

## **CLMC Bulletin 327 – 11.07.17**

### **Confidentiality – Data Sharing/Patient Records**

This remains one of the topics upon which we receive the most questions. There is rarely a straightforward answer but the default should always be whether patient consent has been sought or patients are aware that information sharing takes place and, in the absence of consent, is there a legal basis for sharing the information. CLMC is looking to provide some update training on confidentiality and the new DPA regulations coming in to place. We will keep you posted on this but in the meantime we strongly recommend you review [this updated GMC guidance](#) (hard copies available from GMC on request).

### **Honorary Contracts (in relation to CSOs and NECS)**

Practices received communication from NECS that honorary contracts were required in order for CSO and RAIDR support to continue. CLMC have been fighting this case for a couple of years now as we do not believe honorary contracts are appropriate as they place practices at employment law risk yet do not negate the need for a confidentiality agreement (the reason cited for their introduction).

Both CCGs have worked with us to resist the introduction of honorary contracts and we finally have agreement from NECS that they are NOT appropriate and are NOT required. Practices should receive communication very soon to advise of this fact and advise how to move forward.

Practice MUST have a signed confidentiality agreement for ALL visitors/support/non-employees accessing the practice and with access to patient data. It is adequate to use your existing confidentiality agreements in line with CQC requirements but if you need any assistance please do not hesitate to contact [janice.foster@nhs.net](mailto:janice.foster@nhs.net).

### **NHS Whistle Blowing Policy 2017**

This is a reminder for practices to ensure their policies and procedures align with the [new NHS whistleblowing policy](#), by September this year. Further BMA information [is available here](#):

### **NHS E Guidance - Mental Health Care for People Affected by Terror Attacks and Grenfell**

Dr Arvind Madan, Deputy Medical Director and Director of Primary Care has issued this open [letter](#) outlining the symptoms to watch out for in the aftermath of a traumatic event, in the weeks after and that if symptoms are severe and continue for more than four weeks, a referral to specialist service may be required.

### **GP Survey Briefing**

The BMA have produced this [briefing](#) with regard to the results of the latest Patient Survey.