

West Suffolk Lymphoedema service

Your Federation runs a specialist nursing service for West patients with troublesome symptoms. Any patient with oedema lasting more than 3 months is deemed chronic. Patients with such chronic oedema from any cause can be referred including malignancy, radiotherapy, venous insufficiency, heart failure & limited mobility.

Patients often benefit from the specialist assessment and management which the clinic offers before being discharged back to their GP. You can refer by letter (please include supporting materials) or feel free to speak to the lead specialist nurse Diane Cheevers on 07739 326 069.

The Fed has bid to also run the Lymphoedema service in North Essex and the outcome of the bid is awaited.

East COPD Winter Pressures

This involves COPD case finding, spirometry, referral to pulmonary rehab provided by SCH and all patients on the register being sent a standby prescription. It is worth a mean £1,500 per practice.

PMs have been sent an implementation pack and much of the work has been automated for you using S1 templates.

Diabetes

Your federation has set-up and is managing a groundbreaking diabetes service covering 330,000 patients in North East Essex. The scheme covers all diabetes care including outpatients, emergency foot clinics, T1DM, podiatry and inpatients with a value of £2.7m this year. Since April:

- Most outpatient care transferred to the community.
- Community based specialist team developed including consultant community diabetologist, specialist nurses & midwife, dietician and psychologist. Their main role is to support practices seeing patients in surgery.
- Funds transferred to primary care worth 88p per list patient this year and rising to £1.70 in five years.
- Set-up a system which allows practice to easily monitor their clinical outcomes on a monthly basis.

After six months the three main Year 1 clinical indicators are showing positive progress:

- The % of patients receiving all eight care processes has increased by 7%.
- The % with HbA1c of 64mmol/mol or less (8%) has

increased by 0.8%.

- The % with Cholesterol of 5mmol/l or less is up 0.3%.
- 24 practices now have 2 or 3 of the above indicators improving and only 3 practices are not improving on any indicator.

£5 a patient admission avoidance

The initiative, organised through your Federation in 31 practices across the East is making good progress. Most practices are now engaged and the volume of Special Patient Notes, Yellow Folders and visits to the housebound with ITCs is increasing. The Red Cross have now started their admission avoidance work. They have staff who can take elderly patients home and look after them if they arrive at A&E with mainly social care needs.

Dementia diagnosis

38 East practices have signed up to the Fed offer to assist members, at no charge, with the administration associated with the enhanced service. This is possible because I&ESCCG has engaged the Fed to run the searches centrally, avoiding the need for each PM to build and run them individually. We have not been asked to do this by the West CCG but if we can help any practice please contact Linda West.

MDDUS group buying

74 GPs are now MDDUS members. With 100 local members a further discount for all members of 2.5% is triggered (total 5%). If you want details of the offer please email David.

Any thoughts, comments or ideas?

Please feel free to email david.pannell@suffolkfed.org.uk