



24/04/15 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

New tools to help employers develop the support workforce

Health Education England has produced two [new tools which employers can use to demonstrate their commitment to the development of the healthcare support workforce](#). 'Talent for care' and 'Widening participation: it matters' are two strategic frameworks developed by Health Education England with a range of national partners, including NHS Employers. Both frameworks share a common aim to improve the quality of patient care in a system that faces a challenging future.

NICE guidance on caesarean section

The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) have [reiterated its support for the NICE guidance on elective caesarean section](#). This follows media coverage of new WHO guidelines, which state that caesarean sections should only be used for medical reasons. The WHO guidelines have been issued in response to the growing caesarean section rates in some countries. Current NICE guidelines state that pregnant women should be offered evidence-based information to support decision-making on the method of childbirth during the ante-natal period. The RCOG believes that if a woman requests a caesarean section, she should be informed of all the risks and benefits of the procedure and, if appropriate, be given the support of a counsellor or psychologist.

Inspection of NHS 111 services

The Care Quality Commission has issued a reminder that its [consultation process on how CQC proposes to inspect and regulate NHS 111 services](#) will close this Friday, 24 April 2015. Proposals form part of the new approach to make sure that services are safe, effective, caring, responsive to people's needs and are well-led. The plans to inspect and regulate NHS 111 services include: using key lines of enquiry (KLOEs), inspection teams supported by clinical and other experts and the use of information, including people's experiences of care, to decide when, where and what to inspect and using the ratings characteristics which are similar to those for GP practices and GP out-of-hours services.

Experience matters

NHS Employers has published an [infographic](#) highlighting key facts and figures about why staff experience matters. It sets out, in an easy-to-digest format, the importance of staff health and wellbeing and engagement.

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Mental Health Awareness Week 2015 resources

The Mental Health Foundation has published a range of resources which can be downloaded as part of Mental Health Awareness Week 2015. The chosen theme for the week 11-17 May is mindfulness. Details of the resources available are as follows:

- [Mindfulness on the go leaflet](#)
- [Be Yourself poster](#)
- [Be Whole poster](#)
- [Be Here poster](#)

[Be Connected poster](#)

'The Leeds Way'

NHS Employers has published details of a case study highlighting the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust which has developed and implemented a new staff engagement strategy called '[The Leeds Way](#)' which has helped to change the culture of the organisation. The Leeds Way gives staff the opportunity to provide feedback and contribute their views to help shape the vision, values and goals of the trust. The trust is already seeing positive results, in both the Staff Survey and the Staff Friends and Family Test results.

Preparing for a CQC inspection

The NHS Confederation has published [An inspector calls: An insider's guide to preparing for a CQC inspection](#). This briefing provides an account of what mental health providers can expect during an inspection, how to prepare, and some tips from those who have taken part in an inspection so far. It draws on the learning of the pilot process, which saw 14 mental health organisations inspected, many of which attended the NHS Confederation Mental Health Network learning event in October 2014.

NICE guidance

NICE has published the following guidance:

- [Interstitial cystitis: oral pentosan polysulfate sodium](#) (ESUOM43) Evidence summary: unlicensed or off-label medicine guidance
- [Xpert GBS test for the intrapartum detection of group B streptococcus](#) (MIB28) Medtech innovation briefing

[LipiFlow thermal pulsation treatment for dry eyes caused by blocked meibomian glands](#) (MIB29) Medtech Innovation brief

Statistics

- [Improving Access to Psychological Therapies Report](#) - January 2015 final

[Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Statistics - Monthly report](#): Final January 2015 and Provisional February 2015

Bulletins

- [NHS Managers' Bulletin](#) 16 April 2015
- [Social Care Institute for Excellence](#) ebulletin 20 April 2015

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Wednesday

Severe pregnancy sickness

The charities Pregnancy Support Sickness (PSS) and the British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS) have jointly published [I could not survive another day](#), highlighting the impact on women of severe pregnancy sickness, known as hyperemesis gravidarum (HG). Together the PSS and BPAS have surveyed women who have experienced termination of pregnancy while suffering HG over the past 10 years. More than 70 women from the UK responded to the survey, which solicited responses from women who had been carrying otherwise wanted pregnancies. This report aims to reflect their experiences and examines what more can be done to improve care for women in this situation and better support their choices.

Additional link: [Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists press release](#)

Healthcare scientists in the NHS

NHS Employers has published a new poster [Healthcare scientists in the NHS](#). It aims to highlight some key facts about the healthcare science workforce and information from the NHS staff survey. It can also be used to encourage engagement with the healthcare science workforce to understand how technology, innovation and new ways of delivering scientific services can create efficiencies and cost savings.

What the NHS can expect from the EU

The impact of the EU agenda on our health system – specifically on planning, resourcing and providing healthcare – is constantly increasing, bringing with it both challenges and opportunities for the NHS. The NHS European Office, part of the NHS Confederation, is the central link for the service to engage with Brussels. It has published [Adding value to the NHS through EU engagement](#). This overview provides details of its main priorities for 2015/16 across the areas of EU policy, EU funding and the exchange of good practice.

