

TRFT Library & Knowledge Service

A library & knowledge service for NHS staff in Rotherham

The Rotherham 
NHS Foundation Trust



07/11/2014 Health News Weekly Digest

This bulletin is a digest of the Daily Health Bulletin produced by NHS Yorkshire and Humber Commissioning Support.

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Monday

Openness and honesty when things go wrong

The General Medical Council and the Nursing and Midwifery Council have launched a public consultation on draft joint guidance which is designed to support doctors, nurses and midwives in fulfilling their professional duty to be open and honest about mistakes. [Openness and honesty when things go wrong: the professional duty of candour](#) sets out proposals cover the need to learn from 'near misses' as well as when something goes wrong and a patient is harmed. There is also advice on apologising to patients and those close to them.

Centre for Health Economics research papers

The University of York Centre for Health Economics has published two new research papers:

- [Understanding the differences in in-hospital mortality between Scotland and England](#) investigates the differences in in-hospital mortality between Scotland and England and test whether these differences are robust to controlling for the case-mix of patients.
 - [The impact of hospital financing on the quality of inpatient care in England](#) assess the impact of the English version of prospective payment, termed Payment by Results (PbR), on hospital quality, as measured by in-hospital mortality and 28-day emergency readmission.
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Language checking for healthcare professionals from European countries

The Department of Health has started an [open consultation process](#) seeking views on changes to allow professional regulatory bodies to impose language controls on nursing, dental and pharmacy professionals. The four UK Health Departments (England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland) want to amend legislation to protect patients from risk associated with the poor English language skills of a minority of health care professionals. The law currently allows language checks on overseas non-European applicants and on doctors from the European economic area. The consultation period ends on the 15 December.

European Antibiotic Awareness Day resource materials

Public Health England has published [European Antibiotic Awareness Day resources toolkit for healthcare professionals in England](#). The pack contains highlights of the resources available to help support local initiatives and activities to raise public and professional awareness on antibiotic resistance. The resources include posters, leaflets, crosswords and quizzes. Some resources are provided in Word or PowerPoint and can be modified to include the users logo. The awareness day is held on 18 November 2014.

Social work with adults: progress report

The [Annual report by the Chief Social Worker for Adults: one year on](#) sets out progress in improving social work with adults. This report sets out progress made in improvements in the education, training and practice of social work with adults since 2013.

Regulation and inspection of hospice services

The CQC has set out how it will [regulate and inspect England's hospices and hospice services in people's homes](#) from January 2015. It has issued one handbook covering all the regulation for all hospice services and another that publishes the questions ('key lines of enquiry') that inspection teams will use to guide them on their visits, as well as descriptions of what care would look like for each of the ratings.

Cyberbullying factsheet

NHS Employers has published a factsheet [Cyberbullying: what it is and how to deal with it](#). This factsheet provides an introduction to what cyberbullying is and where to find out more about it.

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Tuesday

People in control of their own health and care

The Kings Fund has published [People in control of their own health and care: the state of involvement](#). This report focuses on the reasons as to why despite previous initiatives to give people more control over their health and care they have largely failed to work. It also considers how more progress could be made to advance the case for making person-centred care the core of health and care reform.

Additional link: [Kings Fund infographic](#)

Consultation on innovative radiotherapy treatments

NHS England has launched a consultation on [proposed changes to the way in which stereotactic radiosurgery and stereotactic radiotherapy services are commissioned](#). NHS England took on responsibility for commissioning these services in April 2013 and inherited a number of different commissioning arrangements. These meant that patients were experiencing variable access to services depending where they lived. The consultation sets out a number of options for change, each is focused on achieving the best possible choice and experience for patients. The consultation closes on 26 January 2015.

Blogging project to capture mental health issues

Public Health England has launched a blogging project designed to help people living with mental health difficulties to blog about their lives. People signing up to [A Day in the Life](#) will be invited to share their experiences of what makes their mental health better and what makes it worse by submitting a 700 word blog on set days as part of the year-long project. The project is designed to provide an insight into the lives of people living with a mental health difficulty to help inform the development of policies and projects which better meet their needs. The project is also designed to better educate and raise awareness among the wider public of the reality of mental health issues.

National child measurement programme

Public Health England has published [National child measurement programme: practice examples](#). The examples demonstrate how local authorities are meeting the National child measurement programme goals, and are aimed to help health public health professionals in find examples to apply to their local requirements.

