



29/05/15 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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Tuesday

Ticks and associated diseases

Public Health England (PHE) has issued a reminder to the public regarding the [awareness of ticks](#) and how to prevent infections from the diseases associated with them. Lyme disease is the most significant tick-borne infection in the UK, with an estimated 1,000 to 2,000 cases per year. PHE is working with local councils to raise awareness of ticks and the risks to health.

Revised Medicines Optimisation Dashboard

NHS England has launched a full revision of the [Medicines Optimisation Dashboard](#) to help CCGs improve and understand how well patients across the country are being supported to use their medicines. The dashboard brings together data and aligns it to various themes including patient safety, mental health, cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease, diabetes, antibiotic prescribing and community pharmacy. The data will allow local NHS organisations to highlight variation in local practice and stimulate discussion on the appropriateness of local care.

NHS foundation trusts: quarterly performance report

Monitor has published its final performance report for the foundation trust sector for the year ended 31 March 2015. [Performance of the foundation trust sector: year ended 31 March 2015](#) shows that the 152 foundation trusts missed a number of national waiting times targets for A&E, routine operations and some cancer treatments for the entire year. The sector also ended 2014/15 in deficit (-£349 million) for the first time. An infographic has also been published to summarise the information.

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

Pictorial health warnings on the packaging of tobacco products

The World Health Organisation has published [Evidence brief: how large pictorial health warnings on the packaging of tobacco products affect knowledge and behaviour](#). This briefing shows that combined written and graphic health messages on the packaging of tobacco products are more effective than text-only warnings. Studies have shown that pictorial health warnings increase quit attempts and decrease smoking uptake. Pictorial health warnings, including graphic, fear-arousing information, have proven to be particularly effective.

Health Protection annual reports

Public Health England has published the following three annual reports:

- [Diphtheria in England and Wales](#) - 2014
 - [Tetanus in England and Wales](#) - 2014
 - [Pertussis: laboratory-confirmed cases reported in England](#): annual report for 2014
-

Bulletins

- [Liaison and Diversion Bulletin](#) - May 2015
- [In touch](#) - Issue 4 2015

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Wednesday

World No Tobacco Day

The World Health Organisation [World No Tobacco Day 2015](#) (31 May) aims to focus on eliminating illicit trade of tobacco products. Several factors justify combating illicit trade as a priority in the European Region. Compared to other WHO regions, the European Region has: the highest smoking prevalence; the highest proportion of deaths attributed to tobacco; the highest cigarette tax levels and the highest number of seized cigarettes in the world.

NICE Savings and Productivity and Local Practice Collections

NICE has added three new case studies to its savings and local practice collection which show of how NICE guidance and standards have been used to improve the quality of health and care. The case studies are as follows:

- [TA337 Rifaximin for preventing episodes of overt hepatic encephalopathy: costing template](#)
- [Developing an Annual Review Clinic for People with Rheumatoid Arthritis](#)

- [Improving and Maintaining Medicines Reconciliation on Admission at North Bristol NHS Trust \(NBT\)](#)
-

Clinical audit support from NICE

NICE is developing a new tool to help health and social care organisations audit the improvements they are making to their services as part of a [redesign of the audit support NICE provides](#). The package of support is in its final stages of development and the first tool will be available this summer. NICE will continue to provide baseline assessment tools for guidelines and, where identified, audit tools for interventional procedures. Existing clinical audit tools will be available on the NICE website and will only be removed should an update to guidance make them incompatible. NICE is also developing a facility to allow organisations to publish their own audit results on the NICE website

NHS England bulletins: short survey

NHS England is conducting a [short survey](#) to find out what people think of the bulletins that NHS England currently publishes. NHS England produces a series of bulletins to help staff to communicate in an accessible and engaging manner. The survey closes on the 6 June 2015.

Bulletin

- [Public Health Awareness Bulletin](#) – May 2015

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Thursday

Getting maternity services right for pregnant teenagers and young fathers

The Royal College of Midwives has worked with Public Health England and the Department of Health to update the joint publication [Getting maternity services right for pregnant teenagers and young fathers](#). The guide, originally produced in 2008, offers those working in maternity services practical guidance on supporting young mothers and young fathers.

Radiology provision in 2014

NHS Improving Quality in conjunction with the British Society for Interventional Radiology has published [Interventional Radiology Provision in 2014: a survey of English NHS trusts](#). This fourth survey of interventional radiology departments focused specifically on services for nephrostomy, embolisation for general haemorrhage, embolisation for postpartum haemorrhage and endovascular interventions. Responses were received from 93 acute trusts out of a possible 156. There has been an overall improvement in formal provision of out-of-hours interventional radiology over the four year period of the survey.

Patient Safety Alert: inadvertent injection of skin preparation solution

NHS England has issued a Patient Safety Alert to raise awareness of the risk of death or severe harm due to [inadvertent injection of skin preparation solution](#). The alert has been issued as a result of incidents being reported to the National Reporting and Learning System. The alert reiterates previous guidance and advises organisations to take all appropriate local actions to improve safety, including ensuring that any skin preparation solutions are removed from the environment before an invasive procedure begins.

First Steps for Health Care Assistants

The Royal College of Nursing has updated the online training resource [First Steps for health care assistants](#). This new version of the resource incorporates a wider range of topics, improved access from smart phones and tablets, and more opportunities for reflection.

