

Press release: On Call Protection

The Guild has had several queries about on call protection recently. Some are simply seeking clarification of the current protection arrangements whilst others relate to management wanting to change the way on call is delivered. Regarding protection, Dave Thornton, Chair of Terms and Conditions for the Guild, said "this is quite clear. Pharmacist EDC payment is protected until March 31st 2010." Regarding changing on call arrangements, he added "I would resist any move by management to change on call systems at the moment. If changes are made it is important to ensure that the protected remuneration is part of the new agreement. There is a danger that management will try and impose agenda for change on call payments in a bid to reduce costs. This must be guarded against if our members are to avoid a potential cut in pay."

The Guild have been involved with the Unite on call working group that feeds directly into the Staff Council on call sub-group. It is this group that are working on the new terms and conditions for on call provided by all staff covered by agenda for change.

Notes for Editors

The Guild of Healthcare Pharmacists represents UK wide around 4,000 pharmacists including the majority of hospital pharmacists, pharmacists employed by Primary Care Trusts and pharmacists employed by other public bodies such as the Healthcare Commission, and is part of the health sector of the union Unite-Amicus section.

For further information, contact Dave Thornton, Chair of Terms and Conditions GHP