



THE LONDON CONSULTANTS' ASSOCIATION

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Dear Colleagues,

I am sending you this newsletter following the recent AGM of the LCA and to bring you up to date with some general news.

At the AGM Professor Nadey Hakim was elected onto the Board of the LCA and two Directors who had served for several years have stood down, and our thanks go to Dr Diana Holdright and to Mr David Badenoch.

In terms of the last year, I should tell you that we are actively involved in supporting FIPO at various levels, including working with a small group on both the Fee and Quality Remedies as mandated by the CMA. PHIN is finding difficulty in obtaining accurate and reliable data from the hospitals, and from the profession we are looking at this from a quality perspective for statistical reliability. The Fee Remedy is progressing and specific CMA approved letters are being developed. The first of these over the initial consultation has been approved and the second letter regarding follow up treatments is now under consideration by the legal counsel of the five main hospital groups with our professional input.

There are of course many changes in the private healthcare market at the moment and also the way in which doctors are perceived. Some of this was explored at the recent LCA dinner, which was addressed by the Chair of the GMC, Professor Terence Stephenson. The GMC is inundated with an increasing number of complaints against consultants, most of which are spurious; indeed it presently receives 9,000 annually.

Future LCA Events

We are pleased to announce that there are two confirmed speakers for the Spring and Summer Athenaeum dinners. The Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, Secretary of State for Health will be speaking on the 25th April with Mr Henry Marsh, the well-known neurosurgeon and author in attendance on 10th July. We will be sending out invitation letters to members in due course.

In addition and in line with our concerns over these various issues of data publication and negligence claims against consultants, we have arranged an evening meeting on the 28th February 2018 at the King's Fund; which will be entitled "Clinical Outcomes and Negligence Pitfalls and Possibilities?" The programme for this is attached and we hope that you will attend this meeting.

Future LCA Developments



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We will be providing Medico-Legal training for consultants who engage in negligence work before the summer recess. This follows very popular and well-attended meetings that we have held on an annual basis.

In summary, I would like to assure you that we are an active focus for consultant activity and would like you to help by encouraging your colleagues, particularly those recently appointed to consultant to join the LCA.