

Quality Improvement News

TRFT Library & Knowledge Service

[HOME](#) [ABOUT US](#) [OUR OTHER NEWSFEEDS](#) [PRINTABLE NEWS BULLETIN](#) [PRIVACY & COOKIES POLICY](#)



Category: 16 (02 January 2024)

[RCEM Updates Guidance to Address Emergency Department Crowding Crisis](#)

[JANUARY 23, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"RCEM UPDATES GUIDANCE TO ADDRESS EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT CROWDING CRISIS"](#)

RCEM – January 2024

The Royal College of Emergency Medicine (RCEM) has [updated its guidance for Emergency Department \(ED\) crowding](#) in response to the increasing threat to timely emergency care and the impact it is having on Emergency Medicine clinicians and their patients.

Initially issued in 2015, the 2024 update to the guidance supports further understanding of the causes and effects of crowding and provides more options for health systems.

Read the Guidance – [Management of Emergency Department Crowding](#)

[How to improve investigations of medical harm](#)

[JANUARY 19, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"HOW TO IMPROVE INVESTIGATIONS OF MEDICAL HARM"](#)

NIHR – 10th January 2024

Investigations into life-changing medical harm (including injury or death) aim to establish what happened, learn lessons, and bring justice to the people affected. Research found that those who have experienced harm want reviews to be transparent, trustworthy, and person-centred to meet their needs. People want to be meaningfully involved in the process and to be treated with respect and empathy.

Researchers from the University of Exeter analysed 41 studies exploring the views of people who had gone through an investigation of a life-changing event.

The findings could help the NHS conduct reviews that feel and look fair to people who have experienced medical harm. They could help people understand what to expect from a fair process.

Further information – [How to improve investigations of medical harm](#)

This is a summary of: Shaw L, and others. [Patient, carer and family experiences of seeking redress and reconciliation following a life-changing event: Systematic review of qualitative evidence](#). Health Expectations 2023; 26: 2127 – 2150.

[Positive Voices 2022: survey report](#)

[JANUARY 19, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"POSITIVE VOICES 2022: SURVEY REPORT"](#)

UK Health Security Agency

Positive Voices is a nationally representative survey of patients attending HIV specialist care in England, Wales and Scotland. The survey includes patient-reported data on: HIV knowledge, diagnoses and treatment; health conditions and medication; health care use and satisfaction with HIV specialist services and GP services; health-related quality of life and wellbeing; general health and health-related behaviours; stigma and discrimination; housing, employment and finances; met and unmet health and social care needs; and the impact of Covid-19.

Read the Report – [Positive Voices 2022: survey report](#)

[The provision of tongue tie services and feeding support – case studies](#)

[JANUARY 19, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"THE PROVISION OF TONGUE TIE SERVICES AND FEEDING SUPPORT – CASE STUDIES"](#)

Patient Perspective – 2023

The data collected from the national patient surveys can seem overwhelming, and even when the results are made clear, and trusts have an opportunity to identify strengths and areas for improvement, it can be hard to work out how to go about making changes in response to the feedback patients have given. Patient Perspective is an approved contractor for the National Patient Survey Programme and has been working with trusts for nearly 20 years. As part of our service, we have developed case studies of good practice. Case studies are based on the projects, initiatives and service improvements trusts have undertaken to bring about change.

The case studies aim to highlight and share examples of service improvements made due to several factors including poor scores, issues and themes highlighted by patients from the national surveys and often linked to feedback from patients from other methods of patient involvement.

Further information – [The provision of tongue tie services and feeding support](#)

[Speaking Up Support Scheme evaluation report 2023](#)

[JANUARY 18, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"SPEAKING UP SUPPORT SCHEME EVALUATION REPORT 2023"](#)

NHS England – 18th January 2024

This report is an independent evaluation of the 2022/23 Speaking Up Support Scheme. It considers how well the support scheme enables participants to move forward in their personal and professional lives. It also identifies learning outcomes to help improve the support scheme, as well as learning outcomes for NHS organisations to better support those speaking up.

