nothing in comparison to most of the country. Cannot compare like with like.

E. How are many points in the paper going to be funded?

- If there are no extra funds available will the lower UDA funds cover these areas?

F. Access in this area is not a problem

- The LDC are not sure where the figures are coming from to say that access is a problem in this area. Why does it need to be improved? Why have this in the paper?
- It was discussed that patients are visiting practices once and then not returning.
- It seems that certain patients are not accessing dentists when needed - big area for the PCT's and they want to reach the under privileged.
- Is it a good idea to create a UDA value treating patients with greater need?
- Is it up to dentists to get the under privileged to the dentists?
- Is there any capacity for extra patients in need?

- Where is the money coming from year on year?
- Loss of income from patients as many are exempt and do not pay for their treatment.

G. PCT have not talking of unifying the UDA values, only lowering very high UDA values.

- LDC can see unfairness in system - large difference in UDA values.

H. The LDC discussed whether it could be possible to make an objective for extra UDA value for practices. E.g. if a practice did out of hours etc.

- Can the PCT be transparent?
- The LDC discussed that very low UDA value would mean poor quality. The patient is less likely to get the service needed. Can there be a minimum level of UDA value?

I. Ask the PCT for banded systems on UDA'S!!

J. Patient charge revenue is very likely to plummet due to unemployment,

- What will be the PCT's response when this falls?

K. If the UDA is low the quality will suffer.

L. The PCT are very difficult to communicate (Dentist - PCT)

M. No transparency on PCT's side, they only seem to give information when asked questions.

N. It is very unfair to tie dentists down as the goal posts of what is expected of them is always moving - Contract should stay the same through its duration!

O. Stability

- Very concerned Practices will turn private

P. Access in this area is very good compared to other parts of the country.

- As there is no access problem can we increase the quality with practices we have?
- The LDC would like more quality within NHS dentistry
- Good work should be rewarded.
- PCT's role to make sure quality in practices is being achieved
- Support from PCT for providing "best practice"

Q. Richard Wood met with Martyn Rogers to discuss infection control etc.

- It was felt the ideas were excellent and should be implemented as these more or less The Good Practice Scheme and Clinical Governance.
- Martyn offered to talk to the PCT at its next meeting to discuss the paper further or have a meeting with all Bournemouth and Poole dentists. - The LDC felt it was too little time.
- Only 4 or 5 practices contracts were to be negotiated.

R. Associates are not paid when performers are not producing the UDA's.

To arrange another meeting with Martyn Rogers and LDC representative Richard Wood to discuss the LDC's opinions on the discussion paper.

4. Oral Health Strategy Paper

- 2 hour lecture was held on where PCT should place their funds
- Lack of Primary care involvement
- Meeting had been cancelled many times and next one planned for January 2009
- Very little time was given at last meeting for response
- More information should be available at next meeting

5. LDC Officials Day

- See Paul Kelly's Notes on website

6. Speaker for AGM

- Speaker booked for NHS pensions
- Does not want payment - but would like to place info packs on seats. The LDC felt this was fine.

7. PASSE Scheme

- 19th December final Training Day
- To do thorough protocol when training is complete

8. Any Other Business

- -Treasurers Report
- Received £8,000 from Dorset PCT
- Treasurer rang BDA for advice on how to dispose old LDC information
- Was told to shred confidentiality
- To send for certificate of confidential disposal

9. Next Meeting 20th January 2009