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Target Audience:
All HSE Visiting Staff

ARRANGEMENTS FOR LARGEST COMPANIES PROVIDING PRIVATE HEALTHCARE, AS MULTI SITE ORGANISATIONS (LEAD PI)

The purpose of this SIM is to describe the inspection arrangements for the largest companies providing healthcare, as multi site organisations (the Lead PI scheme)

INTRODUCTION

PRIVATE SECTOR HOSPITALS

1 The four largest companies in the UK providing healthcare in private hospitals are, in descending order - General Healthcare Group (BMI), Nuffield Hospitals, BUPA Hospitals and Catio Healthcare. Brief details of each of these companies can be found below.

COMPANY AND LEAD PI INFORMATION

General Healthcare Group (BMI)

2 The General Healthcare Group (BMI) runs 45 hospitals with 2,303 beds nationwide. This company has the UK's largest number of independent hospitals. The head office is in London and more details can be found on their websites: <http://www.bmihealthcare.co.uk/> & <http://www.generalhealthcare.co.uk>.

Lead PI

3 The PI of "FOD London Operations Services North (FMU 01)", (Rose Court, VPN 506 2285) is to be the Lead PI for BMI but this has not been formally set up yet.

Operational Input

4 Inspectors should liaise with the Lead PI before undertaking any inspection of a BMI premise and inform him of any ongoing investigations.

Nuffield Hospitals

5 Nuffield have 44 hospitals across the country and are the second largest company in terms of the number of hospitals that they run. As in previous years, central interventions have suggested that preventive inspections of Nuffield hospitals are not appropriate or justified and should not be undertaken. Reactive work meeting the criteria should, of course, continue but inspectors should liaise with the Lead PI on this and keep him informed of progress. Refer to their website for further company details:
<http://www.nuffieldhospitals.org.uk>

Lead PI

6 The lead PI for Nuffield hospitals is the PI for "Midlands operations Unit 2 - FMU 13" (VPN 510 6270) who is based in the Birmingham office.

Operational Input

7 No planned interventions should be undertaken and Inspectors should liaise with the Lead PI and inform him of any investigations.

BUPA Hospitals

8 BUPA (British United Provident Association) has 34 private hospitals across Great Britain. BUPA head office is in London. Details can be found on their website: www.bupa.co.uk.

Lead PI

9 The lead PI for BUPA hospitals is the PI for "FOD Wales and South West Operations - FMU 02 - Wales" (VPN 511 3042) who is based in the Cardiff office. He is Lead PI for BUPA hospitals only, there are separate arrangements for BUPA care homes (see below). BUPA hospitals and care homes are separate companies.

Operational Input

10 Discussions with senior management have indicated that violence and aggression in terms of assaults on staff members are not matters for concern at BUPA hospitals. It has been agreed that named hospitals will be inspected rather than a random selection. In the near future, the Lead PI will decide upon the sites to be inspected and will inform the relevant PIs direct. Inspectors should therefore not plan an inspection of any BUPA hospital premise unless contacted by him and should inform him of any ongoing investigations. The FOCUS Client used should be: "BUPA Hospitals Ltd.", Client No. 060196348.

CAPIO Healthcare

11 Capio Healthcare runs 22 hospitals nationwide and has the fourth largest number of private hospitals in the UK. The head office is in Bedford, details can be obtained from their website: <http://www.capio.co.uk/>. Discussions with the head office are ongoing. The company has been acquiring other hospitals. Inspectors are invited to inspect some Capio premises. Inspectors should feed back information about inspections to the Lead PI (see below) to try to build up a picture of Capio's health and safety management throughout the country. It should be noted that, as Capio provides care for mentally ill patients, violence and aggression is more of an issue in this company than is usually the case in private hospitals.

Lead PI

12 The PI for "FOD East and South East Operations A Group02" (Luton, VPN 508 4306) is to be the Lead PI for Capio Healthcare but this has not yet been formally set up.

Operational Input

13 Inspectors should liaise with the Lead PI before undertaking any inspection of a Capio Healthcare premise and inform her of any ongoing investigations. The FOCUS Client used should be: "Capio Healthcare UK Ltd.", Client No. 080316831.

PRIVATE SECTOR CARE HOMES

Introduction

14 The following details of companies with Lead PI arrangements in place or pending represent some of the largest companies operating care home facilities in the UK.

BUPA Care Homes

15 BUPA operate over 245 care homes in the UK and provide care services in the community. More details can be found on the website: <http://www.bupacarehomes.co.uk/index.asp>.

Lead PI

16 The PI for "FOD Yorkshire and North East Division Operations 2 Group 02" (Leeds, VPN 515 4224) is to be the Lead PI for BUPA Care homes but this has not been formally set up yet.

Operational Input

17 Inspectors should liaise with the Lead PI before undertaking any inspection of a BUPA care home premise and inform him of any ongoing investigations. There are a number of active FOCUS clients associated with BUPA care

homes, unless the correct client name is known, contact the Lead PI for guidance.

Highfield Group

18 The Highfield Group operate 173 care homes all over the UK. Company details can be found on the website:<http://www.highfield-care.com/>. Their head office is in Edinburgh.

Lead PI

19 Lead PI is to be the PI of "Services - Edinburgh" (Edinburgh, VPN 520 2045) but this has not been formally set up yet.

Operational Input

20 Inspectors should liaise with the PI before undertaking any inspection of a Highfield Group premise and inform him of any ongoing investigations. There are a number of active FOCUS clients associated with the Highfield Group, unless the correct client name is known, contact the Lead PI for guidance.

Westminster Healthcare

21 Westminster Healthcare operate 88 homes throughout England, Wales and Scotland. There are a number of homes offering specialist services, mental health services (3), neurological health services (4), specialist physical health services and intermediate care (4) and specialist physical health services (2). These specialist homes may have an unusual profile regarding health and safety risks, for example, the specialist mental health homes may have an increased risk of violence and aggression from clients. The head office is in Leatherhead, Surrey.

Lead PI

22 Lead PI is to be the PI of "FOD ESE Partnership Management Programme" (Ashford, VPN 532 3920) but this has not been formally set up yet.

Operational Input

23 Inspectors should liaise with the Lead PI before undertaking any inspection of a Westminster Healthcare premise and inform him of any ongoing investigations. There are a number of active FOCUS clients associated with Westminster Healthcare, unless the correct client name is known, contact the Lead PI for guidance.

Priory Healthcare Ltd

24 The company specialises in mental health problems, has 35 locations and has four main areas of operation, special education (special needs patients),

acute psychiatric hospitals, neuro-rehabilitation centres and secure and step down facilities (specialist secure, long term mental health facilities). The emphasis on mental health patients may suggest that violence and aggression may be a problem in some of their sites.

Lead PI

25 Lead PI is to be PI of "FOD ESE Partnership Management Programme" (Ashford, VPN 532 3920) but this has not been formally set up yet.

Operational Input

26 Inspectors should liaise with the Lead PI before undertaking any inspection of a Priory Healthcare premise and inform him of any ongoing investigations. The FOCUS Client used should be: "Priory Healthcare (UK) Ltd.", FOCUS Client No. 030345984.

FOCUS Recording

27 Please note that a single IRF1 form should be completed per hospital or care home inspection.

THE LEAD PI SYSTEM AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR MULTI-SITE ORGANISATIONS

28 Details of the role and structure of the lead PI system itself can be found in OC 18/3 and the protocol for multi-site organisations is described in OM 2002/102

29 Date first issued: April 2004

30 HSU contact Will Pascoe 508 4215