



Quality and Safety Bulletin

Issue 116: 29 August 2019

Welcome to the Quality and Safety eBulletin

This eBulletin brings you the latest news from key national agencies and initiatives across the UK, under themed headings.

We welcome your feedback on the eBulletin. Please contact us at: qualityandsafety@rcn.org.uk

Claire Constable, Sarah-Jane Raybone and Ross Scrivener
RCN Nursing Department

All the latest in quality and safety with the RCN's Quality and Safety Bulletin.

News story



Implementing the new NMC standards

The NMC introduced new education standards in May 2018 to reflect the scope and requirements of current nursing practice. These examples highlight how different areas in the UK are implementing them. If you have examples that you wish to share please fill in the submissions form.

Read the [innovations](#) from around the UK

RCN highlights

Nursing student numbers are still falling short. New figures reveal the number of students accepted onto undergraduate nursing degree courses in England is nowhere near enough to meet present and future health care demands.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/news/uk-nursing-student-numbers-are-still-falling-short-150819>

RCN calls for clarity on how proposed NHS pension changes will affect nursing staff. It has been confirmed that NHS pension changes will apply to senior clinicians, including nurses, but full pension flexibility is needed to help nursing staff throughout the health service.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/news/uk-response-proposed-nhs-pension-tax-changes-senior-doctors-nurses>

Implementing the new NMC standards. The NMC introduced new education standards in May 2018 to reflect the scope and requirements of current nursing practice. These examples highlight how different areas in the UK are implementing them. If you have examples that you wish to share please fill in the submissions form.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/professional-development/practice-based-learning/innovations-from-around-the-uk>

Social prescribing. Social prescribing occurs when health professionals or link workers refer patients to support in the community, in order to improve their health and wellbeing. The RCN Congress fringe event on social prescribing was live streamed. You can watch a recording of the launch event.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/clinical-topics/public-health/self-care/social-prescribing>

Strengthening the voice of nursing in policy-making. Dr Anne Marie Rafferty, President of the Royal College of Nursing, shares her personal views on the role of nursing and her thoughts on a new publication, "Strengthening health systems through nursing: Evidence from 14 European countries".

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/about-us/partners/observatory/news/news/2019/08/strengthening-the-voice-of-nursing-in-policy-making>

A Competency Framework for Nurses Providing Care to People with Breast Cancer. This framework defines the standards of care expected for a competent registered nurse providing general breast cancer care or specialist breast cancer care. This publication is supported by a grant from Roche Products Limited. <https://www.rcn.org.uk/professional-development/publications/pub-007657>

Library and Archive Service event programme Autumn/Winter 2019/20. What's on this Autumn and Winter in the RCN Library and Heritage Centre.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/professional-development/publications/pub-007772>

Beat the flu. Influenza season 2019/2020. Nursing teams are instrumental in leading the delivery of the flu vaccination programme. Check out our advice guide which links to the most up to date resource, guidance and advice to support the delivery of quality services.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/beat-the-flu/flu-vaccinations-advice>

RCN Blogs. Latest blogs include: Be yourself: the experience of a student nurse; A disgrace that we are getting paid less for the same role; How a recent ruling could impact on claims relating to holiday pay; I wonder how long I will be able to withstand the current pressures.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/blogs>

RCN magazines. Latest articles include:

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/magazines>

Events

The RCN International Nursing Research Conference 2019. 3 September 2019, 9am to 5pm, City Campus, Sheffield Hallam University, Howard Street, Sheffield, S1 1WB. Save the date and attend the RCN International Research Conference 2019. Sheffield Hallam University will be home to this prestigious three-day event which will once again welcome hundreds of nurses and researchers from around the world to present, debate and hear about advances in nursing research and its impact on health, health and social care and nursing practice.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/events/research-2019>

25th International Mental Health Nursing Research Conference 2019. 12 Sep 2019 09:00 - 13 Sep 16:00, RCN London, 20 Cavendish Square, Marylebone, London, W1G 0RN. Join us for an exciting and informative programme of talks, debates and presentations about transforming mental health care services. Discover how nurse-led initiatives are influencing the global mental health agenda and improving quality of life for people living with mental health difficulties. The call for abstract closes at midnight on Monday 22 April 2019

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/events/mhnr-2019>

RCN Foundation Care Homes Summit 2019. 23 September 2019, Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, Marylebone, London, W1G 0RN. With nearly half a million older people living in nursing and residential homes within the UK, the independent care sector employs over 40,000 registered nurses. This summit will explore and highlight the many ways that the nursing team continues to achieve excellent outcomes for residents within care homes.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/events/care-homes-conference-2019>

