**Heart of West Midlands Regional Optical Committee 22/06/2023**

Present

Charles Barlow (CB) Dudley/Solihull LOC

Debbie Graham (DG) Birmingham LOC

Ian Hadfield (IH) Birmingham LOC

Peter Hampson (PH) Sandwell LOC

Aisha Jeewa (AJ) Walsall LOC

Spencer Parkes (SP) Solihull LOC

Sofia Fazal (SF) Wolverhampton LOC

Louise Sarjeant (LS) Sandwell LOC/Minutes

Wasim Sarwar (WS) PES Clinical Lead

Paul Sidhu (PS) Dudley LOC

Divya Sudera (DS) Sandwell LOC/CPD Officer

Joanne Tutt (JT) Walsall LOC

**Apologies –** Dan Spencer

**Conflicts of Interest** – no changes

**Minutes of the previous meeting** – approved

**Matters arising** – nil

**Diabetic Retinopathy Screening**

PH received letter from John Grayland, he will write to practices to remind them of responsibility. Could ask to see that correspondence.

DRS issues raised with LOCs across region, patients not turning up, patients encouraged to have STs with screenings, screenings overdue. Collate issues, send to AJ and invite JG to next HWMOC meeting to help resolve. May need to escalate to commissioner if problems persist, concerns over health of local population.

WS due to do talk to IHI screeners about CUES and where to direct patients, may be able to help.

**EeRS**

IH sent out questionnaire, 26 responses so far, most good, one practice has nothing. DG how long is QiO DSPT available for? PH may be changes to DSPT, but not being taken away.

AJ email from David Herrington, mentioned about a privacy policy? DG a short sentence to add to privacy notice, to facilitate use of Cinapsis.

CB stressed importance to DH about going through centralised point, being LOCSU, they’re currently preparing FAQ document.

Concern about lack of engagement from Trusts, which may affect EeRS launch.

**Local workforce development**

DS peer discussion 10th July 7pm, same format as before.

CB meeting beginning June, discussed opportunities for different courses. Asked for proposals to be resubmitted, including from ABDO for DOs. Approach from Zeiss about OCT event. Working groups set up to deliver FB and paediatrics workshops. Grant applications being evaluated, 40 applications. Due a meeting to make decisions.

WS consultant at UHB keen to get better local working relationship and provide IP placements at QE. No capacity at BMEC.

DS consultant at WEI interested in providing IP placements, they would value a flow chart of the process. SF might know someone able to provide support. CB a training hub in BCICB looking at facilitating paperwork, across the trusts. Part of grant is to fund framework for future training.

IH meeting with UHB, want pathway for easy cataracts for training. May consider providing IP placements. DG pharmacy is looking at IP for core competency, is optometry looking at IP as core competency? PH not enough work if everybody IP. Unis can build it in, but can’t get placements. Glasgow are going to build it in but they have teach and treat clinics. Also, normally need to have two years’ experience before IP.

DS conversation with different consultant at WEI keen to give placements for higher certificate with glaucoma. Again, any info to make this easier for them would be great.

Discussed location of practices providing enhanced services, often the practices that provide the services aren’t in the areas where the service is needed. Needs to be considered with workforce grants.

**HWMOC Confederation**

CB collated information from treasurers.

PS created regional web page, collated pages from LOCs on referrals into one place. PH is it by urgency or location? PS can be either. DG concerned if all the guidance is amalgamated onto this website, you have responsibility of keeping it up to date. If link to websites, then their responsibility to keep it updated eg CoOptoms. PS each area has own guidance, linked to local hospitals. Urgency is a reproduction of College Guidance, so can link to that. Can give each LOC a log in so it can be updated.

DS is CPD provision on there? PS could do, not normally on website, but link heavily to social media. Cheaper to do via social media. DS maybe a calendar?

**Midlands Eyecare Transformation Network**

CB nothing to report. Raised LEHN, no progress. Primary care team at ICB looking into it. Birmingham? DG no.

**Primary Eyecare Services**

WS been negotiating with ICB about raising pre-op cataract fee in BSol, now set at £30 across region. Uplift for CUES from 1st August, comms to be sent out.

BSol meeting about establishing glaucoma pathway, improve GER service.

RWT can now discharge patients with Black Country GP for post op cataracts.

Walsall post op cataract fee no change.

BC considered single point of access for cataract referrals as claim patients not being offered choice. Explained that they need to improve waiting time reports if not accurate. HVLC pathway would increase numbers. May be able to create different referral option on Opera.

WS BMEC said will only accept patients with certain postcodes for urgent and routine referrals. Raised concern about patient choice, ICB looking at contracts, not heard anything. Needs to be formally written from SWB if so.

PH embedding of patient choice likely to become more clear later in the year in official documents.

Opera CUES module being developed, hopefully ready by end of summer.

**AOB**

AJWalsall LOC AGM June 27th

Sofia trying to get onto Primary Care Committee (PCC). CB been informed that BCC PCC dominated by GPs and don’t want anyone else yet, but ICB not happy. Having conversations with head of Primary Care for ICB.

**Date of Next Meeting –** 6:30pm on Thursday 14th September 2023

**Action Points**

LOCs to send DRS issues to AJ to collate

PH to invite JG to next HWMOC meeting

WFD group to consider discussion points raised