

# **MORGANNWG LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE**

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## **LMC Newsletter April 2010**

### **Morgannwg LMC 2010/11**

The Annual General meeting of Morgannwg Local Medical Committee was held at the Towers Hotel, Jersey Marine, Swansea on 13 April 2010. The outgoing Chairman, Dr C Danino, described how much he had enjoyed being Chairman of the LMC for two years and then went on to thank the Committee for its support and gave a special votes of thanks to Mrs Lorraine Rudd, PA to the Secretary, for her work in running the office and the business of the LMC and to the Secretary, Dr Ian Millington for his tireless work in ensuring that Morgannwg LMC runs smoothly and efficiently and is at the forefront of medico-political opinion in the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board area and beyond.

#### **Appointment of Officers:**

- **Chair** - Dr Charlotte Jones was elected unanimously to the office of Chair.
- **Vice-Chair** - Dr Alan Stevenson was elected unanimously to the office of Vice-Chair.

#### **Co-opted Members:**

- **Sessional GPs** - at the last election, Sessional GPs working in the LMC area were encouraged to stand for the LMC. The result is that LMC now has 6 Sessional GPs out of the 24 elected members so the need for co-option of a Sessional GP has passed.
- **GP Registrars (Bridgend/Neath Port Talbot/Swansea VTS)** – the Liaison Officers will again approach the VTS organisers in the hope that Registrars can be persuaded to attend the LMC during their year in General Practice.
- **Doctor not otherwise represented** – Dr Jane Harrison, Assistant Medical Director (Primary Care), ABMU was co-opted for a further year.
- **Public Health Doctors** – the rota of Public Health doctors had worked extremely well and there will be a co-option of a Public Health doctor for 2010/11 on the same basis.
- **Practice Managers** – the rota of Practice Managers had proved to be extremely useful and a Practice Manager will be co-opted on the same rota basis for 2010/11.
- **Other Doctors** – the LMC will approach Swansea Medical School to see if they would be prepared to provide a representative to be a co-opted member of Morgannwg LMC

#### **Vacancies for Elected Members:**

There are vacancies for Elected Members of Morgannwg LMC in the constituencies of Bridgend (2) and Neath Port Talbot (1) so please contact the LMC Office if you are interested.

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#### **NHS Pensions - Making the Choice**

Members in NHS pensionable service on 01 April 2008 will have the one-off no-return choice to remain in the 1995 section of the NHS pension scheme or to elect to move to the 2008 section of the NHS pension scheme later this year. Each member will receive a personalised “Choice” pack that will explain the options. Personalised “Choice” packs for Practice staff will be distrib-

uted via the Practice and there is a legal obligation to pass the pack onto the employee. Failure to do so will render the Practice liable for any loss of pension that arises from the choice not having been exercised because of lack of information. The packs will arrive by Nov/Dec 2010 and choice will have to be exercised within a set timescale so Members should check the figures and appeal immediately if there are errors.

### **Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board - Primary Care Interface Group**

The ABMUHB PCIP is the forum for discussing strategic and operational issues at the Primary Care - Secondary Care interface. The meetings are every 2 months and it last met on 20 April 2010 when a number of key issues were discussed:

**GP Referrals** - A recent audit of GP Referrals has shown that many do not contain the last three BP readings (a request from ABMUHB) and the clinical information provided can vary widely. The e-Referrals pilot using the Welsh Clinical Communications Gateway gets over most of these problems.

**Pre-op Assessment** - Aspects of this process cause much annoyance to GPs, particularly when a patient is found to be medically unfit for a procedure but the correspondence does not give adequate information for the GP to follow this up in any meaningful way. Changes have been promised.

**Unscheduled Care** - This is a priority for ABMUHB and there will be Locality responsibilities for this, The plans are to integrate services and to avoid duplication. There is a need to look at pre-hospital care and to consider using GPs at the front door of hospitals to avoid unnecessary admissions.

**Child & Adult Mental Health Services (CAMHS)** - There is an ongoing problem for 16 & 17 year olds as their place of education determines whether they receive CAMHS or Adult Psychiatric Services, with little communication between the two services for this in this age-group, especially for ADHD patients.

**School Health Nursing** - Provision of these services is very variable across the ABMUHB area. There is now a WAG directive to implement a policy of one School Nurse per Secondary School and there is WAG funding but only for one year so the resources are to be targeted at high risk areas initially. The exact role of the School Nurse will also be considered.

**1000 Lives Campaign** - This has now finished but will be replaced by *1000 Lives Plus*. Details to follow.

#### **Seniority Payments for 2006/7**

Seniority payments under the new GMS Contract are reduced to 60% for those earning less than two thirds of average superannuable income and are not paid for those earning less than one third of average superannuable income. The level of average superannuable income over the new Contract has had to be estimated to enable timely payments to be made as the final figures are not available for approximately 2 years after the year end. The estimates for Wales were too high for 2006/7 but this has now been corrected and so GPs should check with their accountant that they are aware of potential underpayments.

The final average superannuable income for Wales for 2006/7 is £82399 compared with an estimated figure of £95355 and the qualifying income levels have been adjusted pro rata:

- £54932 to £63570 - Eligible for an additional 40% to make it up to a full Seniority payment for 2006/7
- £27466 to £31785 - Eligible for a new payment of 60% of the Seniority figure for 2006/7

Contractor Services will have made these changes on the March 2010 statement and will have made the payments. GPs are advised to check these particularly in the case of part time Partners. Also, Partners who have left the Practice should receive their due Seniority entitlement for 2006/7 and it is up to Practices to ensure that these payments are made.

#### **Violent patients**

The Violent Patient Scheme across Wales enables a Practice to request immediate removal of a violent patient from their Practice List providing:

- There has been a violent incident (threats, violence to persons or to property)
- The Police have been called and an incident or crime number has been issued to the Practice

If both of these criteria are not met, immediate removal cannot be effected. Further, removal of a violent patient using the 7-day procedure will not result in the patient being flagged as violent and this may create unnecessary risks to others.

#### **“Revalidation: the way ahead”**

The General Medical Council (GMC) launched its consultation *Revalidation: the way ahead* on 01 March 2010 and will end on 04 June 2010. The GMC is very keen that as many doctors as is possible take part in the consultation. All the relevant documents are on the GMC website at:

[www.gmc-uk.org/thewayahead](http://www.gmc-uk.org/thewayahead)

Revalidation will affect you so please consider this matter carefully and have your say now!

#### **Vetting & Barring Scheme (VBS)**

The Welsh Assembly Government has issued recent information re the Vetting & Barring Scheme that has been established under the Safeguarding Vulnerable groups Act (SVGA) 2006. This guidance can be viewed at:

[www.isa.homeoffice.gov.uk/pdf/VBS\\_guidance\\_ed1\\_2010.pdf](http://www.isa.homeoffice.gov.uk/pdf/VBS_guidance_ed1_2010.pdf)

**Next LMC meetings:** Full Committee 7.00pm Tuesday 11 May 2010 - Towers Hotel, Jersey Marine  
Exec Committee 7.00pm Tuesday 08 June 2010 - Venue TBA  
Full Committee 7.00pm Tuesday 13 July 2010 - Towers Hotel, Jersey Marine