

such as medical gynaecology, diagnostics, STI screening, sexual dysfunction and abortion. The key challenge now for SRH services is to negotiate collaborative working relationships with current providers, and this may involve changing the attitudes of some key players in order to provide truly integrative care pathways that benefit users.

Here is my advice: do it now or do it soon, before private competitors take over your market!

Statements on funding and competing interests

Funding. None identified.

Competing interests. The author is a GP member of North Islington local commissioning group of Islington Primary Care Trust.

References

- 1 Department of Health. *The New NHS: Modern. Dependable.* London, UK: HMSO, 1997.
- 2 Department of Health. *The NHS Plan. A Plan for Investment, a Plan for Reform.* London, UK: Department of Health, 2000.
- 3 Department of Health. *Practice Based Commissioning: Engaging Practices in Commissioning.* London, UK: Department of Health, October 2004. [http://www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/09/03/59/](http://www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/09/03/59/04090359.pdf)

04090359.pdf [Accessed 28 September 2005].

- 4 Department of Health. *Practice Based Commissioning: Promoting Clinical Engagement.* London, UK: Department of Health, December 2004. <http://www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/09/85/65/04098565.pdf> [Accessed 28 September 2005].
- 5 Lewis R. *Practice-led Commissioning: Harnessing the Power of the Primary Care Frontline.* London, UK: King's Fund, 2004. <http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/resources/publications/practicedled.html> [Accessed 28 September 2005].
- 6 Department of Health. *Making Practice Based Commissioning a Reality: Technical Guidance.* London, UK: Department of Health, February 2005. <http://www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/10/50/33/04105033.pdf> [Accessed 28 September 2005].
- 7 Londonwide Local Medical Council. *Practice Based Commissioning: Londonwide LMCs Guidance.* London, UK: March 2005. <http://www.lmc.org.uk/guidance/lmcpbcguidance010305.doc> [Accessed 28 September 2005].
- 8 General Practitioners Committee. *Practice Based Commissioning: GPC Guidance for GPs and LMCs.* March 2005. <http://www.lmc.org.uk/guidance/gpcpbcguidance.doc> [Accessed 28 September 2005].
- 9 Primary Care Contracting. *Practice Based Commissioning: A Preliminary Toolkit for PCTs.* April 2005. <http://www.lmc.org.uk/guidance/PBCtoolkit090505.doc> [Accessed 28 September 2005].

MEMBERSHIP OF THE FACULTY OF FAMILY PLANNING AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE

CHANGES TO THE MEMBERSHIP EXAMINATION (MFFP)

- From January 2006: Changes to MFFP Part 2 Dissertation and Case Reports.
- From January 2006: New entry requirement for the MFFP Part 2 Examination (CRQ, MEQ, OSCE).
- From October 2006: MFFP Part 1 Examination replaces MFFP Part 1A and 1B examinations.

The new Membership Examination (MFFP) will consist of:

■ Part 1 Multiple Choice Question paper (MCQ)

This 1½-hour paper consists of 50 clinical science and applied science questions. There are no exemptions from this examination. The examination will be held in London on **Friday 20 October 2006** (applications must be received by **1 July 2006**).

■ Part 2 Examination (Dissertation or Case Reports)

Submission of one Dissertation (10,000 words) or two Case Reports (3000 words each).

Faculty approval of the Dissertation or Case Reports titles **must be obtained before** the candidate starts work on the Dissertation or Case Reports.

The completed Dissertation or Case Reports, or Exemption Request Form and thesis, **must be received by 1 September prior to registering for the MFFP Part 2** where a candidate intends to apply to enter the June 2007 MFFP Part 2 Examination.

■ Part 2 Examination (CRQ, MEQ, OSCE)

This all day examination consists of:

Critical Reading Question examination paper (CRQ)

Modified Essay Question examination paper (MEQ)

Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)

A submitted Dissertation or Case Reports must have achieved a Pass at the time of application to enter the MFFP Part 2 Examination. Applications to enter the MFFP Part 2 held in June 2007 must be received by **Wednesday 3 January 2007**.

The qualification is subject to re-certification every 5 years.

For the revised MFFP Examination Regulations (November 2005), information and application forms please visit the Faculty of Family Planning website: www.ffprhc.org.uk (see **Training & Exams** and **MFFP Member**). Also available on request from: Mrs Denise Pickford, Examinations, Faculty of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, 27 Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RG, UK. Tel: +44 (0) 20 7724 5629. Fax: +44 (0) 20 7723 5333. E-mail: denise@ffprhc.org.uk