Friends and Family questions for children

Picker Institute Europe, in collaboration with Barts Health NHS Trust, has [tested a range of child-friendly versions of the Friends and Family Test](#) question to determine the most suitable question format for children and young people. The Friend and Family Test (FFT) is already used nationally as a measure of adult acute care quality. As of 1st April 2015, it will be compulsory for all children and young people to be offered a suitable version of the FFT question

Patient Care ... Professional Development ... Commissioning ... Evidence-based Practice ... Revalidation ... Research ...

Clinical Pathways ... Knowledge Management ... Books ... Journals ... Critical Appraisal ... Bulletins ... Alerts ... DynaMed ... Map of Medicine ... Health Education Resources ... Athens ... Laptops ... Literature Searching ... MEDLINE ... Referencing ...

whether receiving care as an inpatient or an outpatient, in a day ward or accident and emergency department environment.

State of general practice

The Nuffield Trust has published two reports relating to general practice:

- [The state of general practice: the views of health and social care leaders](#) presents the results of a survey of 100 health and social care leaders which explores the perceptions of the main challenges facing general practice. One third of respondents considered that general practice in crisis and two thirds agreeing that it is in need of reform and two thirds agreeing that it is in crisis. Over half of leaders (57%) supported more funding for general practice and there was a parallel call for reform of the way primary care is organised, managed and delivered.
 - [Is general practice in crisis?](#) This policy briefing, published alongside the above survey, explores in more detail many of the issues and themes raised in the survey. It provides an evidence-based overview of the current state of general practice in England, and offers some potential solutions. It examines demand for GP services, the GP workforce, funding, and standards of access and patient care. It then presents four ideas to help solve the problems facing general practice and the wider NHS.
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Immunisation leaflets updated

Public Health England has updated two of its range of child immunisation leaflets to reflect revisions to the immunisation schedule from September 2014:

- [Immunisations between 12 and 13 months of age – within a month of the first birthday](#)
 - [Pre-school immunisations A guide to vaccinations at three years and four months of age](#)
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Care for children and adults

The Local Government Association has published a series of documents relating to the care of adults and children:

- [Must knows children: Making best use of scarce resources](#)
- [Must knows children: Youth services and youth offending teams](#)
- [Must knows children: Careers and raising the participation age \(RPA\)](#)
- [Must knows children: Special needs and disability](#)
- [Must knows children: Education](#)
- [Must knows adults: The Care Act 2014](#)
- [Must knows children: Early years](#)
- [Must knows children: Safeguarding children](#)
- [Must knows children: Early help, corporate parenting and adoption](#)

- [Must knows adults: Personalisation](#)
- [Must knows adults: Making it real](#)
- [Must knows adults: A place I call home: responding to Winterbourne View](#)

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Wednesday

Children's and adolescents' mental health and CAMHS report

The Health Committee has published its third report [Children's and adolescents' mental health and CAMHS](#). The report concludes that there are serious and deeply ingrained problems with the commissioning and provision of children's and adolescents' mental health services. These problems run through the whole system from prevention and early intervention through to inpatient services for the most vulnerable young people. The committee recommends the development, implementation and monitoring of national minimum service specifications, together with an audit of spending on CAMHS. It further recommends that the Department of Health/NHS England taskforce look to remove the perverse incentives that act as a barrier to Tier 3.5 service development and ensure investment in early intervention services. It also recommends a clear national policy directive for CAMHS, underpinned by adequate funding.

Additional link: [BBC News report](#)

Use of antivirals for the treatment and prophylaxis of flu

Public Health England has published updated guidance for healthcare professionals on the [use of antivirals for the treatment and prevention of flu](#), confirming the drugs can reduce the risk of death in patients hospitalised with the virus. The new guidance follows concern from reports earlier this year that suggested antivirals are not effective for influenza, causing confusion that could impact the prescribing of these important drugs when there is no evidence to support a change to their recommended use.

Patient online support and resources guide for GPs

NHS England has launched an interactive [Patient online support and resources guide](#) to help general practices deliver patient services online. Developed in partnership with the Royal College of General Practitioners, the guide provides practical tools on implementing a range of online services including booking appointments and ordering repeat prescriptions.

Infections among people who inject drugs in the UK

Public Health England has published its latest annual report on infections among people who inject drugs in the UK. [Shooting Up: infections among people who inject drugs in the UK updated November 2014](#) highlights that around half of the people living with hepatitis C infections don't know it. The report generally aims to help healthcare

professionals understand the scope of diseases affecting people who inject drugs. The report is also accompanied by other associated updated information including:

- Shooting Up: data tables accompanying report updated November 2014
- Shooting Up: Infographic
- Shooting Up: Slide set: updated 2014
- Shooting Up: Briefing for directors of public health, commissioners and service providers in England

Additional links: [PHE press release](#) [BBC News report](#)

Commissioning epilepsy services

Epilepsy in Action has published [Epilepsy in England: the local picture](#). This is a follow-up report to Epilepsy Action's 'A Critical Time for epilepsy in England' (2013) which showed a wide variations in healthcare service provision. This new report investigates what CCGs and health and wellbeing boards are now doing to address the healthcare needs of people with epilepsy in their area.

