



TAYSIDE LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LTD

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www.taysidelmc.co.uk		ADMIN ASSISTANT	MRS JAN SHEPHERD

Parenteral Methotrexate – Safe Handling, Administration, Disposal and Education

The shared care agreement around this has been updated and gone through the agreed processes:

Sharps bins are now being distributed across all community pharmacies and leaflets have been approved and are about to be printed. The mechanism for patients to renew/replace sharps bins in community is in place.

The revised Shared Care agreement has no changes other than the writing of GP10's. GPs will not be asked to train patients or organise the injecting of patients unless extremely rare circumstances and this is clearly outlined here (also that this is completely at the discretion of the practice).

Letters will be sent to GP surgeries in December outlining the patients' dosage and monitoring requirements with a view to GP10s being available for patients w/c 23/1/17, all patients have been given enough supplies until then.

Patients will also receive a letter outlining the change and the need to request a GP10 mid-January for their next supply

Tayside LMC Template Letter booklet

As many of you will be aware we have been updating both the content and format of the above. We have loaded this on to memory sticks and are posting them to all your practices over the coming few weeks, so please watch out for it.

Please ensure you delete the old templates and replace them with this newer version.

As ever please copy us in when you send any of these out as it is very helpful to have "hard evidence" when discussing things with the various departments and bodies.

If you have any suggestions for guidance or templates we can add then please let us know.

Requests for Private Flu Vaccination

We are aware that patients that do not fall in to any of the eligible categories may approach their GP Practice to ask for the Flu Vaccine to be given privately.

Can we remind you that under the current regulations you cannot give this to your own patients on a private basis.

We know that in the past Practices that looked to set up a buddy system with a neighbouring Practice to enable delivery of Private vaccines. This is still valid but it should be noted that the vaccine should not be used from the NHS stock provided to the practice and therefore careful consideration is needed if there are vaccine distribution issues.

Most community pharmacies now offer this service so many practices just direct there considering the generally small volume of requests.

Waiting List / Time Visibility

We regularly receive queries on the above topic.

We wrote to NHS Tayside, in June, asking if it would be possible for Practices to have information about accurate waiting times. We suggested perhaps using the intranet page where the various specialties could post reliable up to date information on waiting times for appointments and tests and were delighted to receive the response below from Dr Alan Cook, in September.

I have had discussions with the waiting times accountability group leads, business units, Chief operating Officer and at the Trak Care Programme Board. Your suggestions of making tis available to practices has been endorsed, and on a practical basis we would initially be able to provide this on a quarterly basis. There is some additional work to finalise the spreadsheet but it is expected that this should be available by the end of this calendar year at the latest.

We therefore look forward to receiving this information very soon and will write to Dr Cook again early in the new year to ensure this comes to fruition.

Shingles vaccine programme annual report 2015/16

Uptake in Tayside was well above Scottish average across all cohorts.

On 29 November, HPS published its annual report on the shingles (herpes zoster) vaccine programme in Scotland for 2015/16.

In the 3rd year of the programme (September 2015 to August 2016), the vaccine was offered to all adults who were aged 70 (routine cohort) or 78 (catch-up cohort) on 1 September 2015.

The cumulative national vaccine coverage was 54.4% for the routine cohort and 50.9% for the catch-up cohort. However, in Tayside, uptake in the 2 cohorts was respectively 59.9% and 57.2%. With only 2 or 3 boards nationally reporting higher figures, this represents continued excellent achievement by primary care in Tayside.

In February 2016, an additional 2 catch-up cohorts, of people aged 76 and 77 years, were added to the programme (in addition to those who remained eligible since the start in 2013), in order to ensure efficient use of vaccine stock. Coverage in these additional catch-up cohorts across Scotland was 23.1% (aged 76) and 22.8% (aged 77), but in Tayside the corresponding figures were 29.7% and 28.4%. These cohorts remain within the 2016/17 programme, and so vaccine coverage will increase across the country, but it is clear Tayside has got off to an excellent start.

Everyone in Public Health greatly appreciates the work put in by primary care colleagues, in continuing to encourage uptake of shingles vaccination, underlying the achievement of these results. The high uptake of this vaccine is of important benefit in reducing the incidence of shingles and complications of long-term pain for the population of Tayside.

Further information and an electronic copy of the full report are available at:

<http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/immvax/resourcedetail.aspx?id=3125>

<http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/ewr/article.aspx>

PLT Dates

We get a few queries in asking if we know of or are involved in agreeing the dates for PLT.

We can confirm that we have no involvement with this and only find out when these are to be held at the same time as you do.

Immunisation Teams

Following on from the discussion at the PM Conference we have again met with those leading on this in NHS Tayside.

There has been recognition of the issues that have arisen during the implementation of this very significant service change and those issued that were ‘teething’ problems do seem to be settling down. Two areas of ongoing concern were vaccination rates and data recording.

In terms of rates, we are reassured that this is being closely monitored and data will be released regularly to practices on this. This is obviously an important area and a key quality aspect of the new system so will be monitored closely by both ourselves and Public Health.

The issue of data recording and direction to the immunisation teams to stop recording in Vision is obviously an issue. This is a serious governance concern as from all angles multiple data entry points and involving more than one person is a risk which needs to be addressed.

In a recent meeting we have agreed that the immunisation teams will continue to hand information to practices for entry into Vision over the next 6 months. Dr Drew Walker (Director of Public Health) along with ourselves will be seeking urgent development of ITR to allow the Emis web record of immunisation to automatically be delivered into our Vision or Docman systems. This is felt to be the safest system for all concerned and may also address emerging concerns for other areas that use Emis web.

We will obviously keep you updated on this area as it will continue to grow in significance as this is the model of delivery for the future of more than just pre-school vaccines.

Tayside LMC Annual Conference 2016

This event will be held on Wednesday 8th February 2017 at the Double Tree by Hilton, Kingsway West, Dundee.

A hot buffet will be available from 6 pm with the Conference starting at 6.45p.m.

You should have received the letter formally inviting you to this along with details of how you can become more involved, should you wish to.

We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

**The Corner, 13 Shore Terrace, Dundee
01382 206060, www.thecorner.co.uk**

The Corner offers health, information and peer led services for young people aged 11-19 years, and is a very useful resource for these youngsters.

Attached is a flyer, you may wish to put up, giving further details of services offered and opening times.

If you would prefer to have a hard copy of the flyer sent to you to display then please email Christine Bird on christinebird@nhs.net with your request.

For more information you can visit their website <http://www.thecorner.co.uk> or call them on 01382 206060.

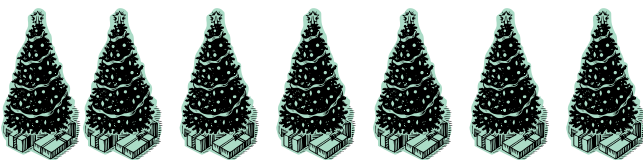
And finally....

Thank you to all the GPs and PMs that contact the office and highlight new forms, work requests, new problems and issues, etc., so that we can investigate and share with the rest of you.

With every good wish for the festive season

From

Andrew T, Andrew C, Richard, Andrew B, Mary, Hazel & Jan



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