Additional link: [RCN press release](#)

Quality of end of life care survey: consultation

NHS England is [seeking views on their national survey on the quality of care in the last three months of life](#). The survey, Views of Informal Carers – Evaluation of Services (VOICES) collects information on bereaved peoples' views on the quality of care provided to a relative or friend in the last three months of life, for England. NHS England has set out specific areas which they are keen to get views on, but have also left a section open for people to feedback comments or ideas more generally. The consultation runs until 19 June 2015.

Statistics

- [Provisional Accident and Emergency Quality Indicators for England](#) - February 2015, by provider
 - [Provisional Monthly Hospital Episode Statistics for Admitted Patient Care, Outpatient and Accident and Emergency data](#) - April 2014 - February 2015; Special topic - Dog and other mammal bites
-

Bulletins

- [NICE news - May 2015](#)
- [Update for primary care - 2015](#)
- [Health Protection Report news](#) - volume 9 issue 18 2015

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Improving England's mental health

[Improving England's mental health: the first 100 days and beyond](#) has been produced jointly by Centre for Mental Health, the Mental Health Foundation, Mental Health Network, Mind, Rethink Mental Illness and the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Following the election of the new government, they have produced a 100 day plan which sets out five priority areas for action: ensure fair funding for mental health; give children a good start in life; improve physical health care for people with mental health problems; improve the lives of people with mental health problems; and enable better access to mental health services. This publication sets out a range of actions which are vital in the first 100 days, and also over the lifetime of the Parliament.

Dementia: a public health priority

The World Health Authority has published [Dementia: a public health priority](#). Jointly developed by WHO and Alzheimer's Disease International, this report aims to raise awareness of dementia as a public health priority, to articulate a public health approach and to advocate for action at international and national levels. The report is expected to facilitate governments, policy-makers, and other stakeholders to address the impact of dementia as an increasing threat to global health. It is hoped that the report will promote dementia as a public health and social care priority worldwide.

Additional link: [WHO press release](#)

Childhood flu programme

Public Health England has published resources for parents and schools to assist the delivery of the [flu vaccination programme to children aged 2 to 4](#) from autumn 2015. The extension of the flu vaccination programme to children continues in 2015 to 2016. All 2, 3 and 4 year olds remain eligible for vaccination through general practice, as do primary school aged children in areas that participated in primary school pilots during the last flu season. In addition, local NHS England teams will commission the phase 2 extension of the programme to children of school years 1 and 2. Delivery models will vary by area but are likely to be mainly through schools. Resources include a leaflet, poster, consent form and letters.

NICE guidance

NICE has published the following guidance:

- [Violence and aggression: short-term management in mental health, health and community settings](#) (NG10)

Additional link: [NICE press release](#)

- [Challenging behaviour and learning disabilities: prevention and interventions for people with learning disabilities whose behaviour challenges](#) (NG11)

Additional link: [NICE press release](#)

Health advice for travelling overseas to visit friends and relatives

Public Health England has published a leaflet for health professionals to give to people planning to travel overseas to visit friends and relatives. [Travelling overseas to visit friends and relatives?](#) aims to reduce potential health risk when travelling to visit friends and relatives.

Rabies risk by country

Public Health England has updated its publication [Rabies risks in terrestrial animals by country](#). It provides an A to Z list of countries and their category of risk for rabies. Authorities in France have reported that a dog has been diagnosed and confirmed with rabies and issued a [press release](#) containing further details.

NICE consultations

NICE has published the following consultation documents:

- [Ankylosing spondylitis and axial spondyloarthritis \(non-radiographic\) - adalimumab, etanercept infliximab and golimumab \(inc rev TA143 and TA233\) ID694](#). Closing date for comments: 19 June 2015.
- [Antenatal and postnatal mental health: quality standard consultation](#). Closing date for comments: 26 June 2015.
- [Bipolar disorder, psychosis and schizophrenia in children and young people: quality standard consultation](#). Closing date for comments: 26 June 2015.
- [Challenging behaviour and learning disabilities: quality standard consultation](#). Closing date for comments: 26 June 2015.
- [Constipation \(opioid-induced\) - naloxegol: final appraisal determination](#). Closing date for comments: 12 June 2015.
- [Developmental follow-up of pre-term babies: consultation on the draft scope](#). Closing date for comments: 26 June 2015.
- [Endovascular aneurysm sealing for abdominal aortic aneurysm: consultation](#). Closing date for comments: 25 June 2015.
- [Implantation of a corneal graft-keratoprosthesis combination for severe corneal opacity in wet blinking eyes: consultation](#). Closing date for comments: 25 June 2015.
- [Older people - independence and mental wellbeing: consultation on the draft guidance](#). Closing date for comments: 10 July 2015.
- [Oral health promotion approaches for dental teams: consultation on the draft guideline](#). Closing date for comments: 10 July 2015.

- [Secukinumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis: final appraisal determination](#). Closing date for comments: 12 June 2015.
- [UroLift for treating lower urinary tract symptoms of benign prostatic hyperplasia: consultation](#). Closing date for comments: 26 June 2015 (9am)

Statistics

- [Statistics on Smoking, England](#) – 2015
- [Conceptions to women aged under 18 in England and Wales](#) - Jan – Mar 2014
- [Delayed Transfers of Care: monthly situation reports, April 2015](#)
- [Critical care bed capacity and cancelled urgent operations: monthly situation reports](#) - April 2015

Bulletins

- [NHS Workforce Bulletin](#) - 26 May 2015
- [NHS Communications Bulletin](#) – 29 April 2015
- [Primary Care Commissioning news](#) - 26 May 2015

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