

Suffolk LOC Newsletter April 2016

Dear colleagues, it has been a busy winter and spring, and we thank you for your support.

Cataract scheme

Thank you for attending the cataract meetings last month. We are in discussions with the other stakeholders to clarify future accreditation. A new form is being drafted to better reflect current needs, which we will seek an opinion on in due course. A couple of points to clarify from the meetings:

1. **All post op complications should be phoned through to the appropriate eye clinic**
2. **If co-pathology; refer for the other problem mentioning cataract, the eye clinic will assess the cataract and list if appropriate.**

CPD events

3rd May Mr Gupta is providing an Ophthalmology Update to local GP's; the evening will be held at the Dragon Fly hotel in Bury St Edmunds with a hot meal from 6.45. Places are limited, contact office@aliquaevents.co.uk

Please note this is not an LOC event and does not have GOC CET accreditation.

5th May. Low Vision Evening: an opportunity to meet representatives from Sensing Change, ESAB, WSAB, and Action for Blind People. Jen Bacon, ECLO will begin the evening before handing over to **Sally Williams FBDO (Hons) LVA who** will talk about how we can help people with low vision. One interactive CET point for Optom/DO has been applied for. It will be held at Ravenwood Hall Hotel, Rougham, Bury St Edmunds IP30 9JA.

Please confirm attendance to pjmcelduff@gmail.com.

17th May ABDO (area 4) are hosting an evening of CET for their members at the Holiday Inn, Ipswich at 18.30. Book online at abdo.org.uk

Looking beyond our borders, there is a College of Optometrists regional event in Cambridge on 16/6/16 at 18.00, and an AOP legal roadshow in Norwich on 21/06/16 at 18.15. Members can book via their respective websites.

GOS forms

These forms are still free despite the ordering portal quoting a price for each type of form. NHS forms should be sent to:

Primary Care Support, 3 Caxton Road, Fulwood, Preston, Lancashire, PR2 9ZZ

Telephone number: 01772 221385

WOPEC training

As you may have read in the optical press LOCSU are pushing for all Optometrists to undertake the minor eye conditions training. This involves watching video presentations and answering embedded MCQ's then taking a OSKI exam before receiving your WOPEC certificate. A practical exam sounds a bit daunting but it's not too challenging and can be taken locally. If you would like to access the videos, please contact Ming for the necessary codes and instructions – please note there is no obligation to do the OSKI part. It is suggested you start with the minor eye conditions.

mingcus@icloud.com

Enhanced services update

The LOC are currently talking to the various groups bidding to run Ophthalmology services in the East. There are several potential areas we may be involved in and we also want to ensure we don't lose the services we currently provide such as pre and post cataract work. In order to allow us to state our position better we may need to ask for some information about skills, desire to be involved and equipment. Our aim as an LOC is to protect the interests of the contractors and practitioners so please respond to the request for information which is likely to be in the form of a short survey monkey questionnaire.

Practice for Sale

Boutique practice in rural East Suffolk is now for sale due to owner retiring. Contact nmopticians@btinternet.com for more information

Positions available

Drage and Tozer Opticians in Sudbury Suffolk have relocated to larger premises in the town centre and as a result of increasing clinics are now recruiting for optometrist cover, locum/employed. As well as new modern working environment, benefits include regular Saturdays off, private health care, dedicated contact lens centre onsite, closed between Christmas and New Year. For further information please call Helen Drage on 01787 310090, e-mail: helen@drageandtozer.co.uk or call in for a chat and look around!

Primesight Opticians, 432 Woodbridge Road, Ipswich IP4 4EL, are looking for a locum optometrist interested in doing one to two regular days in Ipswich from September 2016 onward.

Contact Mr Mano Sinhal on 01473 724158.

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