

12th October 2009

Dear Colleagues,

Major changes are afoot – at the DOH and at ASPC too! I am sure you are well aware of the new stringent documentation needed to prove continuing medical/surgical education for those currently providing healthcare services in the NHS. There are oncoming proposals for certification of training needed for appropriate accreditation –as a primary care provider for such services. To top it all, recent ‘murmurings’ from DH have indicated a £20 billion ‘efficiency’ saving is required within the next few years to ensure current level of service delivery. I am sure all this will have impact on surgical services in primary care –but this impact could be seen as favourable – as the service is highly cost effective and value for money (for the tax payer)!

ASPC will liaise and work with relevant professional bodies to promote quality and safe surgical services with primary care. It will mean ensuring ‘Care Closer to Home’ for the recipients, training and accreditation for providers and appropriate management information for PCTs and commissioners.

This ongoing ‘work’ will be helped with the recent incorporation of BANSV (British Association of Non Scalpel Vasectomists) into ASPC. The incorporation has led to a larger organisation – and this in turn means – a greater voice, in all that happens in the delivery of surgical services within primary care.

ASPC is a stakeholder in NICE dermatology and now has a representative on its panel too. ASPC has recently conducted an audit of surgical work delivered in primary care in England and the results of the same will be published on this website –in the near future.

Dr Botting, Dr Spooner and Dr Feltbower have been invited to be officers of the ASPC Council and I welcome them.

I am off to Ghana with International Hernia Organisation (Charity) in two weeks time and will update you all – on return.



Raj Dhumale
President
ASPC