[Speaking Up Support Scheme evaluation report 2023](#)

[Eye care support pathway insight report](#)

[JANUARY 15, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT" EYE CARE SUPPORT PATHWAY INSIGHT REPORT"](#)

RNIB – 2023

This report summarises findings from both RNIB research and external data sources. It provides a comprehensive representation of the ‘pain points’ people experience when trying to access services along the eye care journey.

Read the Report – [Eye care support pathway insight report](#)

[Our new assessment approach: update January 2024 – CQC](#)

[JANUARY 12, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"OUR NEW ASSESSMENT APPROACH: UPDATE JANUARY 2024 – CQC"](#)

CQC – 9th January 2024

We are continuing to roll out our [new framework to assess providers region by region](#).

See [Introducing our new approach](#) to keep up to date with our rollout plans.

Our early adopter providers told us that they felt there was good communication and a collaborative approach.

We are acting on the feedback from providers and will continue to do this throughout the rollout.

Further information – [Our new assessment approach: update January 2024](#)

[The impact of staff burnout and how to improve retention – RCEM report](#)

[JANUARY 12, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"THE IMPACT OF STAFF BURNOUT AND HOW TO IMPROVE RETENTION – RCEM REPORT"](#)

RCEM – 10th January 2024

In this report we will draw from up-to-date evidence and our previous acute insight series reports to examine the issue of burnout in the EC workforce and how addressing this core problem is key to maintaining both standards of practice and workforce retention. The capacity of our emergency healthcare workforce is currently compromised beyond what is safe. To deliver adequate care consistently, within the context of high demand, whilst beyond capacity and on an unrelenting basis, is simply unrealistic and can only result in poor outcomes for patients and staff alike. Action is needed to address these issues urgently.

Read the Report – [The impact of staff burnout and how to improve retention – RCEM report](#)

[WHO recommendations on the assessment of postpartum blood loss and use of a treatment bundle for postpartum haemorrhage](#)

[JANUARY 11, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"WHO RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ASSESSMENT OF POSTPARTUM BLOOD LOSS AND USE OF A TREATMENT BUNDLE FOR POSTPARTUM HAEMORRHAGE"](#)

WHO – December 2023

In 2023, the World Health Organization (WHO) convened a Guideline Development Group to update an existing recommendation on assessing postpartum haemorrhage (PPH) and consider using a care bundle to treat PPH. This decision was based on [new evidence](#) on the subject that had become available. This document issues an updated recommendation on the assessment of PPH and a new recommendation on the use of a treatment bundle for the management of PPH.

[WHO recommendations on the assessment of postpartum blood loss and use of a treatment bundle for postpartum haemorrhage](#)

[NHS Winter Watch 2023/2024](#)

[JANUARY 11, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"NHS WINTER WATCH 2023/2024"](#)

NHS Providers January 2024

As NHS England publish their weekly situation report data over winter we'll be capturing some of the key figures each week, alongside views from NHS trusts on how winter feels 'on the ground'.

Further information – [NHS Winter Watch](#)

[National Oesophago-Gastric Cancer Audit \(NOGCA\) report](#)

[JANUARY 11, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"NATIONAL OESOPHAGO-GASTRIC CANCER AUDIT \(NOGCA\) REPORT"](#)

11th January 2024 – HQIP

The National Cancer Audit Collaborating Centre (NATCAN) has published a State of the Nation report from the National Oesophago-Gastric Cancer Audit (NOGCA) on the care received by people with oesophago-gastric cancer in England and Wales from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2022.

OG cancer predominantly affects older people and occurs more frequently in men than in women, though there is variation by tumour type. Stomach cancer as a proportion of all OG cancers continues to decline, accounting for 25.1% of all cases diagnosed in 2021/22 compared to 33.8% in 2012/13. Over two-fifths of people in the audit were diagnosed with stage 4 (metastatic) disease, an increase from 37% in 2012/13.

