

WGDPC Report of meeting 18.5.12

By Anwen Hopkins

The morning session was taken up by presentations by-

1. Hugh Bennett on the role of the Dental Public Health team. He emphasised how he was trying to get things standardised across Wales and kept using ABMU as a good model which it seems to be compared with most of the rest of Wales. He also said that they are trying to get the QAS data retained for next year but no promises.
2. Dr Lisa Howells who is the clinical dental advisor and she talked about the 1000lives plus project. The antimicrobial audit is being phased in starting with Cardiff imminently then the rest of Wales.
3. Dr David Thomas the chief dental officer talked about the Welsh Pilots. The data so far suggests that for the Quality Outcome Pilot there has been a 10% drop in the number of pts seen and a 20% drop in patient charges. Also courses of treatment were down by 21% which fits in with the PCR. This is an issue and maybe a registration charge could be used? – The kids pilot has resulted in decreased numbers of fillings and an increase in fluoride and fissure sealants. He then followed on with a discussion on whether to follow England and their pilots were seen to be very poor or set up a new payment structure in Wales possibly using the Shared Services Partnership (I think? as they already deal with the GP's pay in Wales) and moving away from Eastbourne. So it looks like the Welsh pilots may not be futile after all!
4. Claire Herbert – GDC talked about revalidation on probably a 5 yearly cycle and we'd be required to collect evidence around 4 domains and get 3rd party verification and CPD would become one component of revalidation. If anyone has any views on revalidation or CPD then she would like you to 'enter the big conversation' on the GDC's website – CPDreview@gdc-uk.org and revalidation@gdc-uk.org.

The afternoon session was a more normal WGDPC meeting.

DF1's – 102 still looking for places and 18 from Cardiff still haven't got a place but this might go down after finals.

We may soon be able to refer to Cardiff Dental school again.

Associates self employed status may be under threat as an associate is taking a corporate to court for wrongful dismissal (I think) and trying to claim employed status and is apparently very likely to win.

Remuneration is going to be 0.5% uplift in exchange for completing QAS and HMT0105 audit. (unlikely to lose 0.75 uda for repeat prescriptions as this requires legislation changes).

Issues regarding bariatric chairs were raised as the new unit in Mountain Ash has opened and 2 pts who had been screened and accepted for treatment were then refused treatment because the chair limit is 21 stone. Apparently there is a bariatric chair in the dental hospital called the blue whale room. This I feel is an important issue because it does scare me when larger pts seemingly fall into my chair as I worry for my knees if the chair were to topple or worse still they break my chair! - Does anyone know if there are any bariatric chairs in ABMU?