

December 2010

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WyvernHealth.Com AGM

I confirm the outcome of the vote. As was explained on the evening, WH.C was set up as a limited company to be the Practice Based Commissioning organisation for Somerset. In order for WH.C to work with representatives from both Somerset LMC and NHS Somerset in a transition group to plan how to move towards a shadow Commissioning Consortium sometime next year, we needed a mandate from the member practices to change the objectives of the company as listed in the Articles of Association.

Under the Articles, voting was by practice. Those with a list size up to 10,000 having a single vote, 10,001-20,000 two votes and 20,001+ having three votes ... 72% of member practices voted. The proposal: **'WyvernHealth.Com on behalf of member practices to work with others to be fully engaged in the development of GP Commissioning'** was duly carried with 74% of the available votes in favour.

The Transition Group (TG) is made up of representatives from WH.C, Somerset LMC and NHS Somerset PEC and has a finite life – it exists simply to make the practical arrangements for the changes. The first meeting of this group met last Friday in order to start the process by agreeing the work plan for this group. The purpose of the TG is to:

- establish a functioning commissioning organisation in shadow form by 1 April 2011
- work with NHS Somerset in the transfer of functions to the GPCC
- support continuity of commissioning arrangements
- communicate with all stakeholders appropriately

No assumption has been made about the eventual configuration of GP commissioning in Somerset, and there will be an electoral process for GP members of the shadow board.

Pathfinder Status

WyvernHealth.Com (WH.C) sent an expression of interest in being a pathfinder in Somerset to NHS South West last Friday. The proposal is for a countywide consortium and that as a pathfinder we would be expecting to be appointing an Accountable Officer in due course and having overall responsibility for the commissioning budget that will be assigned to the consortium.

I thought it might be helpful at this stage to provide further clarification on how this application fits with two other applications received from practices within Somerset. We were made aware of two further expressions of interest from East Mendip and the Federation of Bridgwater Practices (FBP) on Wednesday. These two applications are not proposing to be GP Commissioning Consortia but want to explore how they can work locally within a larger consortium.

The proposal from East Mendip specifically focuses on how they would work with other consortia that refer into the main acute hospital (RUH, Bath). The Bridgwater proposal would be concentrating on them ensuring that there is full clinical engagement in the development of the consortium. This application would enable learning from how a small group of practices could function as a GPCC subunit of a larger GPCC organisation.

We hope to learn later this week whether our pathfinder application has been successful.

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WH.C and NHS Somerset Prescribing Leads Conference – 9 December

WH.C and NHS Somerset are holding a joint Prescribing Leads Conference on Thursday 9 December 2010 at Lyngford House Conference Centre, Selworthy Road, Priorswood, Taunton, TA2 8HD. The agenda is as follows:

Time	Topic	Speakers
1.00 pm	Lunch	
1.30 pm	Presentation: The New Dashboard	Kevin Hudson
2.00 pm	Introduction to the Conference	Dr Jon Hincks and Shaun Green
2.15 pm	QIPP	Shaun Green
2.45 pm	COPD – Where we are now and where we are going	Dr Jon Hincks
3.15 pm	Tea	
3.30 pm	Nursing Home Prescribing	Dr Mark Howells
4.00 pm	NSAIDS Prescribing	Steve Moore
4.30 pm	Waste Projects	
5.00 pm	Close	

Please Email sue.vowles@wyvernhealth.nhs.uk to reserve your place – however, please note that we have only five places remaining and these will be issued on a first come, first served basis. Attendance is free of charge.

FUR Bids/VAT Increases to 20% on 1 January 2011

A timely reminder that VAT increases to 20% on 1 January 2011 and practices are urged to buy their FUR equipment before the year end in an effort to save money.

Meeting the Healthcare Needs of Veterans, a Guide for General Practitioners

The following link <http://www.wyvernhealth.com/> will take you to our website and an information leaflet developed for General Practitioners.

Because of their military service, their healthcare needs can be different from those of other patients and the aim of this leaflet is to assist you, their current or new GP, by outlining some of these healthcare needs and to provide you with advice on how best to help veterans whose health has been affected. The Department of Health (DH) is currently working with the Ministry of Defence (MoD) to register Service leavers directly and facilitate direct transfer of their medical records to you as they register with your practice.

The leaflet also explains read codes to be used for Veterans, the concept of Priority Treatment, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and useful links and contacts.