Moving forward... at pace: RCN Executive Nurse Network Conference 2019. 26 Sep 2019 09:30 - 18:00, RCN London, 20 Cavendish Square, Marylebone, London, W1G 0RN. This event aims to give nurse leaders a non NHS perspective on leadership, resilience, emotional intelligence, compassion and excelling in conquering challenges. Speakers will provide a new and invigorating approach to feed the conscience and imagination of those in challenging roles.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/events/rcn-executive-nurse-network-conference-2019>

RCN Advanced Nurse Practitioner Conference 2019. 28 Sep 2019 09:00 - 17:00. Birmingham Conference and Events Centre (BCEC), Hill Street, Birmingham, B5 4EW. This one day conference will provide a professional update on clinical issues and practice, disseminate research about and by ANPs, showcase innovation and service developments and offer a networking opportunity for ANPs.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/events/rcn-advanced-nurse-practitioner-conference>

More RCN Events. The RCN runs seminars, workshops and conferences throughout the year. Hear about professional nursing issues from expert speakers, exchange ideas with colleagues, and learn about the latest research and innovation in your area of practice.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/events>

Quality improvement

Audit, reviews, legislation, inspections, regulation

Care Quality Commission. Innovators encouraged to join CQC “regulatory sandbox”. The CQC has created a “regulatory sandbox” and is inviting innovators and services using digital clinical triage to join. It is hoped the sandbox will be a space where providers can work with CQC, the independent regulator of all health and social care services in England, to look at how new ways of working fit with regulation.

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/what-we-do/how-we-work-people/cqc-regulatory-sandbox-round-1-digital-triage-clinical-decision>

Department of Health and Social Care. Personalised health checks to be considered in new review. A review of the NHS Health Check service will explore new intelligent, predictive checks, taking age, risk factors and lifestyle into account.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/personalised-health-checks-to-be-considered-in-new-review>

HSJ. Single women IVF ban will be reviewed. Clinical commissioning groups in south east London currently refuse IVF to single women on the grounds they “exert less control on their children” and “place a greater burden on society in general”. South East London Commissioning Alliance said it would review its treatment access policy after critics called the guidance “demeaning” and “shockingly outdated”.

<https://www.hsj.co.uk/quality-and-performance/single-women-ivf-ban-will-be-reviewed/7025778.article>

NMC. Shaping the future. The NMC has launched a consultation on its draft strategic themes that it intends to focus on, over the next five years. Complete the online survey and say what you think.

https://www.nmc.org.uk/shapingthefuture?utm_source=Nursing%20and%20Midwifery%20Council&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=10561579_20190805%20nurses%20and%20midwives%27%20newsletter&dm_i=129A,6ADD7,CF1S00,OTF1D,1

Guidance, innovation, tools

NHS England. Improved NHS care for Parkinson’s, Multiple Sclerosis and Motor Neurone Disease to save 2,500 hospital trips. People living with brain and nerve conditions like Parkinson’s could benefit from quicker diagnosis and better coordinated care as part of a new NHS initiative, which is also set to free up millions of pounds to reinvest in patient care.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/2019/08/improved-nhs-care-for-parkinsons-ms-and-mnd/>

NHS England. RightCare: Progressive Neurological Conditions Toolkit. Patients are experiencing delays in diagnosis/treatment, and fragmented, uncoordinated services. This toolkit provides expert practical advice and guidance on how to address key challenges when commissioning services and treating people with progressive neurological conditions.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/rightcare/products/pathways/progressive-neurological-conditions-toolkit/>

Reports, commentary, statistics

Agenda. Ask and take action: why public services must ask about domestic abuse. This report finds that mental health services across England are failing women by not asking about experiences of domestic abuse. It calls on the government to amend the Domestic Abuse Bill to put a duty on all public authorities to ensure staff across the public sector are making trained enquiries into domestic abuse.

<https://weareagenda.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Ask-and-Take-Action-report.pdf>

Department of Health and Social Care. Actions for adult social care providers to prepare for Brexit. This guidance sets out the actions social care providers and local authorities should take before and after Brexit, to plan for and help manage any potential service disruption to adult social care if the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/actions-for-adult-social-care-providers-to-prepare-for-brexit>

Department of Health NI. Mental Health and Learning Disability Inpatients 2018-19. The Department of Health has published statistics on inpatients and compulsory admissions in mental health and learning disability hospitals in Northern Ireland for the year ending 31 March 2019.

