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Morgannwg LDC Zoom Meeting Thursday 9th December 2021

In Attendance.

Allison Walker in the chair, Roger Pratley, Karl Bishop, Rachel Coles, Patricia Moreira, Richard Woods, Chris Woods, Sid Gupta, Paul Fraser, Carla Queiros, Sara Griffiths, James Davies, Jennifer Berndt, Helen John, Ellie Parker, John Vaughan, Simon Bond, Rob Elliott, Barrie David, Tesni Metcalfe, Richard Courtney, Chris Wills-Wood, Kirsty James, Craig Davies, Farzana Mohammed, Rachel Thomas, Anwen Hopkins, Richard Jones, Andrew Williams, Will Fitzpatrick, Mari John, Dharminy Martin, Mohammed Imtiaz Khan.

Apologies for Absence from LDC Members and Co-opted Members

Liz Samways, Anne Walker, Lesley Hotson-Hicks

Approval of meeting notes 18th November 2021

Meeting Notes had not been completed.

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

- Covid – 19 there was some pressure on the acute units, Delta appeared to be stable within the community and there were no Omicron admissions. Although the likely impact of Omicron was yet unknown, cases were expected to peak towards the end of January 2022.
- The Vaccines were recorded as being slightly less effective and there was to be a big push on booster vaccinations up until the end of January 2022.
- Due to the booster roll out there was expected to be a lot of pressure on the MVCs and GMS. There was to be a big push to gather volunteer vaccinators to cover the period up to January 2022, this involved one day of training.
- Dental annexe Respiratory and Non-Respiratory Pathways – Non-Respiratory as pre COVID. A risk assessment to be carried out on all patients, with there being 10 air exchanges per hour, adequate ventilation, and staff fully vaccinated. To fully comply with IPC current guidelines to include social distancing, PPE etc.
- Contact Guidance from WG – Anyone in close contact with an Omicron case must isolate until they receive a negative PCR result. If the result is positive, they must isolate irrespective of vaccination status due to the high transmission rate of the variant.

CDO Contract Guidance

- No major issues for GDPs who are performing to the current guidelines.
- Work was ongoing regarding the guidance to be in place post April 2022.
- It was almost certain this would include a volumetric.
- Currently working at 38% pre covid activity, although it was felt new IPC guidance should help to increase this figure.

Grant Money – The Minister was looking for ideas around increasing access with available grant monies.

- £3 million pound (non-recurrent) to be made available this financial year 21/22.
- £2 million pound (recurring) to be made available for the financial year 22/23.
- SBUHB able to bid for £350K up to 31/3/22 and £250K for the year 22/23.
- A bid had been put in place for funding to run the RMC for clinical triage 7/7 as opposed to the current 5/7.
- OOH and in hours access currently running on £500K and is still struggling with funding. A bid had been put in to increase the current fee available to GDPs.
- Increasing ventilation grants within practices was also discussed.
- Any ideas for further grant money to be emailed to DPAs to take to HB for consideration.

New Dental Appendix and new IPC Guidance

The emergence of the new variant Omicron has affected the implementation of the new pathway with most GDPs adhering to the SOP currently in place for the foreseeable future. It was felt the Respiratory Pathway was a very positive step forward in the correct climate.

Proposed new Access (pathways) – update and discussion

Staffing levels during the winter months and the emergence of a new variant would highly impact on staffing levels and output. This in turn was going to affect access going forward, GDPs advised to record all staffing issues and notify the HB immediately that this effects output.

Patients who did not wish to complete a full course of treatment after attending an access session and only wished to attend a one-off appointment will be included in the Access pilot when funding becomes available post March 2022.

LDC Update

- QAS for 2021 is now live.
- Christmas opening hours to be returned to HB tomorrow Friday 10th December.
- There was no longer the need to complete Urgent treatment ACORNs, concern was raised as to whether this would affect fluoride statistics as would 0–3-year-old children's ACORNs. Richard Jones to carry forward as these points could become an issue in quarter 4.

Any Other Business

Clusters – there were eight Cluster Leads within the locality, it was felt the more input there was from GDPs the higher the likelihood of receiving extra funding. It was suggested to keep all updated via messages through the LPGs.

BDA Election Committee elections were due to take place, as previous representative WGDPC was now a Cwm Taf GDP there was now a vacancy. Anybody interested in taking on the role to put themselves forward once information becomes available from BDA. This will be via email and only applicable to BDA members.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday 27th January 2022 at 19.00 via Zoom.