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Subject: FW: Extended Hours DES

Date: 23 June 2015 15:57

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CS

From: GPC Local Medical Committees discussion list [<mailto:LMC-L@LISTSERV.BMA.ORG.UK>] **On Behalf Of** Greg Lewis

Sent: 23 June 2015 15:42

To: LMC-L@LISTSERV.BMA.ORG.UK

Subject: Extended Hours DES

It has come to the attention of the GPC secretariat that the SLA for the extended hours DES which has been sent to practices for signature includes a clause indicating that, in respect of appointments being offered by health care professionals other than GPs, **“a GP should however be onsite throughout the extended hours period.”**

The Chair of the Contracts and Regulation subcommittee and the Executive Lead on C&R have both confirmed that while it might be the case that the GP will be onsite during the extended hours period, there is no such requirement in the DES Directions.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/417192/pms-des-directions-2015.pdf

They advise the following.

It is therefore up to practices to determine whether or not there is a clinical requirement for a GP to be present, depending on the services being offered and the skills, experience and qualifications of the health care professionals providing them. However, practices should bear in mind that they may subsequently be called upon to justify such a decision.

There is a legal obligation on your CCG, on behalf of NHS England, to give your practice the opportunity to provide the DES, with specifications as determined by the Directions laid before parliament, so the DES SLA must not place any obligations on practices over and above the DES Directions. Practices may therefore wish to delete this clause from their SLA before they sign it.

Greg Lewis

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