Polycystic Ovary Syndrome guideline update

The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists has published updated guidance [Polycystic Ovary Syndrome, Long-term Consequences \(Green-top Guideline No. 33\)](#). This guideline has been produced to provide evidence-based information to assist clinicians with a special interest and for updating the generalist who manages women with polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS), to allow them to advise women about the long-term health consequences of the syndrome. This guideline does not cover infertility associated with PCOS.

NHS England - Informed

NHS England's eleventh issue of its bulletin, [Informed](#), includes the following news items:

- GP services get £100 million boost
 - NHS England concludes review of children's heart surgery in Leeds
 - Feeling under the weather campaign launched
 - Children's Takeover Day 2014
 - NHS England announces Chief Dental Officer's retirement
 - Future of Health
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Statistics

- [Mental Capacity Act 2005, Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards \(England\)](#) Quarter 2 Return, 2014-15
- [NHS diagnostics waiting times and activities](#) - September 2014
- [Dementia assessment and referral](#) - August 2014

- [Escherichia coli \(E. coli\) bacteraemia: monthly data by attributed clinical commissioning group](#)

[Escherichia coli \(E. coli\) bacteraemia: monthly data by NHS acute trust](#)

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Thursday

Cutting waste in clinical care

The Academy of Medical Royal Colleges has published [Protecting resources, promoting value: a doctor's guide to cutting waste in clinical care](#). It provides evidence for the benefits that doctors can achieve by tackling waste in the clinical domain, leading to improved patient care, improved outcomes and a reduced use of resources.

Additional link: [BBC News report](#)

Doctors role in preventing the detention of children and young people

The BMA has published a report which highlights the crucial role that both health services and individual practitioners can play in fulfilling the state's fundamental responsibilities for the welfare of children and young people in contact with the criminal justice system, many of whom will have been let down at multiple levels prior to their detention. [Young lives behind bars: the health and human rights of children and young people detained in the criminal justice system](#) sets out how doctors can recognise risk factors for future offending and seize the opportunity to intervene. It makes 17 recommendations for doctors working in the community and in secure institutions and also provides advice for commissioners and policymakers.

Supporting the health needs of troubled families

The Department of Health together with Public Health England and the Department of Communities and Local Government have issued a series of [guidance documents](#) to help health teams to support the health needs of troubled families and work with local councils. The expanded troubled families programme will be working with families who have mental and physical health issues. Details of the documents are as follows:

- Troubled Families Leadership Statement 2014: This document outlines the Troubled Families Programme since its launch by the Prime Minister in 2011. It also contains case studies from across the country which highlight specific examples of good practice used to achieve successful outcomes.
- Troubled Families Programme Health Skills and Training: This document has been developed to help troubled families teams to find information and training they may benefit from when supporting families with their health needs.

- Interim Guidance for Troubled Families Programme Early Starter Areas: Sharing health information about patients and service users with troubled families: This document provides details how data on families can be shared safely between organisations.
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NICE Bites - Dyspepsia and gastro-oesophageal reflux disease

The November NICE Bites bulletin from the North West Medicines Information Service covers [Dyspepsia and gastro-oesophageal reflux disease](#) NICE CG184; 2014. This guideline covers the management of dyspepsia and GORD in adults (>18 years). It also covers endoscopic surveillance for adults with a diagnosis of Barrett's oesophagus, but does not include details on management of Barrett's oesophagus.

Evidence summary: new medicines - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

NICE has published a new medicines evidence summary [ESNM49 Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: umeclidinium/vilanterol combination inhaler \(Anoro Ellipta\)](#). 'Evidence summaries: new medicines' provide a summary of the published evidence for selected new medicines, or for existing medicines with new indications or formulations, that are considered to be of significance to the NHS. The strengths and weaknesses of the relevant evidence are critically reviewed within the summary, but the summaries are not formal NICE guidance.

Tackling domestic violence in universities and in the workplace

Public Health England is launching two [initiatives to help tackle domestic violence and sexual harassment in universities and the workplace](#). The bystander 'Intervention Initiative' is a programme to encourage all students to stand up against violence or sexual abuse in their community. The programme includes a free resource with an educational toolkit to be used by universities and colleges for the prevention of sexual coercion and domestic abuse in university settings. Public Health England is also launching a violence toolkit for businesses a step by step guide on how they can tackle domestic violence and raise awareness of an issue that impacts health, wellbeing, and absence and turn over in the workplace.

