

TUESDAY 25 MAY 2010

Welcome to the FOM Newsletter.

In this issue...

New Occupational Health Support for Primary Care Practice

Healthy Working UK

Healthy Working UK: <http://www.healthyworkinguk.co.uk> has been launched. This is a new website for GPs and other primary healthcare professionals, giving them easy and timely access to information, training and decision aids, to support the management of health and work in their practice. The site has been developed by the Royal College of General Practitioners, the Faculty of Occupational Medicine and the Society of Occupational Medicine, working in collaboration.

This is a UK-wide site, which also provides country-specific areas. It is based on the Healthy Working Lives pilot developed by Cardiff University and the Welsh Assembly Government, and has been funded by DWP.

Health e-Working

Health e-Working was also launched last week: <http://www.e-lfh.org.uk/projects/healtheworking/index.html>. This e-learning resource for primary care professionals is based on educational modules developed originally by the Faculty. The modules have been translated into an e-learning format, under the aegis of the Department of Health's e-Learning for Healthcare programme and with support from the Society of Occupational Medicine and the Royal College of General Practitioners.

New Board Members

We are pleased to announce, on behalf of the Faculty Board, that Professor Raymond Agius has been elected to one of this year's vacancies for universally elected members of the Board. Dr Julia Smedley was re-elected for a second term to fill the other vacancy. Dr Mike Tidley was nominated unopposed as the representative of Wales on the Board. All appointments will commence at the Annual General Meeting on 27 May 2010 for a period of 3 years.

Trustee email contact

A new facility has been established for members to enable them to communicate directly with all Faculty Board members (the Trustees). This is available through the members' area on the website at: <http://www.facocmed.ac.uk/login.jsp?rtn=/members/index.jsp>

CPD/AUDIT

The audit of 2008 CPD returns is now complete. The outcome is as follows:

- 100 people were invited to participate in the audit. 98 submitted evidence for audit, 2 being deferred for health reasons.
- 85 of the 98 audited were in excess of the notional 50 hours per year.
- The main area of deficiency was in recording internal activities and supplying documentary evidence to support this.

Thank you to all members who took part in the audit.

Please note that letters for the 2009 audit will be sent to invited members in August.

NOTE TO TRAINEES:

Currently, SpRs/StRs do not need to participate in the CPD scheme as it is covered within the RITA/ARCP process carried out by the Deaneries. However, with the imminence of Revalidation, the Faculty is looking to introduce an online CPD system which will also be available to all subscription paying trainees. Trainees will not be subject to the audit procedures.

Consultation on guidelines on group A streptococcal infection – members views sought

Guidelines for the investigation, control and prevention of spread of group A streptococcal (GAS) infection in acute healthcare settings in the United Kingdom have been published for consultation by HPA. They are available at:

<http://www.hpa.org.uk/ConsultationsAndFeedback/OpenConsultations>.

Dr Liz Murphy is representing the Faculty on this working group and would be interested to receive comments on the guidelines from Faculty members. Please send any comments to: elizabeth.murphy2@nhs.net by Wednesday 30 June 2010.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicky Coates". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicky Coates
Chief Executive