This report also contains key findings in relation to:

Routes to diagnosis

Staging investigations

Treatment planning

Waiting times along the care pathway

Curative surgery

Non-curative treatment

Nutritional support

High-grade dysplasia.

Read the Report – [National Oesophago-Gastric Cancer Audit \(NOGCA\) report](#)

[National Prostate Cancer Audit \(NPCA\) report](#)

[JANUARY 11, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AUDIT \(NPCA\) REPORT"](#)

HQIP – 11th January 2024

The National Cancer Audit Collaborating Centre (NATCAN) has published a State of the Nation report from the National Prostate Cancer Audit (NPCA) on the care received by people with prostate cancer in England and Wales from 1 January 2019 to 31 January 2023. Key messages include:

The proportion of men diagnosed with high-risk/locally advanced prostate cancer undergoing radical prostate cancer treatment remained stable when comparing to 2019

The proportion of men diagnosed with low-risk localised prostate cancer undergoing radical prostate cancer treatment was 8% in England and 9% in Wales

There was an increase in men newly diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2022 in England, and in 2021 in Wales

There was an increase in men newly diagnosed with prostate cancer treated with either radical prostatectomy or radiotherapy in 2022 in England

The proportion of patients experiencing a genitourinary or gastrointestinal complication within two years of radical treatment remained stable in England and Wales, when comparing to 2015-2019

There were changes in some aspects of prostate cancer treatment, including an increased utilisation of ultra-hypofractionated radiotherapy and a shift in the systemic agents used.

Read the Report – [National Prostate Cancer Audit \(NPCA\) report](#)

[Pulmonary rehabilitation commissioning standards](#)

[JANUARY 9, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"PULMONARY REHABILITATION COMMISSIONING STANDARDS"](#)

NHS England – 9th January 2023

This publication sets out standards that good pulmonary rehabilitation services should aim for.

The standards are intended to help providers of pulmonary rehabilitation services identify areas of focus for their planning and delivery.

Commissioning teams can use the standards to understand the extent to which service providers are in a position to meet local needs through good quality, sustainable services.

[Pulmonary rehabilitation commissioning standards](#)

[Recruiting and promoting specialist grade doctors](#)

[JANUARY 9, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"RECRUITING AND PROMOTING SPECIALIST GRADE DOCTORS"](#)

NHS Employers – 2 January 2024

This case study describes how Shrewsbury and Telford NHS Trust, by recognising doctors who are showing excellence in specialty or locum consultant roles, increased the number of specialist grade doctors.

Case Study [Recruiting and promoting specialist grade doctors](#)

[Rest, rehydrate, refuel project](#)

[JANUARY 9, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"REST, REHYDRATE, REFUEL PROJECT"](#)

NHS Employers

Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust was keen to introduce the Royal College of Nursing's [Rest, rehydrate and refuel](#) initiative, and did so through a project led by one of the chief nurse clinical fellows. First, staff were surveyed to understand the current situation and any barriers they may face. This was followed by a trial on two pilot wards, before roll-out of a trust-wide campaign.

Read the case study – [Rest, rehydrate, refuel project](#)

[Health inequalities, lives cut short](#)

[JANUARY 9, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"HEALTH INEQUALITIES, LIVES CUT SHORT"](#)

Institute of Health Equity (IHE) – January 2024

This report confirms that a million people in 90% of areas in England lived shorter lives than they should between 2011 and the start of the pandemic. Using several published Office for National Statistics data sources, the IHE made these calculations from the number of excess deaths (the increase in the number of deaths beyond what would be expected) in the decade from 2011 in England.

Read the Report – [Health inequalities, lives cut short](#)

[Beyond the average: making fairer decisions for public health](#)

[JANUARY 5, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"BEYOND THE AVERAGE: MAKING FAIRER DECISIONS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH"](#)

University of York – 2023

Researchers have developed a series of 'smart decision tools' to help governments reduce social inequality in health and wellbeing. This report outlines the potential for the use of these tools across the NHS and other public services, helping to reduce health inequality by modifying decisions about screening and vaccination and investments in facilities as well as new medicines.

