

Patient Group Meeting 15/2/12

Peer Groups

The 36 practices in Harrow have formed 6 Peer groups by clustering local practices. The purpose of the Peer Group is to provide a supportive, sharing and learning environment between local practices. Each practice remains independent and autonomous. The Peer Group meets regularly once a month since September 2011 with input from the PCT and new Clinical Commissioning Group.

Improving Quality and Productivity in the NHS (QIPP)

These are new targets set by the Department of Health to secure more effective use of NHS resources. The particular targets are:

1. Emergency Admissions
2. First Outpatient referrals
3. Prescribing drugs

Each peer group analyse this data in these above areas on a monthly basis at a practice based level and peer group level. Activity levels are monitored and data captured and then discussed and learning outcomes produced. The aim is to provide “better quality care for better value” with efficiency savings.

Commissioning Group in Harrow

All 36 practices in Harrow are part of the Harrow Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) which has elected 7 local GPs making up the Clinical Commissioning Board (CCB) since April 2011. This is a transition process leading up to April 2013 when the PCT will no longer exist. Roughly speaking each borough across London has its own CCG with collaboration between neighbouring CCG to share certain executive support structures. This is under the umbrella of NHS Commissioning coming from the Health and Social Care Bill and the emerging National Commissioning Board.

This process also involves the holding of the budget. Currently the PCT holds the formal indicative budget and the performance of the budget is reported to the CCB and GPs. In due course the delegated budget will be handed over to the CCB who will become the formal budget holder.

There is also a Health & Wellbeing Board being developed between the Harrow Council and the CCB. This new board will provide communication between the CCG and local authorities and scrutinise the commissioning process.