



01/05/15 Health News Weekly Digest

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

Contents

[Monday](#)

[Thursday](#)

[Tuesday](#)

[Friday](#)

[Wednesday](#)

Monday

Cutting red tape

GPs want more [cuts in red tape](#) to create more time for patient care, according to [the National survey of GPs: The future of General Practice 2015](#) published by ICM on behalf of the BMA. More than half of GPs particularly those with unmanageable workloads want a reduction in the size of the QOF (quality and outcomes framework). GPs that have been qualified for more than 20 years are more likely to feel QOF should be cut than their trainee colleagues, and a higher proportion of rural than urban GPs wanted a reduction in indicators.

End of Life Care

NHS Improving Quality has published [End of Life Care in Advanced Kidney Disease: A Framework for Implementation](#). The Framework is about enabling people to achieve high quality end of life care, rather than 'telling them what to do'. To achieve this, it explores the 'kidney specific' issues of end of life care focusing on patients opting for conservative kidney management and those "deteriorating despite" dialysis. The overarching aim is to help people with advanced kidney disease make informed choices about their needs for supportive and end of life care.

Person centred care for children and young people with complex needs

National Voices and the Think Local Act Personal partnership (TLAP) has published [My life, my support, my choice](#) setting out how good, co-ordinated – or integrated – support looks to children and young people and providing a clear set of outcomes that commissioners and service providers should be working to.

Endorsed by the National Children's Health and Wellbeing Partnership, it supports the implementation of the policy initiatives and legislation that are currently shaping services for children and young people, including The Care Act 2014 and The Children and Families Act 2014.

The key themes in the report can be summarised as follows, in words written from the point of view of children, young people and the people who are important to them:

- "I am respected and listened to";
- "I have choice and control";
- "and at every stage I am supported to live a full independent life."

Bulletins

- [Remote health advice bulletin](#)
- [GP in hours bulletin](#)

[Back to top](#)

Tuesday

Evidence summary: new medicines – Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

NICE has published a new medicines evidence summary [Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: aclidinium/formoterol](#) (ESNM57). 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.

NICE costing statements: epilepsies and pneumonia

NICE has published two new costing statements. These are issued due to variation in current clinical practice across the country. NICE is encouraging organisations to evaluate their own practices against the recommendations in the guidance and assess costs and savings locally. The two statements cover:

- [The epilepsies: the diagnosis and management of the epilepsies in adults and children in primary and secondary care](#)
- [Pneumonia](#)

Healthcare data: errors, emergencies and inequality

The Health Foundation and Nuffield Trust have published [Errors, emergencies and inequality: key findings from our latest indicators](#). This report presents findings from the most recent healthcare data, including information on NHS complaints, medication errors, life expectancy, inequalities and emergency calls.

Statistics

- [NHS Workforce Statistics](#) - January 2015, Provisional statistics
- [NHS Staff Earnings Estimates to January 2015](#) - Provisional statistics
- [Childhood cancer survival in England](#), children diagnosed from 1990 to 2008 and followed up to 2013
- [Geographic Patterns of Cancer Survival in England, Adults](#) diagnosed 2004 to 2008 and followed up to 2013

[NHS Sickness Absence Rates](#) - October 2014 to December 2014. (Additional link: [NHS Employers press release](#))

[Back to top](#)

Wednesday

New guidance for registered pharmacies providing services at a distance

The General Pharmaceutical Council has published [Guidance for registered pharmacies providing pharmacy services at a distance, including on the internet](#). This guidance sets out the key areas that need to be considered by registered pharmacies that provide services at a distance and covers all pharmacies that provide services such as the electronic prescription service, a collection and delivery service or an internet pharmacy service. It covers risk assessments, regular audits, managing websites, providing patients with the information they need so they can make an informed decision about their medicines and the pharmacy services they use, and ensuring that patient information is held securely and in line with data protection legislation.

Bowel cancer diagnosis statistics

New figures released by the charity [Beating Bowel Cancer](#) show the majority of bowel cancer patients are still diagnosed too late, costing the NHS millions. There is currently a large variation within the NHS across England in terms of early diagnosis of bowel cancer, with the best performing Clinical Commissioning Groups diagnosing 63% of patients early, compared with only 30% in the worst. The figures show that if every NHS region in England performed as well as the best at diagnosing bowel cancer early (stages 1 and 2), 3,200 lives could be saved and £34 million could be diverted to other bowel cancer services and treatments.

Improvement support for care providers

Skills for Care and the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) have developed an online resource which pulls together relevant resources useful for providers of care services for adults. [Care Improvement Works](#) gives managers, owners and care staff the confidence to challenge and change practice. Care providers can use the online resource before and after inspection, or at any time, to identify products that support improvement in areas where they may have concerns, or to review their current practice against recognised good practice. People who use services, and carers, can also use the products to challenge their care providers.

Additional link: [SCIE press release](#)

Pertussis: Green Book update

Public Health England has substantially rewritten chapter 24 in the Green Book providing information on [pertussis](#) (whooping cough). The updated information brings it into line with current information, policies and procedures.

