



06/02/2015 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

National health screening: government response

The Government has published [Government response to the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee Report on National Health Screening](#). The report welcomes the committee's enquiry into how the decision to screen for a condition is made and carried out in the UK. It sets out the government's response to the report including how it will address each of the committee's twenty two recommendations aimed at maintaining the UK's reputation for high quality, evidence based screening.

'Act FAST' stroke campaign

Public Health England is launching the annual '[Act FAST](#)' campaign, which highlights the common symptoms of stroke and mini strokes and encourages people to call 999 if they notice the symptoms in others or experience them themselves. Since the Act FAST campaign launched in 2009, an additional 38,600 have got to hospital within the vital 3-hour window meaning that stroke sufferers receive the immediate medical treatment required. This not only results in a greater chance of better recovery, but since the campaign launch over 4,000 fewer people have become disabled as a result of a stroke. Additional link: [BBC News report research](#).

NICE Quality Standards: Sarcoma / Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis

NICE has published two new quality standards [Sarcoma \(QS78\)](#). This quality standard covers the diagnosis, treatment, support and follow-up of sarcoma in children, young people and adults. NICE has also published [Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis \(QS79\)](#). This quality standard covers the diagnosis and management of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis in adults, from the initial suspicion of the disease to referral, supportive care and treatment.

Gaining valid consent in obstetrics and gynaecology

The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists has published revised guidance for healthcare professionals on gaining [valid consent from patients](#). The guidance covers obtaining a woman's consent for a test, treatment, intervention or operation such as screening tests, consent for emergency caesarean sections, pelvic examinations and ultrasound examinations. The document also covers training and the presence of students during procedures. Moreover, it covers whether consent should be verbal or written and what happens if consent is not obtained.

New language ability checks for EU trained healthcare workers

The Department of Health has announced [new proposals](#) which will apply EU trained nurses, midwives, dentists, dental care professionals, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians who want to work in the UK. The proposed changes will let the regulators affected by the proposals ask for evidence of English language competence from those trained in the EU who apply for registration with them, to work as healthcare professionals in the UK. If an applicant can't give evidence of their knowledge of English, they will be asked to take an internationally recognised language test.

Help for people facing multiple and complex needs

A new report published by the Revolving Doors Agency and Centre for Mental Health shows that some of the most excluded and disadvantaged people in society can be effectively helped through better, more targeted support. The report, [Comprehensive Services for Complex Needs: A summary of the evidence](#), assesses the evidence for three programmes designed to work directly with people facing multiple and complex needs: multisystemic therapy; wraparound; and the link worker model. It shows these programmes can address important issues such as crime and homelessness, while improving clients' wellbeing.

Bulletins

- [Liaison and Diversion Bulletin](#) - January 2015
 - [Independent provider bulletin](#) - January 2015
 - [NHS foundation trust bulletin](#) - January 2015
 - [NHS Campaigns & Communications Bulletin](#) - Issue 20: January 2015
 - [Social care institute for care excellence](#) - ebulletin January 30 2015
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Tuesday

Drowning in baths risk for young children

Public Health England has issued an alert to parents, carers and health professionals to the [dangers of children drowning in baths](#) following a small number of deaths and 'near misses' reported by Child Death Overview Panels in London. In particular, PHE is raising awareness of accidental drowning involving the use of bath seats, which have been implicated in these cases. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents reports that one in three accidental drowning deaths in young children (2 years or under) involve bath seats.

Financial sustainability of NHS Bodies

The Thirty Fifth report of the Public Accounts Committee of the House of Commons has found that the financial health of NHS bodies has worsened in the last two financial years. [Focusing on the financial sustainability of NHS Bodies](#) indicates that the overall net surplus achieved by NHS bodies in 2012-13 of £2.1 billion fell to £722 million in 2013-14 and that the percentage of NHS trusts and foundation trusts in deficit has increased from 10% in 2012-13 to 26% in 2013-14. NHS England, Monitor and the NHS Trust Development Authority recognise that radical change is needed to the way services are provided and that extra resources are required if the NHS is to become financially sustainable. The necessary changes will require further upfront investment. Present incentives to reduce A&E attendance and increase community based care services have not had the impact expected.

Additional link: [BBC News report](#)

Evidence Summary new medicine: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

NICE has published a new medicines evidence summary ([ESNM54](#)) [Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: olodaterol](#). 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.

Rheumatoid arthritis: public health campaign

Public Health England has launched a [rheumatoid arthritis campaign](#) for people in Nottingham and Hardwick, encouraging people to visit their GP if they experience signs of swollen, stiff or painful joints. The campaign, which commenced on 2 February for four weeks, will identify the key three symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis and will encourage those who regularly experience these symptoms to visit their GP with the message that, the earlier the condition is identified, the more treatable it is. The campaign will be targeted at 40-65 year olds.