Emergency care models in 2015/16

The NHS Confederation has published [Rip off the sticking plaster now: Enabling the local implementation of sustainable urgent and emergency care models in 2015/16](#). The Confederation believes that without immediate action, the NHS is set for a winter crisis in 2015/16. NHS organisations need to take action now in order to prevent this from happening. Planning and policy guidance have been issued but has been affected by the electoral cycle. This report collates the guidance and urges immediate action from NHS organisations, national bodies and the incoming Government

Statistics

- [Provisional Monthly Hospital Episode Statistics for Admitted Patient Care, Outpatient and Accident and Emergency data](#) - April 2014 - January 2015
- [Provisional Accident and Emergency Quality Indicators for England](#) - January 2015, by provider

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Thursday

Care after Death

Hospice UK has published [Care After Death: Guidance for staff responsible for care after death](#). This second edition of the guidance builds on the first, which was generated for nurses and those who had nursing tasks delegated to them. It also has a relevance for health and social care professionals who work with people at end of life. Following recommendations from the Institute of Health Care Management, which evaluated the first edition, the focus of the second edition has been extended to include deaths that occur in mental health and prison settings. It details key elements of care provision in the period immediately following death and its implementation, and aims to help minimise duplication of roles or gaps in care.

Additional link: [RCGP news report](#)

Health care quality

The Health Foundation has published [Five ways we can help](#). This short guide provides an introduction to the past, present and future work of the Foundation. It is specifically designed to highlight resources useful to those embarking on large-scale health care change. The guide contains five relevant examples of the Foundation's work in each of the following areas: practical resources; research reports; improvement programmes; useful figures and diagrams and future opportunities.

How is the NHS performing?

The King's Fund has published [How is the NHS performing? April 2015 quarterly monitoring report](#). The report examines the views of finance directors on the productivity challenge they face, as well as some key NHS performance data including: delayed transfers of care, hospital-acquired infections, workforce and redundancy figures, and hospital and diagnostic test waiting times.

Alcoholic hepatitis

The results of a trial funded by the [Health Technology Assessment \(HTA\) Programme](#) comparing treatments for patients with alcoholic hepatitis has been published in the [New England Journal of Medicine](#). The STOPAH trial compared the steroid prednisolone to pentoxifylline a drug that, in some studies has been found to reduce death rates for patients with alcoholic hepatitis. More than 1000 patients with suspected alcoholic hepatitis from 65 hospitals across the UK took part in the three year trial. Each patient was monitored for a 12 month period or until they died. The trial found that pentoxifylline did not improve the outcome for patients. Prednisolone showed a possible benefit on short-term rates of death, but no benefit on outcome over the medium or longer term.

Statistics

- [Quarterly reports on the import of unlicensed medicines](#)
- [Prescribing by Dentists](#) England – 2014
- [Statistics on NHS Stop Smoking Services in England](#) - April 2014 to December 2014

[Diagnostic Imaging Dataset](#), April 2015

Bulletin

[NHS foundation trust bulletin](#) - April 2015

Friday

Healthcare equality index 2015

Stonewall the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights charity has published its [2015 healthcare equality Index](#). The index is a tool for health organisations to benchmark and track their progress on equality for their lesbian, gay and bisexual patients. Stonewall, named St Andrew's Healthcare the most LGB-inclusive healthcare organisation in England. In its third and final year, the Index listed Northumbria Healthcare NHS Trust Foundation second and Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust as the third most inclusive healthcare providers. County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust came in fourth and London-based Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust was fifth. Thirty nine healthcare organizations entered this year, including acute trusts, ambulance trusts, clinical commissioning groups, community services, mental health trusts, social enterprise organizations, and independent sector providers.

Physiotherapy without a GP referral

Only one in three CCGs in England [allows patients to refer themselves for physiotherapy](#), a Chartered Society of Physiotherapy investigation has found. The figure was revealed in replies to freedom of information requests sent by the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) to all 211 CCGs in England. Patients in 22% of CCGs have comprehensive self-referral to physiotherapy, the CSP found. Meanwhile, 9% of CCGs offer only limited self-referral, restricted to particular conditions or primary care practices.

Additional link: [RCGP press release](#)

Seven Day Services

NHS Improving Quality (NHSIQ) has released details of a number of new functions which have been added to the 7DSAT to help with planning and implementation of [seven day services](#). These have been developed by NHSIQ and National Clinical Analysis and Specialised Applications Team (NATCANSAT) in response to feedback from users, including the seven day services early adopter communities.

NICE consultations

- [Community nursing care settings: consultation on the draft scope](#). Closing date for comment 20 May 2015
- [Gastro-oesophageal reflux disease in children and young people: topic engagement](#). Closing date for comment 6 May 2015

[Improving outcomes in head and neck cancers: surveillance review proposal](#). Closing date for comment 4 May 2015

Statistics

- [Learning Disability Services Monthly Statistics - Commissioner census](#) (Assuring Transformation), March 2015, Experimental Statistics
- [Critical care bed capacity and cancelled urgent operations](#) - monthly situation reports, March 2015
- [Delayed Transfers of Care](#) - monthly situation reports, March 2015

Bulletins

- [Independent provider bulletin](#) - April 2015
- [NHS Workforce Bulletin](#) - 20 April 2015
- [NICE news](#) – April 2015
- [Update for primary healthcare](#) – April 2015
- [Emergency department bulletin](#) – 23 April 2015
- [GP out-of-hours syndromic surveillance bulletin](#) – 23 April 2015

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The evidence you need