Statistics

- [Summary Hospital-level Mortality Indicator](#) - Deaths associated with hospitalisation, England, October 2013 - September 2014

[Back to top](#)

Thursday

Urgent care case studies

The NHS Confederation has published a series of a case studies relating to urgent care:

- [Rapid access to 24-hour community-based services](#) - Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Trust has model of care to enable rapid, 24-hour access to community services to reduce emergency hospital admissions.
- [Supporting the provision of right care, in the right place, at the right time in the South West](#) - South West Ambulance Service Foundation Trust supported the reduction of unnecessary emergency department admissions by 10 per cent through suitable conveyance to alternative settings.
- [Delivering joined-up care through a joined-up cabinet: three years on](#) - South Devon and Torbay's health and care cabinet aims to deliver high-quality, reliable and joined-up health and care that puts people first.

[Ambulatory care models reduce unscheduled admissions in Airedale: two years on](#) - Airedale NHS Foundation Trust introduced an ambulatory care unit to support inpatient admission avoidance, where this in the best interests of the patient.

Dementia friendly days out

Care UK has published a new guide [Good to Go: a guide to dementia friendly days out](#). It is aimed at transforming the experiences of those caring for loved ones living with dementia and provides information to overcoming the challenges of getting out and about. This book shows how important it is for those living with dementia - and their carers - to get out and about; it explains how to plan trips and how to make the most out of every outing.

People Performance Management toolkit

NHS Employers has published a toolkit to encourage and enable NHS managers to adopt better performance management practices. The [People Performance Management toolkit](#) provides practical support and aims to increase managers' knowledge about what good people management is, and give them confidence to deal with some of the key performance management challenges such as, how to manage underperforming staff, reviewing performance and giving constructive feedback.

Workforce planning in the NHS

The Kings Fund has published [Workforce planning in the NHS](#). The report uses national statistics, key publications and insights gained from interviews with expert stakeholders to describe what is happening in the NHS workforce in three key areas: mental health, general practice and community nursing. This analysis is presented alongside data that highlights providers' reliance on agency staff. It looks at how workforce issues have been addressed across the system so far, explores the main challenges, and makes recommendations to improve workforce planning.

Additional link: [NHS Providers press release](#)

Children's unscheduled care

The Royal College of General Practitioners, the Royal College of Nursing and the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health have jointly published a set of standards [Facing the Future Together for Child Health](#). The standards apply across the unscheduled care pathway and aim to improve health care and outcomes for children and young people with acute illness. The standards aim to ensure there is always high quality diagnosis and care early in the unscheduled pathway and to reduce unnecessary attendances at the emergency department and admissions to hospital by providing care closer to home. The standards will bring specialist child health expertise into general practice where the needs of the child or young person are known and build connections between primary and secondary care.

Additional link: [RCGP press release](#)

Statistics

- [Friends and Family Test](#)-- March 2015
- [Ambulance Quality Indicators](#) – Systems Indicators for March 2015 and Clinical Outcomes for December 2014
- [Learning Disabilities Census Report](#) - Further Analysis, 2015
- [Female Genital Mutilation](#) - March 2015, Experimental Statistics

Bulletins

- [NHS Workforce Bulletin](#) - 27 April 2015
- [Health Protection Report](#) volume 9 (2015)

[Back to top](#)

Friday

Better Care Exchange

A collaborative online space for sharing learning, information and good practice on delivering better integrated health and social care and implementing Better Care Fund plans has been launched. The [Better Care Exchange](#) has been commissioned by the Better Care Support Team. It will help individuals to collaborate with and learn from colleagues in health and social care, access good practice and keep up to date with the latest integration resources and products. Registration is required to access the content but is free of charge.

Additional link: [SCIE press release](#)

Centre for Health Economics annual report

The Centre for Health Economics has published its [Annual report 2014](#). It includes details of the centre's research and training activities, outputs and presentations, as well as profiles of new staff and students.

Scaling up improvement

The Health Foundation is looking for up to seven teams to take part in its £3 million [Scaling Up Improvement Programme](#). The programme is designed to take successful health care improvement intervention and deliver them at a larger scale.

Health Technology Assessment Programme: published research

The National Institute for Health Research Health Technology Assessment Programme published the following research during April:

- [Smoking cessation for people with severe mental illness: a pilot study and definitive randomised evaluation of a bespoke service](#) (HTA – 07/41/05)
- [A very early rehabilitation trial after stroke \(AVERT\): a phase 3, multicentre, randomised controlled trial](#) (HTA – 12/01/16)
- [The clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of Steroids or Pentoxifylline for Alcoholic Hepatitis \(STOPAH\): a 2x2 factorial, randomised controlled trial](#) (HTA – 08/14/44)

- [The effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of mindfulness-based cognitive therapy compared with maintenance antidepressant treatment in the prevention of depressive relapse/recurrence: results of a randomised controlled trial \(the PREVENT study\)](#) (HTA – 08/56/01)

NICE consultations

- [Irritable bowel syndrome: topic engagement](#). Closing date for comments: 14 May 2015.
- [Healthcare associated infections - prevention and management](#). Closing date for comments: 14 May 2015.

Statistics

- [HES-Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Data Set Data Linkage Report, summary statistics](#) – January 2014

Bulletins

- [NHS Benchmarking Network Newsletter](#) – April 2015
- [NHS Prescription Services Hints and Tips - Dispensing Contractors](#) – Issue 19
- [NHS Prescription Services Hints and Tips - Prescription Information Services Users](#) – Issue 19
- [Social Care Institute for Excellence ebulletin](#) – 30 April 2015

[Back to top](#)

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The evidence you need