

Board Meeting
30 October 2019

AREA CLINICAL FORUM – 19 SEPTEMBER 2019

This paper summarises the key issues considered by the Area Clinical Forum at its meeting on Thursday 19 September 2019.

1. CRES

The paper to the Planning, Performance & Resources Committee on proposals to establish a programme approach to identifying savings for 2020/21, and beyond, was discussed and fully endorsed by the Forum. There were a number of areas for potential savings identified by members of the Forum, and it was agreed to pass these on to the Programme Team once established so that they could be followed up. These included fully utilising Script Switch, Formulary issues were identified (such as wound and continence products), and DNAs.

2. Realistic Medicine (RM)

Members were provided with an update in the form of a paper from Dr Pravinkumar on the evaluation of the events held at the Edward Lawson Centre at Wishaw on the 26th April, at the Medical Education and Training Centre at Kirklands on the 22nd May and New College, Coatbridge campus on the 14th June. It was pleasing to note that the staff training events were well attended and provided an excellent opportunity to raise the awareness of RM principles. A total of 139 staff attended the event with the vast majority of staff (50/52) who responded to the evaluation commenting that all the training objectives had been met.

3. BREXIT

The Forum were updated by Mrs Lees on the state of preparedness around BREXIT issues. Forum members were encouraged to seek reassurance that local Business Continuity Plans were up to date and sought to mitigate known issues and risks.

4. Primary Care Improvement Plan / GMS Contract

Members noted an update from Dr Findlay on the progress being made in relation to the Primary Care Improvement Plan (August 2019). Dr McIntyre, Area Medical Committee, provided a detailed update in relation to the new GMS Contract and the various workstreams driving aspects of the changes forward. Dr McIntyre highlighted the significant efforts in recruiting staff to support Clinical Pharmacy, Phlebotomy, Advanced Nursing Practice and Paramedics across NHS Lanarkshire GP Clusters and Localities, and highlighted in particular the positive work being taken forward around GP Practice leases, and the vaccine transformation initiative.

5. Access Targets

Forum members were able to review the Access targets paper and Mrs Lees highlighted the very positive performance around cancer targets, while acknowledging the challenges around unscheduled care, musculoskeletal and mental health targets.

6. Monklands Replacement Project (MRP)

Forum Members were updated on the establishment of a Monklands Replacement Project and the Oversight Board.

7. Mental Health Strategy

Members had the opportunity to discuss the draft at the previous meeting and noted that the formal launch was planned for 24 October 2019.

8. Scottish Access Collaborative

Mrs Lees is the National Area Clinical Forum representative on the Scottish Access Collaborative, and provided a detailed update following the recent meeting of the collaborative she attended, and in particular highlighted the work being taken forward in relation to Endoscopy, Dermatology, ENT, Vascular Surgery, Neurology and Breast Surgery.

9. Forum Remit & Workplan 2018/19

The remit and workplan were discussed.

10. Regular reports - the Forum received reports updates from each of the constituent Advisory Committees

- Psychology Services Committee - Dr Graham reported that the availability of clinical space in particular in the East Kilbride locality was impacting on service delivery and it was noted that these difficulties were being addressed locally. Dr McIntyre offered to raise these with the GP Sub Committee to raise awareness of the problems and the impacts on the Psychology service.
- Pharmaceutical Committee - Mr Cannon provided a brief update on behalf of the Committee Chair who was unable to attend the Forum meeting, highlighting recent applications that had been considered and BREXIT discussions.
- Optometric Committee - Mr Munro was unable to attend.
- Nursing & Midwifery Committee - Mrs Lees highlighted that a refresh of the Committee membership and terms of reference were being taken forward in view of the resignation of the Committee Chair due to pressures of work commitments.
- Medical Committee - Dr McIntyre had provided a comprehensive update on the GMS contract and the importance attached by the Committee of discussing primary care / secondary care interface issues in a collegiate manner.
- Healthcare Sciences Committee - Dr McCurragh highlighted the Global Citizenship launch that he had attended and indicated that his colleagues were looking closely at opportunities to be involved. He also highlighted the roll out of point of care testing, and the Laboratory Workforce Review being taken forward regionally.
- Dental Committee - Mrs Moore provided an overview in light of the absence of the Committee Chair and highlighted the advert which had been circulated for a new Chief Dental Officer for Scotland, the difficulties in recruiting to the maxillofacial service, and sustainability and recycling initiatives being taken forward by the public dental service.
- Allied Health Professionals Committee - Mrs Lees reported that the Committee had discussed the Living & Dying Well programme with Paul Graham, and workforce recruitment.

11. Chair's report - Mrs Lees reported on the issues raised at a recent National Area Clinical Forum Chairs meeting (of which she was Vice Chair) and highlighted the National Digital Health & Care Strategy.

12. Next Meeting: 21 November 2019

Maureen Lees
Chair
Area Clinical Forum