

**Minutes from the Meeting with Dorset PCT and Dorset LDC on Tuesday 15th
June 2010 at Stratton Village Hall Nr Dorchester**

1. Occupational Health Urine Hg tests.

Historically Occ Health have been happy to do for practices, though now advise us that such tests are “no longer necessary”. If this remains the position on behalf of the Dorset PCT for the care of personnel in regular contact with mercury, can the PCT be approached to in effect indemnify practices against any claims incurred through not monitoring such occupational exposure ?

- Funding from Dorset PCT was given to the Occupational Health in 2003/2004 – £25,000 to help with mercury monitoring etc. for Dental Practices. A change of staff/people within Occupational Health are now reluctant to give this service to dental practices.
- The PCT are in discussions with Occupational Health and saying this service needs to be provided for Dental Practices and this is what the PCT want.
- Melanie asked the LDC what they feel should be included in the services provided:
- These were:
 - Mercury screening,
 - Access to immunisation for all vaccinations needed for the BDA Good Practice and BBV screening as this is needed for the new PDS Plus contract.
 - The importance of BBV screening to be included in this service was emphasised by the LDC.
 - The PCT and LDC discussed how difficult it would be if an employee discovered they had an illness through the screening, for both the employee and the employer.

2. CQC Inspections.

It looks as if the PCT manpower may well be carry out the CQC's role, and therefore representation to the PCT at an early stage could influence brokering a sensible protocol upon which such practice visits are to be adopted. It would clearly be desirable to reach agreement on a minimum notice for inspection.

- Information should be coming very soon on what dentists need to know.
- The PCT have no idea currently and are still awaiting information.
- The PCT are happy to facilitate an event around September time.
- As soon as the PCT get any information they will talk o the LDC.
- The LDC advised the PCT to ask B+P PCT about this issue as they have employed someone who can handle the legislation more.

- CRB checking for Performers – The PCT were strongly advised to organise this now as the new PDS plus contracts will be negotiated soon.
- The CQC person for Dorset will have a substantial checklist to go through
- The PCT stated they will have 5 key questions that they will look at in detail
- The PCT stated most practices will be already covering this through the BDA Good Practice.
- Dorset PCT are concerned some practices may not be prepared and may focus on these practices.
- The LDC discussed with the PCT that the LDC is not the organisation the PCT would like it to be, though it is good talking to the LDC if there is any information that needs to be addressed.

3. CQC

Anymore information?

- Discussed in question 2.

4. **Contract Variation Notice May 09, re Granting of access to our premises of *Local Involvement Networks*. Presumably this issue is of some bearing for it to merit inclusion within a notice of contract variation.**

- Dorset PCT stated they are a 'Body' yet to get going.
- It comprises of different people who want to understand how the NHS services work and understanding for the patients.
- This Body is working on the side of the patient

5. **Local Resolution Process.**

There appears to be ambiguity regarding suggested PCT movement upon this issue. Since such a panel represents the only accessible mechanism for appealing any members dispute with the PCT, written clarification on Dorset's present position needs to be sought. Currently responses from Paul Sly (covering B&P) dated 11th March 2010, define the panel as being in effect *all* PCT manned with the LDC occupying an advisory role only. This position reinforces the requirement of our previous decision for the committees to obtain a National Mandate to attempt to advance the interests of our members in accessing a balanced committee, whilst maintaining ongoing local negotiations.

- Melanie will send the information to John Cobley and Jonathan Mynors-Wallis

6. **Planning Assistance.**

An item to-date overlooked, but again of great potential assistance to my own practice fire escape issues as mentioned in earlier e mails, along with doubtless other members requiring any form of planning consent to implement additional accommodation for HTM O1-05. Could this be put on the PCT agenda to determine what impetus the PCT feel able to apply to support this common aim?