Antimicrobial prescribing

Public Health England has published [Antimicrobial prescribing: resources for professional development and practice](#). These resources can be used by pharmacists and healthcare professionals for continuing professional development, and as sources of information and reference material about antibiotic prescribing in both primary and secondary care.

Statistics

- [Ambulance quality indicators clinical outcomes](#): June 2014
- [Dental commissioning monitoring](#): quarter ending September 2014
- [NHS referral to treatment waiting times](#): September 2014
- [Ambulance quality indicators system indicators](#): September 2014
- [Annual Diagnostic Imaging Dataset](#), 2013/14

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Friday

Financial sustainability of NHS bodies

The National Audit Office has published its third report [The Financial sustainability of NHS bodies](#). It details the financial sustainability of NHS bodies and focuses on the NHS trusts and foundation trusts that provide community, mental health, acute and specialist health services. It also highlights the financial performance of NHS England and the clinical commissioning groups that purchase those services. The report notes that financial risk is increasing in NHS trusts and foundation trusts, and those in severe financial difficulty continue to rely on in-year cash support from the Department of Health.

Commissioning for value

A second series of [commissioning for value packs](#) for all 211 clinical commissioning groups has been published by NHS England and NHS Right Care. The pathways on a page packs are the latest in a series of commissioning for value support packs for CCGs. The first released in October 2013 contained information on a range of improvement opportunities to help each CCG identify where its local health economy could focus its efforts. This new pack provides in depth 'pathways on a page' for thirteen patient conditions, within those programmes that were most commonly identified as offering the greatest potential improvements in the first pack. To support the work of NHS Right Care towards Parity of Esteem, two mental health pathways for common mental health disorders and psychosis have also been included.

Additional link: [Public Health England Press release](#)

Stress in the workplace guidance

The NHS Staff Council's Health, Safety and Wellbeing Partnership Group has published [Guidance on the prevention and management of stress in the workplace](#). This guidance aims to help managers throughout the NHS reduce stress in the workplace and better support staff who experience it. The guide includes a checklist on how to implement an effective stress management policy.

Poverty and the cost of living

The Joseph Rowntree Organisation has published two new research documents on poverty issues:

- [Poverty and the cost of living](#): This research looks at how the relationship between poverty and the cost of living differs between population groups. It also identifies the policy decisions made by government or public bodies that have a direct influence on the cost of some essential items.
 - [Measuring poverty when inflation varies across households](#): This study analysed how price changes have affected low-income and high-income households since the early 2000s. It considered the extent to which official statistics might have understated or overstated changes in poverty and income inequality.
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Health and wellbeing boards and social media

The Local Government Association has published [Connecting health and wellbeing boards: a social media guide](#). This guide was undertaken in response to requests from people working with health and wellbeing boards where there was a real desire for social media to be used effectively to help the boards shape policy, explain decisions and deliver objectives.

Norovirus causing ward closures

Public Health England is advising people with symptoms of [norovirus](#) not to visit hospitals this winter and to telephone NHS 111 for advice. This warning comes after Public Health England released its latest data showing that there were eighteen outbreaks of norovirus in hospitals reported across England in October, seventeen of which led to ward closures. The latest Public Health England annual data which covers the period July 2013 to June 2014 show a total of 610 outbreaks reported in hospitals of which 571 led to ward closures.

NICE consultations

- [Dupuytren's contracture - collagenase clostridium histolyticum: appraisal consultation](#). Closing date for comment 28 November 2014
 - [Improving outcomes in breast cancer: surveillance review proposal](#). Closing date for comment 18 November 2014.
 - [Leukaemia \(chronic lymphocytic\) - ofatumumab \(previously untreated\): appraisal consultation](#). Closing date for comment 25 November 2014
 - [Drug allergy-diagnosis and management: topic engagement exercise](#). Closing date for comment 17 November 2014.
 - [The safe use and management of controlled drugs](#): scope consultation. Closing date for comment 1 December 2014
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Statistics

- [Cancelled operation, England](#): July to September 2014
- [VTE risk assessment data collection](#): August 2014
- [Hospital Activity Data](#): September 2014
- [Mental health community teams activity](#): July to September 2014

Bulletins

- [Bulletin for CCGs](#): Issue 71
- [NHS Workforce Bulletin](#): 3 November 2014
- [Independent provider bulletin](#) November 2014

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The evidence you need