Read the Report – [Beyond the average: making fairer decisions for public health](#)

[Joint Position Statement between UK Clinical Pharmacy Association and the Royal College of Emergency Medicine regarding Pharmacists & Pharmacy Services in Emergency Departments](#)

[JANUARY 5, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"JOINT POSITION STATEMENT BETWEEN UK CLINICAL PHARMACY ASSOCIATION AND THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE REGARDING PHARMACISTS & PHARMACY SERVICES IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS"](#)

UK Clinical Pharmacy Association – Dec 2023

RCEM recommends use of dedicated Emergency Department (ED) pharmacists and pharmacy services to work as part of multidisciplinary team to help support safe and efficient delivery of care to patients in the ED as well as in Clinical Decision Units / Observation wards.

[Joint Position Statement between UK Clinical Pharmacy Association and the Royal College of Emergency Medicine regarding Pharmacists & Pharmacy Services in Emergency Departments](#)

[70 years of end of life care in the community](#)

[JANUARY 5, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"70 YEARS OF END OF LIFE CARE IN THE COMMUNITY"](#)

The Queen's Nursing Institute – 3rd Jan 2024

Survey findings reflect how palliative and end of life care has changed in the last 70 years. It notes that despite huge advances in medicine and delivery of care, services are still being hampered by many of same social and economic ills as in 1950s, and by a lack of resources.

[70 years of end of life care in the community](#)

[Exploring innovation in GP Practices](#)

[JANUARY 4, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"EXPLORING INNOVATION IN GP PRACTICES"](#)

BMA – 2023

What can we learn from innovations in general practice?

Despite current contractual, financial, and capacity constraints, GPs are innovating in different ways to deliver high-quality care and attract and retain staff.

In this collection of case-studies, we explore how eight GP providers around the country are implementing innovative models, from improving access to a wider range of services for patients to effective chronic disease management.

Read the Report – [BMA report on innovation in general practice.](#)

[NHS vaccination strategy](#)

[JANUARY 4, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"NHS VACCINATION STRATEGY"](#)

NHS England – 13th December 2023

The NHS vaccination strategy brings together all vaccination programmes, for the first time, to protect communities and save lives.

This strategy is for people and organisations involved in the commissioning, planning and delivery of NHS vaccination services in England. It will shape the future delivery of NHS vaccination and immunisation services.

[NHS vaccination strategy](#)

[Medication safety: Best practice for effective paediatric ward rounds – clinical practice guideline](#)

[JANUARY 4, 2024](#) ~ [LEAVE A COMMENT](#) ~ [EDIT"MEDICATION SAFETY: BEST PRACTICE FOR EFFECTIVE PAEDIATRIC WARD ROUNDS – CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE"](#)

RCPCH and the Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacy Group Joint Standing Committee on Medicines – Dec 2023

Published in December 2023, this clinical practice guideline developed by RCPCH and the Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacy Group Joint Standing Committee on Medicines (RCPCH-NPPG), covers the

inclusion of medication analysis in the paediatric ward round environment to improve medication safety.

[Medication safety clinical practice guideline \(PDF\)](#)

[The Sands Listening Project – learning from the experiences of Black and Asian bereaved parents](#)

[JANUARY 3, 2024 ~ LEAVE A COMMENT ~ EDIT"THE SANDS LISTENING PROJECT – LEARNING FROM THE EXPERIENCES OF BLACK AND ASIAN BEREAVED PARENTS"](#)

Sands December 2023

In [the report](#) you can find out more about pregnancy loss and baby deaths among Black and Asian babies in the UK, our findings, real-life experiences and case studies, plus what needs to change.

These findings have been shared alongside a [national enquiry](#) to provide powerful evidence for improvement.

Read the Report – [learning from the experiences of Black and Asian bereaved parents](#)

Further reading – [MBRRACE-UK: Mothers and Babies: Reducing Risk through Audits and Confidential Enquiries across the UK](#)