

## Medical Director's Notes

There is increasing noise that the Department of Health and NHSE are preparing to announce major changes to the way primary care works which will have implications for the partnership model. In recent months Sajid Javid provided the forward to a Policy Exchange paper which argues for 'an increasing number of GPs salaried or employed by scaled providers'.

More recently, the Fuller review argues PCNs should merge with local community health and social services. It also suggests on the day patients should be managed by locality teams which would cover bigger areas than individual practices. There would be different pathways for those who need continuity of care. The Fuller review was endorsed by leaders of the Integrated Care Systems (replacements for CCGs), so it is likely to be the direction of travel.

Your Board is discussing how we can work with members and the LMC to prepare for any announcements. Suffolk is in a good starting position as we have scale providers and primary care has a tradition of working together. I will keep you updated.

Ruth Bushaway – Fed Medical Director



## HR support

The Fed can help advertise your practice vacancies on our website. Please email [hr@suffolkfed.org.uk](mailto:hr@suffolkfed.org.uk) with your vacancy and we can publish to our vacancies page.

The Fed also has an HR Advice Service for members which offers advice on all matters of employment legislation and workforce management, charged at £1.50 per employee per month. For more information, a discussion or to sign up contact Sarah Moody, HR Manager, [sarah.moody@suffolkfed.org.uk](mailto:sarah.moody@suffolkfed.org.uk) 07958206778

Primary Care Careers <https://www.essexprimarycarecareers.nhs.uk/> can also support with your recruitment. It's a tool for Suffolk and North East Essex practices, where you can post your vacancy and receive support with advertising and shortlisting to help with the selection process.

## GMC case – implications for Fed

You may have seen the widely reported Dr Arora GMC case. She was suspended for a month for reported 'dishonesty' - telling the IT department of Mastercall, Manchester's Out of hours provider, that she had been 'promised' a laptop. Our Medical Director, Ruth Bushaway, has delved into the case and it may be more complicated than it first appears. Nevertheless, it raises a number of issues for the Fed. Firstly, regardless of this case, the GMC disproportionately sanctions individuals from ethnic minorities. We also know that the diversity of the Fed's Urgent Care workforce is not fully reflected in our leadership team. Finally, what are the Fed's procedure when considering referring one of our clinicians to their professional body.

We are currently working on how to improve the diversity of our Urgent Care leadership team, which is a longstanding issue. We want to form a clinical group that can help us develop and implement a plan. We are also reviewing how we refer to regulatory bodies and are considering adding an additional step which would be designed to address any unconscious bias in our process.

**Dr David Brandon and Laura Lyons welcomed Matt Hancock MP and Ed Garrett, our Integrated Care System lead, to Unity Healthcare in Haverhill.**



**The Fed's Very Important Invitation have been out and about raising awareness of the importance of having a cervical smear**



### **Fed cervical smear incidents**

We have recently had two internal incidents involving the mislabelling of cervical smear samples. As a result of both incidents, one patient was recalled for a re-screen. No patients came to harm.

In response, we have looked at our processes and made changes to avoid similar incidents in the future. The National Cervical Screening Service reviewed our response and also recognised the positive impact the team has had on the local screening programme.

### **GP Support Hub support and events**

- Equipment calibration – we do not have a date but if you need this please email [info@thegphub.com](mailto:info@thegphub.com)
- Lantum locum booking relaunch – all Practice Managers have been sent an email invite to one of four sessions being hosted throughout June / July. Covering; Building your staff bank, posting sessions, reviewing applications, fees, billing & invoicing. [To book Suffolk GP Fed - Lantum Training Teams Link.](#)
- Missing a DBS? Let the Hub support you with obtaining one via [info@thegphub.org](mailto:info@thegphub.org).
- GP Later Career Event – the first round of events took place in East, West and NEE supporting GPs looking at their options as they approach 50. We will announce the next dates for Sept, Oct, Nov soon. There is also a Whatsapp group for GPs to share ideas / information and resource that is beneficial to share etc. Please email the Hub if you would like to be added to this group.
- Red Whale Hot Topics – June and September are fully booked after an incredible response. We will be adding an additional virtual event in November.
- BringBaby event – 28th September, 10am – 1pm – Book via [Suffolk GP BringBaby webinar Tickets, Wed 28 Sep 2022 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)
- First 5 understanding pensions event - September 8 at Holiday Inn Copdock – Book via - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/first5-pensions-event-tickets-360333766997>