

Chairman: Philippa Riseley-Prichard

Secretary: Judith Denning

Treasurer: Nish Patel

Minutes the Meeting on Monday 18 May 2020

7pm Via Zoom

Present: Philippa Riseley-Prichard, Judith Denning, Nish Patel, Pratik Patel, Matt Clover, Robin Mills, Alastair Heatherington, Andrew Halmer, Keith George, Keith Garber, Mehdi Alizadeh.

Apologies- Alison Pink, George Montgomery.

1. Minutes of the AGM and last meeting-

Minutes of the AGM on 11 March 2020 were accepted without correction.

Minutes of the LDC Meeting on 27 April 2020 were accepted without correction.

2. Matters arising

The LDC had received a letter from the BDA Benevolent Fund thanking them for the £20000 donation. The Committee agreed that in light of the extreme financial hardship some dentists were facing due to COVID-19 the Benevolent Fund was facing unprecedented requests for assistance and therefore it was an appropriate use of our funds as we were unable to put on CPD courses.

3. COVID-19 Update

Philippa gave a brief update to the LDC about the Fit Test Training she had received.

Philippa Riseley-Prichard gave Alison Pinks update on the UCC's on her behalf. See below.

'Good evening Philippa

Please accept my apologies for tonight's Zoom meeting, I'm tied up with matters hub and GWH.

I have just forwarded RCS Webinar detail that might be of interest – I gather you don't have to be a member or fellow to register.

By way of an update on UDC Hubs for GDPs

- We are now offering 16 slots across Wilts in week daily from Chippenham DAC, West Swindon Health Centre and Salisbury Central Health Clinic. At weekends and bank holidays Chippenham DAC hub operates offering 6 slots.
- Swindon Dental Anaesthetic Clinic operates weekdays 5 slots daily. Execudent Salisbury and BUPA in Trowbridge also went live last week.
- Referrals coming into our GWH email address are picked up by us in CDS and some forwarded daily to SDAC and Execudent. We have up to 70 referrals per day so clearly this means there is terrific pressure in the system but with more GDP practices working as UDC Hubs this can only get better.
- Logistically managing the hub process involves a significant amount of work for our reception team and dentists working on Hub triage. This is the point where they contact the patient to determine if they fulfil the criteria for a hub appointment. Alongside operating Hub the CDS are triaging 'non registered/non-attender' patients contacting us via our Helpline.
- This weekend we were delighted to see that NHSE/I had sourced some additional primary triage from GDPs. I gather it was 27 slots on Sat and 27 on Sun to support our 36 and 24 slots over the weekend. These patients accessed triage via 111 being booked through the Adastra system by 111. We are well aware that 111 have been under tremendous pressure during COVID with calls from patients in dental pain at weekend and BH so this provided them with a significant increase in triage facility for AAA.

Some key points that the team have raised:

- On occasion we are still receiving more than one referral per email – please can the patients' name be included in the subject box along with P1 or P2
- Blank forms are still being sent – it is an issue with the NHSE referral form and the version of Adobe. If GDPs are stuck please let us know and we can forward a word version of the form.
- Please can the forms be typed – hand written and photographed refs are not easy to process
- Many times when patients are referred they do not truly fall into P1 or P2 category detailed in the NHSE/I UDC Pathway document – if the patient has only just been prescribed Abs or advised on analgesia then please give it time to be effective and only if not then consider referring.
- When explaining to the patient what might be possible in Hub please prepare them for likely extraction. There are times when we will open a tooth so necessitating an AGP but we aim to keep this to a minimum as we & you are not in a position to provide ongoing RCT in the foreseeable. It is difficult – not ideal but we must be realistic about what is feasible & in their best interest at this time of COVID19.
- We are finding some patients are attending stating that they were expecting sedation or even GA! We wonder because Swindon Dental Anaesthetic Clinic is operating as a Hub that this might explain their unrealistic expectations – please when referring explain to the patient that sedation is not possible at this time.
- We have been rejecting some referrals when the patient is resident outside Wiltshire and their GMP is likewise – we always aim to point the referrer in the direction of the appropriate UBC Hub be it Bristol, BANES, Oxford or Gloucestershire.
- We are delighted to have OMFS support from several members of GWH OMFS Dept. This means we have the expertise to deal with difficult impacted 8s and other complex surgicals. They are working at West Swindon and Chippenham Hubs. In Salisbury we have support from OMFS Dept at Salisbury District Hospital – we refer to them at SDH when necessary.

I have attached some pics of the Chippenham DAC weekend team. Provision of dental care wearing enhanced PPE is challenging but they are fuelled by tea & cake between the patients!.