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/news/mental-health-and-learning-disability-inpatients-2018-19>

Health Foundation. Building healthier communities: the role of the NHS as an anchor institution. Anchor institutions are large, public sector organisations that are unlikely to relocate and have a

significant stake in a geographical area. The size, scale and reach of the NHS means it influences the health and wellbeing of communities simply by being there. This report identifies five ways in which NHS organisations act as anchor institution.

<https://www.health.org.uk/publications/reports/building-healthier-communities-role-of-nhs-as-anchor-institution>

Housing and Ageing Alliance. Time for Action. At a time of unprecedented demographic change, it is critical that housing, planning, health and social care policies and plans all address the needs of an ageing population. This will result in more sustainable growth, wider fiscal gains, eg health dividend, and improved quality of life for individuals.

<https://www.housinglin.org.uk/assets/Resources/Housing/OtherOrganisation/Hsg-Ageing-Alliance-Manifesto-2019.pdf>

NHS Confederation. Plaid Cymru report into mental health services. This report looks at providing people with the mental health services and care they need is a key priority for the Welsh NHS.

<https://www.nhsconfed.org/news/2019/08/welsh-nhs-confederation-welcome-plaid-cymru-report-into-mental-health-services>

NHS Confederation. Welsh NHS Confederation respond to report on Community Nursing in Wales. Welsh NHS Confederation response to the National Assembly for Wales' Health, Social Care and Sport Committee's report into community nursing.

<https://www.nhsconfed.org/news/2019/08/welsh-nhs-confederation-respond-to-report-on-community-nursing-in-wales>

Public Health England. Flu vaccines for children. Two types of flu vaccine are available for children in 2019 to 2020: the 'live' nasal spray vaccine and the inactivated injected flu vaccine. This quick reference guide indicates which vaccine children should get and who is eligible.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/which-flu-vaccine-should-children-have#history>

Public Health England. An evidence summary of health inequalities in older populations in coastal and rural areas. This report provides evidence on the health inequalities experienced by older populations in coastal and rural areas, together with a summary of key considerations to reduce inequalities and promote healthy ageing in these areas. It comprises a literature review supplemented with case studies.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-inequalities-in-ageing-in-rural-and-coastal-areas>

Public Health England. Preventing falls in people with learning disabilities: making reasonable adjustments. This guide contains information to help staff in public health, health services and social care to prevent falls in people with learning disabilities. The guide can be used by family carers, friends and paid support staff to help them think about what risks may contribute to falls and how to reduce such risks.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-falls-in-people-with-learning-disabilities>

Royal College of Surgeons. Children's oral health: position statement. New analysis has found that more than 100,000 hospital admissions for children under the age of ten in England due to tooth decay over a three year period. This statement calls on the new government to stand by previous commitments in the Childhood Obesity Plan and Prevention Green Paper to improve children's oral health in England.

<https://www.rcseng.ac.uk/news-and-events/media-centre/press-releases/childrens-oral-health-2019/>

Vision UK. UK national eye health and hearing study: case for investment. This report argues that a lack of accurate data is contributing to a £58 billion bill for vision and hearing loss in the UK. This takes into account medical costs, an increased risk of dementia due to hearing loss, service costs and reduced employment. It calls on the government to support the first ever national survey of the UK population's sensory needs.

<https://www.visionuk.org.uk/poor-eyesight-and-hearing-loss-costs-billions/>

Patient safety

BBC Health. Boris Johnson orders action to stop measles spread. The disease can be stopped through two doses of the MMR vaccine, but immunisation rates have been falling for a number of reasons.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-49393279>

BMJ Quality and Safety. Hospital nurse staffing and staff-patient interactions. Existing evidence indicates that reducing nurse staffing and/or skill mix adversely affects care quality. Nursing shortages may lead managers to dilute nursing team skill mix, substituting assistant personnel for registered nurses (RNs).

<https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/28/9/706>

BMJ Quality and Safety. Nursing roles for in-hospital cardiac arrest response. Good outcomes for in-hospital cardiac arrest (IHCA) depend on a skilled resuscitation team, prompt initiation of high-quality cardiopulmonary resuscitation and defibrillation, and organisational structures to support IHCA response. This study examined the role of nurses in resuscitation, contrasting higher versus lower performing hospitals in IHCA survival.