Recognition of Successful Appointments

WyvernHealth.Com congratulates the following on their appointments:

Claire Gregory was successfully appointed (as the only Practice Manager) to the NHS Institute for the Productive Practice Programme

Dr Richard More was one of two GP's from across the UK appointed to the NHS Institute for the Productive Practice Programme

Both of these appointments are a six month secondment.

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Clinical Service Redesign – HSJ Award

Avanaula – Finalist 2011. Our congratulations go to Avanaula for their achievement.

Supported Discharge Pathway (ESD) Introduced for Stroke Patients in Somerset

The first phase of the roll out of a new pathway for stroke patients was implemented in late November, covering the Taunton and Williton Catchment Areas. This will be followed by 2 further phases to cover the Yeovil and Mendip catchment areas in the first quarter of next year. This new pathway is designed to accelerate the discharge of stroke patients admitted to hospital and provides co-ordinated multidisciplinary (including social care) rehabilitation at home, supported by an extensive specialist supported discharge stroke team. Details of this new pathway have been sent to each GP Practice and are available in the attached document. Commissioners are also looking to North Somerset to ensure that ESD is available for Patients being discharged from Weston General Hospital. We would also welcome any feedback on the first phase of the implementation in order to help inform the next phases.

To support this work and the commissioning of Stroke services we are looking for a Primary Care lead to work with us. If you are interested in this or would like any further information on this programme please contact Rachel Levenson, Associate Director of NSF Development, Strategic Development Directorate on 01935 384192 or email rachel.levenson@somerset.nhs.uk

Dates for your Diary

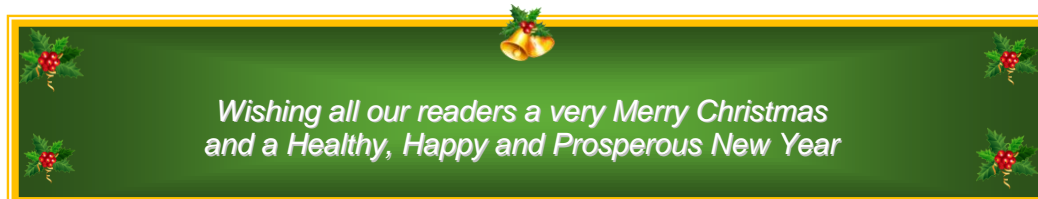
- **Tuesday 7 December 2010, 6.30 pm until 7.30 pm** (refreshments from 6.00 pm) – **Taunton and the Wedge locality meeting** being held at Lyngford House Conference Centre, Selworthy Road, Priorswood, Taunton, TA2 8HD. Please Email sue.vowles@wyvernhealth.nhs.uk to confirm your attendance at this meeting.
- **Thursday 9 December 2010, 1.30 pm until 4.30 pm** (buffet available from 1.00 pm) – WH.C and NHS Somerset are holding a **Prescribing Leads Countywide Meeting** at Lyngford House Conference Centre, Selworthy Road, Priorswood, Taunton, TA2 8HD. Please Email sue.vowles@wyvernhealth.nhs.uk to reserve your place.
- **Tuesday 14 December 2010, 1.30 pm until 2.30 pm** (refreshments from 1.00 pm) – **Mendip locality meeting** being held in the Community Education Centre, Priory Medical Centre, Priory Health Park, Glastonbury Road, Wells, BA5 1XL. Please Email sue.vowles@wyvernhealth.nhs.uk to confirm your attendance at this meeting.
- **Tuesday 14 December 2010, 7.00 pm until 8.00 pm** (refreshments from 6.30 pm) – **South Somerset locality meeting** being held at Hendford Lodge Medical Centre, 74 Hendford, Yeovil, BA20 1UJ. Please Email sue.vowles@wyvernhealth.nhs.uk to confirm your attendance at this meeting.

Deadlines

15 December 2010 – Those practices that were sent a **Recovery Plan** have been asked to respond by this date.

Outstanding - Practices that have yet to submit their **PBC Plans for 2010/11** are asked to send them to sue.vowles@wyvernhealth.nhs.uk (office address shown below). As you know, these plans identify the areas on which practices will be focussing and form part of the PBC LES.

Outstanding - Practices that have yet to submit their **PBC Progress Report (Appendix 2 of the PBC LES)** are asked to send them to sue.vowles@wyvernhealth.nhs.uk at their earliest opportunity please.



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