- The LDC would like the PCT to be more pro-active when help is asked for
- The LDC would like the PCT to be more positive.
- Backing from the PCT is very useful with planning applications
- The LDC are concerned practices will experience problems getting planning
- The PCT agreed this was not a problem and would be more pro-active in the future as long as they are notified of the planning.

7. Overseas Qualified and Newly Qualified.

Can we ask what support is being put into place for the sub-group?

- The LDC discussed with the PCT that not all employers pass on information to their employees (i.e. any LDC functions and PCT information etc)
- The LDC advised the PCT to send information to the dentists home addresses to make sure they receive it
- The PCT stated this should not be a problem and asked what information would they like us to send out?
- Some information may be technically sensitive.
- It is a concern of the LDC that all performers are not being looked after.
- The LDC advised the PCT that dentists should be made of Alistair Danby and how to contact him if they need help or information.
- The PCT has a contact list of all the Dorset PCT contacts which they could send out to dentists if they need help and who the right person within the PCT is to contact.
- The PCT said they could also send information stating the DPB will have information regarding practice information
- The PCT discussed also sending information to all new overseas qualified dentists and newly qualified dentist stating who the PCT are, contact information and say 'as a performer we are here for you and here is all the contact information you need'.

8. There is great concern with LDC members about HTM01-05, we are being told to change the way we practice with all the burden of the costs falling on the dentist. How are the essential requirements going? And how is the infection control nurse going? Dentists need guidance on what to do; setting up a practice that works the system would be useful for dentists to see. How are things progressing?

- Audits are being returned slowly
- Takes a few hours to go through each audit

- Is progressing slowly
- The PCT is going to ask the Infection Control Nurse to attend the next LDC/PCT meeting in September.
- The LDC asked if any decontamination guidelines are in place and being used in any Dorset practice.
- The PCT think not
- The PCT discussed some money may become available to help dentists in Dorset meet the HTM01-05 guidelines and asked the LDC what they think the money should be spent on?
- The LDC advised to speak to the Infection Control nurse and ask them also what they feel will have an impact.
- Trays, bags, hand hygiene or washer disinfectors were given as examples.
- The PCT are going to wait until all the audit have been completed and then decide where the money will have the biggest impact for dentists.

9. Meeting with PEC. We arranged our LDC meetings in advance to allow people to come to these meetings. It would be useful to know who will be attending the next meeting

- The PCT have just appointed a new person, but is temporary.
- PEC will not be changing as far as the PCT are aware
- The PCT will ask at the next meeting next week if a member is able to come to any future meetings as the LDC feel this is important
- The LDC are concerned that they never knew who Ali Wilson was and feel that dentistry is not important.
- The LDC only ever managed to speak to Paul Sly's secretary

10. What is current status of the Dorset Oral Health Strategy?

- This used to go through the PEC but now goes through the Programme Board (the programme board covers mental health, emergency etc). They are unsure where dentistry sits now – may be under Long term conditions.
- The PCT are waiting to see where Dentistry is before they can move it
- The PCT are still progressing with certain areas – these areas were not discussed at this meeting
- The LDC has had a meeting with Tony Jenna – the PCT have put a lot of money into the strategy but have had little outcome. A simpler guide is needed as it is very complex at present.

11. Efforts are being made to set up an NHS email account.

- The PCT stated it will be set up soon

- The IT department are very short staffed and is why things are moving slowly
- The PCT are unsure when this will happen – no time frame give

12. LDC Levy

- The PCT have asked the LDC what they would like to do this year – Melanie will contact the treasurer of the LDC in due course to discuss the levy.

13. Smoke Stop

- Laura Everett contacted the PCT to discuss the evaluation of the Smoke Stop campaign for Dorset
- Laura is very pleased with the success of the campaign
- Laura stated how effective giving the smoke stop card to patients is
- The LDC discussed that it may be better for the receptionists to hand the cards to the patients
- Laura would like to come to the next LDC meeting to give a short presentation on the campaign
- The LDC said the meeting in September would be fine for her to do this as our next meeting is next week and that is too little notice to arrange