

Liverpool Central Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Newsletter

December 2011

Welcome to the first issue of Liverpool Central Clinical Commissioning Group Newsletter

Inside This Issue

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Clinical Commissioning
- 3 Clinical Commissioning Groups
- 4 Contacts

We are hoping to distribute this letter to practices, patient and community groups on a bi-monthly basis to let you know what is happening organisationally and clinically with your NHS. If you wish to receive this email electronically please let the Community Engagement Officers know – see contact list.

This first newsletter is focusing on the background of Clinical Commissioning Groups and the way forward in Liverpool. Future newsletters will have articles from members of the Clinical Commissioning Group Executive on their lead areas.

Community Engagement Officers:

Gayle Coldron

Tel: 0151 296 7416

Mob: 0774 864 6427

Hannah Hassan

Tel: 0151 296 7417

Mob: 07768 987 467

Clinical Commissioning

Clinical Commissioning is a new way of working for the NHS and the plan is that every part of the country will have a Clinical Commissioning Group by April 2013. This group will be responsible for organising / buying the health needs of the patients registered in the area they cover.

The clinicians are excited by this new way of working as the aim of Clinical Commissioning Groups is for doctors and nurses to be deciding what the priorities are for patients, not managers. The doctors and nurses are working with patients every day and now have an opportunity to influence how care is provided by hospitals and community clinics.

There are some sceptics out there who are not sure this is the right way forward, however, this is a government led initiative and is likely to happen. One thing is for sure and that is if the NHS is to make the savings it needs to make to continue to be viable something has to change.

It is important to note that the money used to buy patient services is separate to the money doctors are paid. If a doctor does not refer a patient or prescribe a certain tablet this does not mean the doctor gets to keep that money. Doctors and Nurses are asked to ensure treatment is appropriate, evidence based and required though as every time a doctor writes a prescription, a test request or a referral this costs the NHS money so it is important that that money is spent wisely.

Doctors and Nurses are working with patients every day, and now have an opportunity to influence how care is provided by hospitals and community clinics.

CCGs

Liverpool currently has 3 shadow Clinical Commissioning Groups and there is a lot of talk amongst the 3 Executives as to whether this is the right number. There are pros and cons to this argument; on one hand the GPs and Nurses feel it is important to have small groups as they are more likely to have common health needs and services can be organised focusing on these priorities but on the other hand this could lead to inequalities with one area having access to a service that another area doesn't.

Also the amount of money allocated to each group to do this work is limited and therefore if there are fewer groups there is more money to do the work required.

Central Liverpool Clinical Commissioning Group has committed to having a patient representative on the group. A member of the Liverpool Links group has volunteered to be part of the group and as soon as we have information about contact details we'll let you know in order that you can make contact if required.

Contacts

In the meantime If you would like to know more about Central Liverpool Clinical Commissioning Group or would like to know how you can become involved please contact your Community Engagement Officers:-

Gayle Coldron Tel: 0151 296 7416
 Mob: 07748 646 427

Hannah Hassan Tel: 0151 296 7417
 Mob: 07768 987 467