



Morgannwg LDC Zoom Meeting Thursday 22d July 2021 19.00

Welcome from LDC Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held on 10th June 2021 were approved.

Update from Karl Bishop, Dental Director, Primary, Community and Therapies Service Group, SBUHB.

- Current demands on the acute Hospital sites were now significant: high rate of staff shortages due to both illness and C-19 isolation were both factors, more so than the current rate of Covid within the Hospital settings.
- There had been a surge in the delta transmission, which had now led to a third wave in the Pandemic. This was expected to increase in September with the return to schools and the workplace.
- There was not expected to be any change in the SOP due to the surge in cases any changes had now probably been put on hold by WG until at the earliest September/October. WG still following national IPC position. Current SOP allows some flexibility due to the 'risk assess' basis.
- Activity levels in GDS were still low at around 40% due to the restrictions on flow of patients within the setting.
- There was still a high demand on both IHA and OOH sessions, this is not expected to reduce anytime soon.
- SBUHB was performing well against KPIs with there being an increase in new patients being seen month on month since April 2021. ACORNs were currently on around 85%.
- There had been an increase in patients' complaints around access to dental treatment with an increase in aggression pointed towards staff in GMS, HDS and Primary Care. WG working on Coms to explain the situation and need for reduced patient flow which influences the numbers of patients to be seen.
- Consultant Connect – pilot within CDS going very well and GDPR compliant. Hopeful to roll out to RD and Orthodontics Aug\Sept time.
- The Dental Senedd had met this week, direct access to Dental therapy was now in the development stage. The Endodontic referral system was also being worked on, an email to gauge interest was to be sent to all on delivering 'enhanced' services.
- The Covid booster programme is being looked at and may align with the winter flu vaccine roll out. The principle of the booster is well established with the logistics needing to be looked at.
- New SOP in England had no effect on the rate of patient flow, with Wales currently awaiting the IPC update from NHS England.
- Covid bonus payments are now being authorised by BSA, practices need to ensure that these payments are forwarded to eligible staff.

Update from DPAs

Discussed under other agenda items.

Update from LDC

- Nominations had been received ahead of the BGM, as nominations had not exceeded numbers there would be no need for a ballot. It was very likely the BGM would now be held over Zoom, the Secretary to contact Morryston Post Grad Department for an update.

- The Secretary had written to Sam Page regarding the discussion around expectations for Q1 and Q2 held at the last LDC meeting. The reply had been emailed to all. It was felt further clarity was needed around the issue of practices being responsible going forward for patients who had received a Band 4 course of treatment that had not entailed a full examination. The HB was of the opinion practices are responsible for these Band 4 patients going forward. Practices felt this was an unachievable expectation as they were currently only running at 30-40% capacity and were unable to treat their core group of patients under current restrictions. It was felt these high need groups of patients were reducing the number of examinations and ACORN the practice needed to carry out on their own patients. It was felt the system was not being used appropriately by some patients as practices are reporting patients returning to them expecting full courses of treatments as their dental practice are unable to see them. Any issues or comments to be emailed to the secretary to take to the LDC/LHB Liaison Group Meeting next week for discussion.

LDC Policy on Advertising

- The appropriateness of the LDC circulating advertisements of associate positions was discussed, it was agreed advertising these positions on the website was sufficient. The Secretary asked that once positions are filled, he is informed to enable him to update the website.

Orthodontics

- New patients and review appointments are no longer credited with one UOA, therefore assessments are now being streamlined to ensure patients are ready for orthodontic treatment. Therefore, practices are now requested to send either photographs or a video with their referral. Patients submitting videos will often be seen initially via Attend Anywhere.
- Should patients wish to have a GA for routine orthodontic extractions they will normally be low priority and will be advised to have their extractions under LA.
- Patients who currently fail initial assessment appointments are likely to face a significant wait for a further appointment.

Cancer Surgery waiting times

- The Secretary had received an email from a colleague expressing concern that a patient of theirs had attended the HDS and required a procedure relating to their oral cancer. The patient had heard nothing since October 2020, Karl Bishop had advised to contact Steve Key as there was nothing recorded on FDS and no correspondence had been received from HDS. The lack of communication was felt to be extremely concerning, The Secretary requested any other practices experiencing issues contact him so he could carry forward to the next LDC/LHB Liaison Group Meeting.

Any Other Business

- A colleague (retired) needs to attend a CPR course to satisfy GDC regulations, if any practice has a space on an upcoming course and is willing to help could they please contact the Secretary

Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 9th September 2021