Maternity Care Pathways tool

The Centre for Workforce Intelligence and Health Education England have produced a [Maternity Care Pathways tool](#) for maternity service providers in England. The tool aims to enable service providers to analyse their whole maternity workforce aligned with their service's individual care pathways. The tool is free to download in Microsoft Excel, together with guidance materials in the form of a user guide and video.

Cold weather alert

NHS England has issued a [cold weather alert](#) with a 90% probability of severe cold weather/icy conditions/heavy snow between 0900 on Tuesday and 0600 on Monday in parts of England. This weather could increase the health risks to vulnerable patients and disrupt the delivery of services. More details about the weather alert is available on the [MET Office website](#).

Statistics

- [Local Tobacco Control Profiles for England](#) - February 2015 data update
- [Public Health Outcomes Framework](#) - February 2015 data update

[Back to top](#)

Wednesday

One in two people will get cancer

According to the latest research from Cancer Research UK [one in two people will develop cancer at some point in their lives](#). This new estimate replaces the previous figure, calculated using a different method, which predicted that more than one in three people would develop cancer at some point in their lives. [Trends in the lifetime risk of developing cancer in Great Britain: comparison of risk for those born from 1930 to 1960](#) is published in the British Journal of Cancer. Cancer Research UK proposes the research highlights the urgent need to bolster public health and NHS cancer services so they can cope with a growing and ageing population and the looming demands for better diagnostics, treatments, and earlier diagnosis.

Additional link: [BBC News report](#)

Care services for people with learning disabilities and challenging behaviour

The National Audit Office has published [Care services for people with learning disabilities and challenging behaviour](#). Following the exposure in May 2011 of abuse of patients at the Winterbourne View Hospital, the government responded with a commitment to transform services for all people with learning disabilities or autism who had challenging behaviour or a mental health condition. This report highlights that the Government has not met its central goal of moving people with learning disabilities and challenging behaviour out of hospital by 1 June 2014, because it underestimated the complexity and level of challenge in meeting the commitments in its action plan.

Investing in children's mental health

The Centre for Mental Health has published [Investing in children's mental health: A review of evidence on the costs and benefits of increased service provision](#). This report examines the costs and the benefits of a range of interventions to prevent or treat some of the most common mental health conditions that affect children and young people. It finds that there is a wide range of interventions for conduct disorder, anxiety, depression and ADHD that not only improve children's mental health but also lead to economic benefits including future savings in public spending. The report concludes that under-investment in children's mental health support is a false economy.

Transferring services from NHS England to CCGs

The Department of Health has concluded its consultation [Arrangements for the transfer of commissioning responsibilities for renal dialysis and morbid obesity surgery services from NHS England to Clinical](#)

Commissioning Groups. Following the consultation, the Government has decided to postpone the transfer of commissioning responsibility for morbid obesity surgery services to 1 April 2016. The proposals for the transfer of commissioning responsibility for renal dialysis services will be referred back to the Prescribed Specialised Services Advisory Group. This group will give updated advice on the transfer to Ministers. Further decisions on this transfer will be made once updated advice is received.

Advice for travellers celebrating Chinese New Year abroad

Public Health England and the National Travel Health Network and Centre have published a factsheet with advice on how UK residents travelling to Asia to celebrate the Chinese New Year can stay healthy and safe. **Travelling for Chinese New Year?** Contains general travel health advice on food hygiene, insect bite avoidance and sun protection, as well as advice on the prevention of sexually- transmitted infections and avian flu. The importance of personal safety and a reminder to travellers to make sure they have adequate travel insurance is also highlighted.

Health inequalities plan for men who have sex with men

Public Health England has launched an action plan to address the health and wellbeing inequalities affecting gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (MSM). [Promoting the health and wellbeing of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men: action plan](#) focuses on three interrelated areas in which MSM are disproportionately burdened with ill-health: sexual health and, mental health and in the use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco.

Informed

The 3 February issue of [Informed](#) has been published by NHS England. It includes the following items:

- New research shows rise in public satisfaction with NHS
- New Models of Care Programme
- NHS England consultation on prioritising specialised services
- New commissioning tools for transitions from Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
- World Cancer Day 2015
- Wear it. Beat It
- Open and Transparent Healthcare
- The NHS and the Ministry of Defence – working together event

Statistics

- [Mental Capacity Act 2005, Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards](#) (England) Quarter 3, 2014-15
- [Provisional Accident and Emergency Quality Indicators](#) - England, by provider for October 2014
- [Provisional Monthly Hospital Episode Statistics for Admitted Patient Care, Outpatients and Accident and Emergency Data](#) - April 2014 - October 2014
- [Dementia Assessment and Referral data collection](#) - November 2014
- [Diagnostics waiting time and activity data](#) - December 2014
- [Escherichia coli \(E. coli\) bacteraemia: monthly data](#) by clinical commissioning group
- [MSSA bacteraemia: monthly data](#) by clinical commissioning group
- [Escherichia coli \(E. coli\) bacteraemia](#): by NHS acute trust

[Back to top](#)

Thursday

Surveillance and the evaluation of antibiotics

As part of the ongoing Review on Antimicrobial Resistance, the Review has published its second report [Tackling a global health crisis: Initial steps](#). The report sets an assessment of the international antimicrobial resistance research funding landscape, and makes the first recommendations for global action to address the challenges of rising drug resistance. It includes details of the establishment of a global AMR Innovation Fund; steps to help maintain the effectiveness of existing antibiotics; and action to address an emerging skills shortage in this field of research.