Thank you
Alison'

Following this report the committee discussed the points raised, there was concern at why so few patients were being seen, all hubs had to have a minimum of 4 surgeries the feeling was that they were being underused, and possibly could improve patient flow. The LDC was aware of the limited amounts of PPE but not all procedures would be aerosol generating and would not require the same levels of PPE. P R-P felt some areas possibly not using the PPE stock app appropriately to manage their levels of stock.

P R-P informed LDC that a request had been sent out for GDP's to assist 111 triaging patients she was very heartened by the response from Wiltshire, 25 GDP/Practices had volunteered to help, she will get feedback from NHS England but felt this would need to be continued on an ongoing basis. The feedback she had received from GDP's was that all patients seemed to have had facial swelling plus multiple courses of antibiotics and needed to be seen.

KG -gave feedback from his session Triaging for 111 at the weekend, he and his wife Jane triaged 111 patients all of whom had very genuine problems with TA, facial swellings, he referred 1 pt to the UCC who had been previously turned down by the UCC 3 times and now had facial swelling which was spreading. GDP being asked to triage 9 patients in 3 hours but he felt this was too many as each case took a considerable time to triage and treat. The 11 patients took over 3 hours between 2 of them, the difference with 111 being that they were providing care as well as triage. P R-P said she would feed this back to NHS England.

The LDC committee felt the pressure on the UUC hubs was only going to increase going forward, patients needed to be treated, it was unacceptable that patients were only being offered repeat prescriptions.

JBD had forwarded the Devon COPVID-19 webinar to the committee it was generally felt to be very good and that it would be worthwhile to forward to all on the mailing list but highlighting the differences in. the referral process.

JBD to send out update with AP's update.

Secondary hubs in Trowbridge, Salisbury and possible further 12 across the South West.

4. Finance

NP – confirmed that the annual donations had been made to 2 of the charities. -The BDA Ben Fund and Dentist Support Scheme and had received acknowledgment from them. He was awaiting bank details for the 3rd The British Dental Guild.

Np- confirmed still in contact regarding the new Levy Collection, awaiting further details from BDA.

JBD confirmed Wiltshire LDC is on the Data Register.

5. Updating database

JBD emailed all registrants in Wiltshire via GDC, had a good response, feel possibly now have emails 90% + dentists in area. GDC managed to send out email for Avon giving Wilts Sec email instead of theirs so received a huge number of emails which had to sort through to forward on to Avon.

JBD discussed with husband who has more IT knowledge, re database who suggested a dropbox account password protected into which have all LDC documents which can then be accessed by officers of LDC, and suggested a simple excel spreadsheet of local GDP's with name GDC no address, NHS/private/mixed, phone no, email notes. The committee felt this was a good idea all were unanimous in supporting this format.

6. Update on courses.

Jo Russell was due to be speaking on the 30th of April which has been cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic and rearranged for the 9th of September, but this too may have to be rescheduled due to social distancing.

7. Restorative MCN representative.

A request has been received by Wiltshire LDC for us to provide a representative to sit on the Restorative Dentistry MCN for the South West, the MCN is Chaired by Matt Jerreat. Meeting held on quarterly basis, at present virtually via MS Teams.

Keith George volunteered to act as representative and Nish Patel volunteered to be the deputy.

JBD will contact Sarah McFarlane with their details.

8. Private Dentistry representation.

In view of current unprecedented situation the committee had considered that representation from private practices might be appropriate. This was mentioned in a newsletter and 3 local GDP's volunteered to act.

The LDC felt it was important that the GDP should represent their colleagues and therefore they needed to 1.pay the levy 2. Democratically represent their colleagues.

Therefore it was decided that they volunteers be encouraged to pay their levy come to meeting and then can be elected in the normal manner (nomination and seconded by other local GDP's)to the committee at the AGM.

JBD to contact the GDP with this information.

9. Correspondence Received

Previously covered.

10. A.O.B.

MA- raised issue of Committee increasing its visibility in local community of dentists to provide support and mentoring to vulnerable struggling GDP'S, felt would be appropriate to move forward with once COVID-19 crisis settled.

MC- GDPC meeting on Thursday will update the Committee.

NP- wondered whether it would be possible to hold September course as a webinar if Social Distancing still in place.

Philippa Riseley-Prichard propose that we have another meeting via zoom in 1 month- date agreed Monday 15 June 2020 &pm via Zoom -P R-P thanked MC for his organization of zoom meeting , MC happy to organize zoom for next meeting.

Meeting Closed at 20.25