HEALTHCHECKS FOR PEOPLE AGED 75+
Chairman of the Board

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 To clarify the position on health checks for people aged 75+ following a question from the Board at the June 2014 Board meeting.

2 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

2.1 There is no national rolling program of health checks for people aged 75+, although patients over 75 are entitled to health checks if they request one.

2.2. From April 2014 GP practices will need to ensure that each 75+ patient on their practice list is assigned a named, accountable GP who will be responsible for their health needs. This forms part of the contract changes for 2014-2015 that were agreed between the BMA's General Practitioners Committee and NHS Employers. The requirement will be added to the regulations for GMS and PMS practices and is in line with arrangements already in place in many practices to offer newly registered patients a choice of their preferred named healthcare professional.

2.3 The named GP will have overall responsibility for the care and support that surgery provides to the patient. The named GP will also work with other relevant health and care professionals, who are involved in the patient’s care, to ensure that the care package meets patient’s individual needs and will:

- Take lead responsibility for ensuring that all appropriate services required under the contract with the practice are delivered to the patient
- Where required, based on the professional judgement of the named GP, work with relevant associated health and social care professionals to deliver a multidisciplinary care package that meets the needs of the patient
- Ensure that the physical and psychological needs of the patient are recognised and responded to by the relevant clinicians in the practice
- Ensure that the patient has access to a health check if requested, which is already a requirement of the GP contract regulations.

2.4 Patients should have been notified of their named GP by the end of June 2014. Where this has not been the case, patients can contact their surgery in order to get more information regarding this new service specification.

2.5 Any issues, concerns or complaints relating to the local application of these regulations should be directed first to the GP practice where the person aged 75+ is registered. Patient experiences may also be shared with Healthwatch Bracknell Forest to establish the overall geographic application for the purposes of continuous improvement in services.
3 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 There is no associated impact assessment for this legislation. The regulations regarding health checks for people aged 75 and over are set out in Part 2, section 5 of statutory instrument 2014:465 “The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements) Amendment Regulations 2014”.

3.2 According to the Census mid-2013 population estimate for Bracknell Forest extracted 26/06/2014, the population aged 75+ potentially impacted by these regulations is approximately 7,018 (or 7.9% of adult 18+ population).

Background Papers
http://www.nhsemployers.org/GMS2014-15

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