

To: All GP Practices in Surrey & Sussex LMCs (excl. London)

22 March 2017

Dear Colleagues

Occupational Health Service for GPs

I am writing to update all practices in terms of NHS England (South East) commissioning arrangements for a new occupational health service for General Practitioners on the Medical Performers List.

Please note this is a **separate** service to the General Practice Health service, about which the LMC contacted all practices recently, which is linked to the Practitioner Health Programme in London.

All practices were recently contacted by NHS England to advise that Heales Medical Group has been commissioned to provide such services in South East England. This roll-out is part of the GP Forward View; however, regrettably, the service is not as extensive as originally proposed as it does not provide a comprehensive service for all staff within GP practices. Instead the service commissioned from 1 April 2017 provides:

- Occupational health assessments, and vaccinations and immunisations for General Practitioners, on the Medical Performers List
- Advice on exposure to blood borne viruses for all primary care staff (including General Practitioners)

The service also supports NHS England in terms of its management for the Medical Performers List including providing occupational health services if required for performance issues. It will provide equivalent services for Dental Practitioners.

The introduction of this service explains a more recent letter practices have received, asking if practices will consent, by default, to the transfer of medical records held by current occupational health services to the Heales Medical Group. This will only occur if practice staff (including doctors) actually have medical records held with a different local OH provider, and, in addition, if that person wishes the transfer to occur. If they do not wish this transfer, the current OH service needs to be told. The LMC understands Heales Medical Group is willing to provide local practices with an OH service, as required, for non-GP employees but this would currently be at cost to practices.

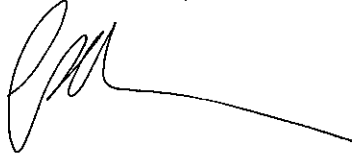
Local Medical Committees for
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I hope this background is helpful but please contact the LMC office if you have any queries.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JP', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr Julius Parker
Chief Executive