30 April 2018

Dear Colleague

General Medical Services Statement of Financial Entitlements for 2017/18

Summary

1. This circular provides a link to the 2018/19 Statement of Financial Entitlements (SFE) for GMS Contractors and replaces PCA(M)(2017)01.

2. The SFE has been agreed with the Scottish General Practitioners’ Committee of the BMA. It includes the additional £23 million to improve services for patients where workload is highest whilst guaranteeing all practice incomes. Scottish Government and the BMA will agree a further uplift to the GMS envelope when the Doctors and Dentists Review Body’s recommendations for 2018/19 are known. This will also reflect the increase in Scotland’s population registered with practices.

3. The key changes to this year’s SFE are the introduction of the new Scottish Workload Formula, revision of the rates of adjustments for opting out of Additional Services following the removal of Out-of-Hours and Minor Surgery and the increase in the formula allocated Global Sum, and the process for establishing Income and Expenses Guarantees.

4. Practices which did not opt out of Out-of-Hours before 1st April 2018 will continue to be paid at comparable rates as outlined in the recent joint communication from Scottish Government and BMA. This will no longer be covered by the SFE.

5. The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Scotland) Regulations 2018 regulates GP Clusters and the Quality section of the SFE has been amended accordingly.
6. The chapter on Golden Hellos has been revised to extend the entitlement to all 160 remote and rural practices. While the SFE only applies to practices with GMS contracts, Health Boards should make Golden Hellos available on similar terms to those practices on the list which are on 2C contracts or have 17C agreements. Scottish Government has provided a list of these practices as well as the scale of and eligibility for Golden Hellos for practices in areas of deprivation.

7. The various vaccination programmes outlined in the SFE, whether as Additional or Enhanced Services, will continue until the Vaccination Transformation Programme is complete.

Action

8. NHS Boards are requested to bring this circular to the attention of all GP contractors.

Yours sincerely

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