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NE / gs

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Dear Colleague

RE: Anticoagulation clinics

At the contract review meeting last week there was a query raised about the adequacy of information provided to GPs for patients attending hospital based anticoagulation therapy clinics (INR and drug dosage levels). I have spoken to Dr Gaminara and there are various options available.

In the past, because there are approximately 50,000 attendances each year, it was not felt to be desirable to send out individual patient data after each appointment. Instead, the trust sent a monthly summary of patients, with the relevant results and dosage, to each practice. This was curtailed some years ago as many practices did not want so much data. Currently, we send monthly summaries to the small number of practices still requiring them. It would be possible either to increase this again for all practices, to increase the frequency of reporting to e.g. weekly, or to report for every patient attendance.

We are in the process of upgrading the system software used to manage the service, and the new version includes an option that allows GP practices direct access to the database for their patients, either on a read-only or on an interactive basis. We are hoping to pilot this with a local practice shortly, aiming to have real time data available to practices.

It would be helpful to have views from PBC groups as to the level and timing of information that is considered appropriate.

Do please let me know if you have any queries or wish to discuss.

Yours sincerely

Nick Evans.

**Nick Evans
Director for Partnerships**

c.c Beverley Flowers – Director of Commissioning – E&N Herts
Liz Gaminara – Consultant Haematologist, WHHT
Clare Jones – Acute Commissioning Manager, PCT
Andrew Moore – Head of Business Support, WHHT
Katrina Power – PBC Manager