

# **BARKING & HAVERING LMC NEWSLETTER**

**October 2006**



## **REMINDER**

### **LMC ANNUAL DINNER**

**WILL BE HELD ON**

**WEDNESDAY 18 OCTOBER**

**AT THE**

**PRINCE REGENT HOTEL  
MANOR ROAD, WOODFORD BRIDGE**

*If you have not returned your form and wish to attend, please complete and return the attached reservation form, with your cheque, without delay*

### ***Illegal Employment of GPs in North East London***

It has been brought to our attention by B&D PCT that during the past two years there have been incidents in North East London of doctors:

- employed but not registered with the GMC
- employed after suspension by the GMS
- employed after erasure from the GMC register
- employed after being suspended by the PCT
- employed after removed from PCT performers' list
- employed for 2 years in SHO hospital posts whilst only holding temporary GMC registration (restrictions exclude SHO employment).

The Medical Director of the London Strategic Health Authority has already written to PCTs outlining the detailed procedures they need to adopt in order to ensure that these incidents are eliminated due to the extremely high risk that this places upon patients. Despite the detailed guidance and offers of support, these incidents continue to occur. In the past six weeks there have been three further incidents of illegal employment of GPs in North East London.

As a result PCT Boards have been asked to formally assure itself at its next meeting that it has all the appropriate mechanisms in place to minimise this risk. This needs to include:

- *“An understanding with the LMC about the incentives and support available to practices to avoid illegal employment of GPs as well as the contractual breach sanctions that will be made if it occurs.”*

PCTs will need to make arrangements to vary PMS contracts to reflect any breach of contract financially and arrangements whereby both GMS and PMS contractors will be counter charged with the cost of any investigations following a breach of contract.

If a subsequent incident occurs the LSHO would expect PCTs to have made arrangements to invoke contractual remedies with the practice concerned and if the incident is as a result of not implementing the appropriate procedures it will be seen as the PCT executive's personal responsibility as the accountable officer.



### ***Disposal of Unwanted Medicines***

Disposal of unwanted waste is an essential service under the new Pharmacy contract and hence pharmacies are obliged to accept back unwanted medicines from patients. The pharmacy will sort them into solids (including ampoules and vials), liquids and aerosols if required by the PCT or the waste contractor, and PCT will make arrangements to collect the medicines from pharmacies at regular intervals. Recent changes in Hazardous Waste regulations have resulted in new requirements for segregation of waste. Ann Williams has the details of Barking & Dagenham PCT's waste contractor.

Pharmacies have always been required to segregate Controlled Drugs and to denature them prior to disposal.



***Helping to prevent violence against GPs and their staff***

The NHS Security Management Service (SMS) for England want to ensure that all violent behaviour by patients against NHS staff is recorded so that they can ensure that further appropriate action can be taken. The SMS Legal Protection Unit is able, and is already involved, in considering prosecutions against violent patients, as appropriate, when these are not undertaken by the Crown Prosecution Service. GPs and their staff are therefore encouraged to report all violent assaults to their Local Security Management Specialist (LSMS) in their PCT.

In 2000 the then Health Authority set up a zero tolerance group to formulate a policy to deal with violent and abusive patients. We ask you to inform this Office if any incident has occurred in your practice and to whom did you report it, as we intend to compile data.

If you need any further information please contact the LMC Office.

The Physical Assault Reporting System (PARS) form is available at:  
[www.cfsms.nhs.uk/doc/sms.general/pars.form.doc](http://www.cfsms.nhs.uk/doc/sms.general/pars.form.doc)



***PELC Policy of notifying expected deaths in OOH period***

This policy was discussed at LMC and we intend to make representation against its implementation. If you have any views please let this Office know by 12 October.



***Documentation***

Havering PCT is concerned that important paperwork sent to some of the practices fails to arrive. After investigation it appears that the paperwork is being misplaced at practice level.

Could we suggest that practices introduce a system whereby all incoming mail receives the attention of practice managers, who can then take appropriate action.

There are a number of new guidances, and latest information, available on the **GPC** ([www.bma.org.uk](http://www.bma.org.uk)) and **LMC** websites:



**With best wishes**

**Yours sincerely**

**Madhu Pathak**

## **Reservation Form for LMC Annual Dinner**

*The 2006 Annual Dinner will be held on Wednesday 18 October at the Prince Regent Hotel, Manor Road, Woodford Bridge.*

*The evening will commence at 6.30 with a **Pharmaceutical and Medical Exhibition** followed at 7.15 by a talk from Ros Parkin, a Senior Director at Lockharts Solicitors, on **“Law and Practice Based Commissioning”** which will be held in the Duchess Suite. **Dinner** will start at 8.00 in the Regency Suite.*

*Please reserve ..... Tickets at a cost of £15 each*

*Please list below your name and the name of your guests, together with their dinner requirements:*

NAME	VEGETARIAN	NON-VEGETARIAN	CHICKEN & VEGETABLES

*If more space is required for your guests please write on the back of this sheet*

*Other than my guests listed above, I wish to be seated with .....*  
*.....*

*I enclose my cheque for £.....*

*Please return this form to:*

***Barking & Havering LMC Office, St George’s Hospital, Hornchurch, Drop 103***  
*as soon as possible, together with your cheque. Tickets will then be sent to you.*