

DEEP END SUMMARY 24

What are the CPD needs of GPs working in Deep End practices?

Eleven general practitioners met in a round table meeting on 14 March 2014 to discuss the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) needs of GPs working in very deprived areas. The participants considered these questions: How could GPs working in deprived settings better serve their population? What learning needs do they have to meet to achieve this? What is the gap between current practice and better practice that education could address?

Following a discussion of the issues Deep End GPs encounter in their daily work, eleven learning needs were identified as being of high importance to Deep End GPs:

1. Engaging with patients (autonomy/health literacy/screening)
2. Promoting GP tenacity/realistic optimism
3. Drugs and alcohol
4. Safeguarding children
5. Asylum seekers/migrant health
6. Multimorbidity
7. Poverty
8. Vulnerable adults
9. Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM) and unhealthy populations
10. Previous sexual abuse
11. Homelessness

The topics that the group wished to take forward were prioritised by focusing on identified learning resource gaps:

1. How to address low patient engagement in health care and increase health literacy.
2. How to promote and maintain therapeutic optimism when working in areas of high deprivation.
3. How to use EBM effectively when working with patients with high levels of multi-morbidity and social complexity.
4. How to meet the health needs of migrants including people seeking asylum and refugees.

The first three are being taken forward as PBSGL modules.

This report will be of use to those who are interested and involved in supporting primary care learning in the UK especially those working in deprived communities.

“General Practitioners at the Deep End” work in 100 general practices, serving the most socio-economically deprived populations in Scotland. The activities of the group are supported by the Scottish Government Health Department, the Royal College of General Practitioners, and General Practice and Primary Care at the University of Glasgow.

Deep End contacts

John Budd *Lothian Deprivation Interest Group* John.Budd@lothian.scot.nhs.uk

Karen MacRae *RCGP Scotland* Karen.Macrae@rcgp.org.uk

Petra Sambale *Keppoch Medical Practice, Glasgow* psambale@googlemail.com

Graham Watt *University of Glasgow* graham.watt@glasgow.ac.uk

Andrea Williamson *Homeless Health Services, Glasgow* andrea.williamson@glasgow.ac.uk

Full report available at <http://www.gla.ac.uk/deepend>

