

PCDS

Primary Care Diabetes Society

The latest news and views from the Primary Care Diabetes Society

The PCDS and primary care research



Martin Hadley-Brown

I am pleased to say that an enthusiastic and productive Primary Care Diabetes Society (PCDS) committee meeting was held in Birmingham

in May. Much time was spent finalising arrangements for our 2nd National Conference (pages 70–72), to which you are warmly invited.

The society is increasingly being invited to comment on or contribute to matters of importance to our specialty, such as practice-based commissioning guidance and GP with a Special Interest (GPwSI) accreditation. On this note, we strongly urge any GPwSIs in diabetes who have not yet joined the PCDS to do so.

Our GPwSI members already have a successful web forum (see below),

The GPwSI chat room

For information on and an application form for the internet chat room for GPwSIs in diabetes, please email psi@bradford.nhs.uk.

and we are looking at the practicalities of developing such a venture for the whole membership so that all of you are better able to contribute to society opinions and activities.

'We strongly urge any GPwSIs in diabetes who have not yet joined the PCDS to do so.'

A recurring theme of discussion at both our meetings this year, and at the recent *Diabetes UK Annual Professional Conference*, has been the difficulty of finding support for high-quality research into aspects of diabetes management in primary care. There is undoubtedly a more deeply established tradition of research within hospitals than in our communities. There are some highly skilled and successful primary care researchers, but there is generally less support for them and communication between them. Indeed, the clinical intensity at which most of us in primary care work can leave research as an unachieved aspiration.

However, the PCDS may be in a useful position to bring together

researchers in our field and raise their profile. As a modest start, we include a short questionnaire in this newsletter which we would like you to complete, even if you are not currently involved in research. We will report back in the next issue.

*Martin Hadley-Brown
Chairman, PCDS, and GP,
Thetford, Norfolk*

What the PCDS has done so far

- Co-ordination of a definitive set of guidelines for practice-based commissioning, working with the Department of Health and other interested parties.
- Liaison with other clinical and political groups in order to represent the needs of primary care professionals in all developments relating to the future of diabetes care.
- Launch of the PCDS National Conference. Attended by 400 delegates in 2005, it is hoped that this year's mix of lectures and masterclasses will attract even greater numbers.
- Production of an ongoing newsletter, enhancing communication between the Society and its members.
- Creation of a Society website to enable people to sign up for membership and to act as a communication tool for primary healthcare providers.
- Establishment of a Society subsection for GPs with a Special Interest in diabetes.

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Call for poster abstracts for the 2nd National Conference of the PCDS

Entries should be submitted by 18 August 2006

Entry requirements

- All entries should be submitted electronically by 18 August 2006.
- The abstract should be a maximum of 250 words.
- Please include your full name, job title, postal address, daytime telephone and fax number, and email address, as well as the title of your abstract.
- Your abstract should contain the following headings:
 - 'Background'
 - 'Aims'
 - 'Method'
 - 'Results'
 - 'Conclusion'

Following on from the success of last year's *Inaugural National Conference of the Primary Care Diabetes Society* (PCDS), the Society is pleased to announce this year a poster exhibition at the event, which will allow individuals to share information and to network. The posters will acknowledge ideas and innovations within primary care diabetes. For full details of the conference, see pages 70–72.

Entrants need to submit a 250-word abstract that could reflect a project, an audit or a change in work practices. The work could be a simple local success story or a larger, national project.

Email entries to Suzanne Sinclair:
suzanne@sbcommunicationsgroup.com

An award to recognise the importance of the primary care provider in diabetes will be announced at the conference.

Your abstract will be anonymously reviewed and you will receive confirmation of acceptance/non-acceptance by 8 September 2006.

The poster exhibition is supported by an unrestricted educational grant from:



Dip into Diabetes Annual Update

A local event for GPs and other healthcare professionals working in diabetes

Thursday 28 September 2006
09:30–16:00
City Church Cambridge,
Cheddars Lane, Cambridge

There will be speakers and workshops. Topics include latest diabetes advances, renal disease, obesity and insulins. There is a cost of £30 that is returnable if you attend. If you are interested, please contact:

sue.holmes@nhs.net

jackie.reynolds@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Research questionnaire

Please fax completed questionnaires (and extra sheets, if needed) to 020 7627 1570 or email responses to any or all of the questions to joe@sbcommunicationsgroup.com

1 What questions relating to diabetes and its management do you think should be addressed by research in primary care?

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2 What obstacles do you believe stand in the way of more successful primary care research? Do you have any suggestions for overcoming such obstacles?

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3 How do you think the PCDS could best encourage diabetes research in primary care?

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Tick the applicable box or boxes and fill in your details below if you:

- have training, experience or skills in research that you are willing to share with others
 are interested in participating in diabetes research

Name Job title

Email address