To all Surrey and Sussex LMCs practices



10th July 2019

Dear Colleagues

Urgent Advice: Indemnity Arrangements in relation to paid-for (Private) Travel Vaccinations delivered by GP practice staff

I am writing to advise all colleagues there has been a change in NHS Resolutions Indemnity arrangements under the Central Negligence Scheme for General Practice (CNSGP) in relation to the supply and administration of **paid-for** travel vaccinations.

Originally, at the commencement of the CNSGP arrangements, in April, the CNSGP scheme included the supply and administration of vaccinations where patients are charged. This was an error and both DHSC and NHS England have apologised for this.

As GP practices were undertaking this work in good faith, believing it to be covered as part of CNSGP, NHS Resolution will provide assistance for any claim for clinical negligence relating to the supply and administration of privately funded travel vaccinations for the period 1st April to 31st July 2019.

This means that all practices will need to check their indemnity arrangements to ensure that all staff delivering this service have full indemnity for these services. They should check their current non-state indemnity arrangements to make sure staff are covered. Obviously also, in relation to private fee services, the cost of such services to the patient should reflect service delivery costs, including the necessary indemnity.

The CNSGP continues to provide cover for all vaccinations funded by the NHS (for which patients pay no charge); in addition, advice about travel is regarded as an essential service and therefore is covered by CNSGP.

Although it is clearly not satisfactory for there to be any change in Scheme arrangements, this change was made necessary following recent legal advice to the DHSC, and given the complexity of work undertaken in General Practice, it is fair to note this is the only example of a change in cover arrangements identified from April.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Dr Julius Parker **Chief Executive** Local Medical Committees for Croydon, Kingston & Richmond, Surrey, East Sussex and West Sussex

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