

Torbay Listening Forum Minutes of Meeting

Thursday February 5th 2010

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Information Governance
- Branded Generic Prescribing
- MHRA Care Homes alert
- RPSGB and Local Practice Forums

People Attending

Simon Gardner (chair), Karen Bond, Samantha Fowler, Gloria Gregory, Louise Helliwell, Bernadette Hinder, Mercedes Hughes, Helen Lawless, Andrew Mawhinney, Rebecca Oliver, Marek Poole, Tina Pope, Martin Potten, Heather Snow, Tatiana Batitista, Ivan Aldred, Brian Morrison, Sue Taylor

1) SG introduced the meeting and a short presentation was made by Janette Aloof of Trinity (Chiesi Ltd).

2) SG outlined the main requirements for the new Information Governance requirements that were coming into force. All pharmacy contractors had been circulated with a copy of an Information Governance pack from PSNC although some of those present had not seen it. All contractors had to have completed a baseline assessment by the 31st March 2010 for 18 requirements and it was accepted that most would be at level 0 or 1. Contractors have to achieve level 2 by March 2011. For the multiples, most would be done centrally, however, SG considered that locally staff needed to be aware of the requirements as the PCTs would be monitoring this during their visits. From April 2011, if a contractor had not achieved Level 2, PCTs would not commission services from those pharmacies, including MURs. ST informed the meeting that Helen Thorn at Torbay Care Trust was the Information Governance lead and she was attending the LPC Torbay Sub Committee on the following Monday to discuss potential support that could be offered by the Care Trust. Most there thought that an evening session would be helpful although it needed to be soon.

3) SG made a short presentation about the current consultation happening between Torbay Care Trust and GPs regarding cost savings that needed to be made to the local prescribing budget of £1,000,000. The LPC were extremely concerned about the proposals as, if implemented, would impact on pharmacy contractor income by at least £8k-£10k per annum. The LPC had made representations to the Care Trust and again, this was due to be discussed at the LPC Sub Committee meeting the following week. SG asked people if they had any ideas about how pharmacies could support the Care Trust in meeting this budgetary target. Some suggestions included not dispensed schemes, instalment dispensing for new medication regimes, SIP feeds, repeat dispensing and post hospital discharge MURs. Sue also talked about the Isle of Wight project that had demonstrated

hospital admission reductions and a reduction in prescribing costs for asthma patients as pharmacists trained patients to in inhaler technique. Sue asked for further examples to be sent through to her, and also for faxed copies of any letters being sent out from practices about prescribing or other changes.

4) There was a very brief discussion on the MHRA Care Homes alert that had been circulated to pharmacists concerning the recent report on medication errors in care homes. The Torbay Care Trust's LES for pharmacy advice to care homes was up for review; SG alerted people to the possibility of this being de-commissioned if it did not demonstrate value for money. Most people would like to be able to have a more clinical input to patient's care; and there was some debate about the value of domicillary MURs being carried out in care homes.

5) there had been a recent meeting about the Local Practice Forums being established by the Society and how these could be linked into other events such as the LPC forums and CPPE meetings. There was to be a AGM held in Torbay at the end of April to which the LPC and other interested parties would be invited to discuss the potential for a Devon based forum.

6) Sue told the group about an approach that had been made to her from Andrea Phare regarding the possibility of local pharmacies being able to access the local Right Trac pathway information and the Map of Medicine. It was agreed this would be an interesting topic for the next forum to be held on the 6th May. Pharmacists would be allocated an Athens password and username which would also provide access to lots of other resources. Sue agreed to follow up with Andrea and arrange a presentation.

Date of next meeting was confirmed as 6th May 2010 and the meeting was ended at 9.00pm