Additional link: [PHE press release](#)

Health Policy

The Health Foundation has published [Three tests for a credible health policy](#). This report focuses on the actions politicians need to take to maintain and improve the quality of care both now and for the future. There have been significant advances in the quality of care over the last 15 years, however, this progress is starting to unravel in some areas. To understand whether the political parties' health policies meet this challenge, politicians must demonstrate how their proposals pass three tests: will the policies maintain or improve quality in the short term? Will the policies transform NHS care for the medium to long term?; and will the policies achieve financial balance?

Care Act 2014: factsheet update

The Department of Health has updated two factsheets relating to the Care Act: [Reforming how people pay for their care and support \(Factsheet 6\)](#) and [Appeals policy and proposals \(Factsheet 13\)](#). These factsheets accompany Part 1 of the Care Act which will come into force on 1 April 2015.

Homelessness report

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has published [The homelessness monitor: England 2015](#). This is a five year (2011-2016) study that provides an independent analysis of the impact on homelessness of recent economic and policy developments in England. The key areas of interest are the homelessness consequences of the post-2007 economic recession and the housing market downturn.

Care certificate guidance

NHS Employers has made available new guidance and resources aimed to help employers implement the new [Care Certificate](#) for health and social care support workers, which launches in March 2015. The resources are intended to be used to support employers as they prepare to implement the Care Certificate which has been developed to create more consistency in standards of care among healthcare assistants and social care support workers.

Bulletins

- [Information governance bulletin](#) – 22nd Edition - February 2015
 - [NHS Benchmarking Network](#) - February Newsletter
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Statistics

- [Ambulance Quality Indicators](#) - Systems Indicators for December 2014 and Clinical Outcomes for September 2014
- [Dental Commissioning Statistics](#), England - December 2014

[Back to top](#)

Friday

Coalition government and NHS reorganisation

The Kings Fund has published [The NHS under coalition government: part one: NHS reform](#). This report covers six major themes of the coalition government's reform programme: commissioning of care; provision of care by NHS providers; regulation of the quality of care; competition and choice; governance and accountability and the integration of care. For each theme, it describes the situation the coalition government inherited when it came to power in 2010, the policies it has pursued and (where available) evidence of their impact.

Additional link: [BBC News report](#)

Flu vaccine shows low effectiveness against the main circulating strain

New research from Public Health England has found that the [seasonal influenza vaccine](#) has provided low protection this winter against flu infection caused by one particular subtype, H3N2. This is because of a mismatch between the A(H3N2) strain selected for the vaccine this year and the main A(H3N2) strain that has been circulating in the UK this winter. The findings on mid-season flu vaccine effectiveness in the UK are published in [Eurosurveillance](#).

Additional link: [BBC News report](#)

Commissioning Support Lead Provider Framework

NHS England has announced the organisations that have been approved to join the new [Commissioning Support Lead Provider Framework](#), following a procurement process. The framework has been developed with local clinical commissioners who asked for a simpler and less costly process for choosing the support they need. In February 2014, NHS England invited organisations to come forward who were capable of bringing together end to end support services, such as back office finance and human resources, GP IT services, contracting, engagement and business intelligence.

Improving experiences of care

The National Quality Board (NQB) has published [Improving experience of care: our understanding and ambition](#). The NQB is a multi-stakeholder board established to champion quality and ensure alignment in quality throughout the NHS. This document sets out a common way for the national health and care organisations on the NQB to talk about people's experiences of care and their roles in improving them. It also includes examples of good practice and resources, to support organisations and individuals in improving experiences of care.

Revised code for nurses and midwives

The Nursing and Midwifery Council's [revised code for nurses and midwives](#) will come into effect for all nurses and midwives from 31 March 2015. The code has been revised to take into consideration the new revalidation model which is due to come into force at the end of 2015. The code is shaped around four key principles which state that good nurses and midwives should prioritise people, practice effectively, preserve safety and promote professionalism and trust.

NICE consultations

- [Smoking - harm reduction: quality standard consultation](#). Closing date for comment 5 March 2015.
- [Lower urinary tract symptoms](#) (update SC): addendum consultation. Closing date for comment 3 March 2015.
- [Eating disorders \(update\): scope consultation](#). Closing date for comment 2 March 2015.
- [Homes - preventing accident and unintentional injury among children and young people under 15: topic engagement exercise](#). Closing date for comment 13 February 2015.

Statistics

- [HES-DID Data Linkage Report - Provisional Summary Statistics, April 2014 to September 2014 \(Experimental Statistics\)](#)
- [VTE Risk Assessment](#) - November 2014

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