LOC Minutes 13/06/2024

In attendance

Divya Sudera (Chair) DS

Peter Hampson (Secretary) PH

Louise Sarjeant (Treasurer/Vice Chair) LS

Wasim Sarwar (CPD Officer) WS

Inderpal Bansal IB Jaspinderpal Bansal JB

Paul Sidhu PS David Wright DW

Apologies – Anisha Chowlia, Saima Naroo,

Conflicts of Interest – No changes.

Minutes of previous meeting – Error – recorded as IB proposed and seconded minutes, otherwise proposed as correct by PS, seconded by DW.

Matters arising – Peter Bainbridge has stepped down from the LOC. The committee would like to extend its thanks to PB for his many years of valuable service as a committee member and chair.

Election of Officers

All current officers re-elected unopposed

Chair – Divya Sudera

Secretary – Peter Hampson

Treasurer/Vice Chair – Louise Sarjeant

CPD Officer – Wasim Sarwar

Chair’s Business – DS

Ongoing engagement with the ICS. Currently concentrating on private cataract providers, released a new video to increase visibility of NHS providers, providing NHS waiting lists. They want optoms to talk about private and NHS providers equally, claiming that we’re referring with VAs of 6/6. Since taking away restriction of VA 6/12, will be increased numbers due to quality of life. Reiterated barriers such as parking, transport etc. PH Age UK have study called “Painful Journeys”. WS did presentation showing actual cataract referrals. Considering GERS, but stalling.

PS RHH doing toric implants if cyls >2D. Current availability due to doctor’s strike, as more capacity for non-general anaesthetic.

CHEC moving into area and want a meeting.

At HWMOC, Waheeda Illahi from BMEC talked about engaging more with community practitioners. There may be peer review with IP optoms later in the year, and also talked about IP placements.

EeRS – DS

Working with BMEC to ensure EeRS used for emergency referrals as well. Using College Guidelines. There will be a list – if true emergency, send patient up immediately, if needs to be seen within 24 hours, HES will triage and call patient.

There is a go-no-go meeting tomorrow to decide when first wave starts, approx. 6 practices to check procedures for a few weeks, then second wave will launch. There will then be a questionnaire for feedback after two weeks, which has been good in other areas.

Committee member role survey - DS

People keen to engage with practices, but no-one wanted any particular roles. PS need a social media manager. LS happy to do admin but need content and ideas.

Local Workforce Development – DS

FB workshop completed. Disappointingly 8/40 people didn’t turn up, need to consider how to mitigate in future. Due paediatrics and VR workshops, grand rounds and IP peer review.

Primary Eyecare Services -WS

Had funding from ICB to do CUES video, so need practices to participate, especially if good story. There will be a new patient choice tool on Opera for cataracts, where hospitals can update their waiting times so patients can see during referral.

Did a talk for Midland Ophthalmological Society about Opera and cataract referrals, some ophths. still say optoms referring asymptomatic cataracts with 6/6 vision. Due to do talk at Black Country Forum and will remind them we don’t get incentives for cataract referrals; we get paid for services provided.

Talking with BMEC and 111 to have SPoA, so 111 can direct patient to CUES telemedicine.

CPD Officer – WS

CPD Day 16th September at WBA ground, speakers all organised.

Treasurers Business – LS

Reserves holding steady. Bank mandate changed from PB to DS and PS.

AOB

WS apparently if see urgent DRS when referring via Cinapsis should check with IHI or refer to them for screening. DS not appropriate and will query.

Date of Next Meeting

LOC meeting - Thursday 10th October 2024 – virtual