

## KENT & MEDWAY LOCAL OPTICAL COMMITTEE: 11<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017

### MAIN POINTS OF DISCUSSION

#### Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)

North Kent: It was reported that PEKM is currently in talks with The Practice Group (TPG) with regards to rolling out MECS 2 and a Stable Glaucoma Monitoring service. It was confirmed that MECS 2 is not another level of the WOPEC MECS accreditation, rather an enhanced MECS service being introduced by TPG (rather like West Kent's COT service but without the prescribing element). It was reported that practices have been experiencing problems with referrals sent via TPG and the Administrative Secretary agreed to raise this at a scheduled meeting with TPG later in the week and to ask for confirmation as to timescales so practices can advise their patients accordingly.

East Kent: The Administrative Secretary then reported on a meeting he had attended with representatives from all four East Kent CCGs and their Finance Department. The CCGs are very keen to introduce MECS with triage, and to introduce it as a two year pilot commissioned via PEKM Ltd. It was confirmed that the triage would be run by PEKM Ltd with triagers doing a week at a time. A discussion followed on whether there are enough MECS accredited Optometrists in East Kent and it was agreed that a survey would be sent out.

It was then reported that, hopefully, the OpenEyes system, which is presently being used in East Kent for post-op cataract patients, will be in use for all eye referrals by the autumn. It was observed that feedback from optometrists had been positive although some of the forms are over-complicated.

West Kent: Nothing to report.

#### Primary Eyecare (Kent & Medway) Ltd

The Administrative Secretary reported that activity for the East Kent Repeat IOP service was still slowly increasing. It was observed that good activity in existing services was crucial when trying to negotiate for new ones.

The Administrative Secretary reported that the PEKM Ltd accounts 2016/2017 were being finalised and that the company presently had a small surplus of funds. He confirmed that there should be funds available to commence MECS practice visits.

#### Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next Kent & Medway LOC meetings will be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November at the Tudor Park Marriott Hotel.

All optical professionals are welcome to attend the Kent & Medway LOC meetings provided that they practice in one of the areas covered by the LOC.