<https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/early/2019/08/16/bmjqs-2019-009487>

Digital Health. AI standards need to be created to protect patient safety, experts warn. Appropriate methods and standards around artificial intelligence need to be created to protect patient safety. Responding to the Government's pledge of £250 million for a National Artificial Intelligence (AI) Lab, Matthew Honeyman, researcher at The Kings Fund, also said the NHS workforce needs to be equipped with digital skills for the benefits of new technologies to be realised.

<https://www.digitalhealth.net/2019/08/artificial-intelligence-standards-protect-patient-safety/>

Guardian. NHS says sepsis monitoring system has saved hundreds of lives. The NHS has saved hundreds of people from sepsis thanks to better use of digital technology in hospitals. In a major nationwide push to tackle the condition new 'alert and action' technology is being introduced which uses algorithms to read patients' vital signs and alert medics to worsening conditions that are a warning sign of sepsis.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/2019/08/hundreds-of-lives-saved-through-new-tech-to-spot-sepsis/>

International Alliance of Patients' Organisations. First World Patient Safety Day. The World Patient Safety Day (WPSD) is a campaign for all stakeholders in the health care system to work together to improve patient safety. It is a global commitment made by all WHO member states to recognize patient safety as a key health priority and agreeing to take action to reduce patient harm in health care settings.

<https://www.iapo.org.uk/news/2019/jun/13/world-patient-safety-day-adopted-72nd-world-health-assembly>

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency. Medical devices alerts issued in July 2019. In this monthly update, MHRA highlight selected Medical Device Alerts that have been issued recently. <https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/medical-devices-alerts-issued-in-july-2019>

NHS England. Hundreds of lives saved through new tech to spot sepsis. The NHS has saved hundreds of people from sepsis thanks to better use of digital technology in hospitals. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/2019/08/hundreds-of-lives-saved-through-new-tech-to-spot-sepsis/>

NHS England. Staff campaign to reduce long hospital stays. NHS England and NHS Improvement have worked with a number of partners to identify five key principles which can help ensure that patients are discharged in a safe, appropriate and timely way. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/urgent-emergency-care/reducing-length-of-stay/reducing-long-term-stays/>

NHS England. Life-changing drug to stop deadly bleeding available on the NHS. NHS England is to fund a life changing treatment for thousands of people with severe Haemophilia, which will dramatically cut their risk of life-threatening bleeds and reduce treatment time. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/2019/08/life-changing-drug-to-stop-deadly-bleeding-available-on-the-nhs/>

Nursing Times. Loss of 'measles free' status by UK sparks widespread concerns. The UK has lost its "measles free" status with the World Health Organization – three years after the virus was eliminated in the country. <https://www.nursingtimes.net/news/primary-care/loss-measles-free-status-uk-sparks-widespread-concerns-19-08-2019/>

Professional Standards Authority. Right-touch assurance for sonographers based on risk of harm arising from practice. The report notes that there are a number of inherent risks arising from sonographers' practice including from misdiagnosis and misuse of ultrasound equipment and the risks associated with carrying out what may be intimate examinations. <https://www.professionalstandards.org.uk/news-and-blog/latest-news/detail/2019/07/02/right-touch-assurance-assessment-for-sonographers>

Public Health England. An estimated 1 in 7 five years olds are not immunised against MMR. As hundreds of thousands of parents across England prepare their children to start primary school in the next few weeks, Public Health England (PHE) is warning that 1 in 7 five year olds may not be fully up-to-date with some routine immunisations, with the figure rising to around 1 in 4 children in London. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/an-estimated-1-in-7-five-years-olds-are-not-immunised-against-mmr>

Public Health England. Preventing falls in people with learning disabilities. This guide contains information to help staff in public health, health services and social care to prevent falls in people with learning disabilities. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-falls-in-people-with-learning-disabilities/preventing-falls-in-people-with-learning-disabilities-making-reasonable-adjustments>

Qualitative Health Research. "I'm Trying to Stop Things Before They Happen": Carers' Contributions to Patient Safety in Hospitals. The role of the patient and their families and carers in identifying and raising safety and quality issues has been raised and encouraged in various ways in recent years.

There has been concern about how this may be enabled and the possible barriers to such speaking out. This qualitative study reveals the concerns and experiences of a group of Australian carers.
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1049732319841021>

WHO. Medication safety in key action areas. As part of the Global Patient Safety Challenge: Medication Without Harm, WHO has asked countries and key stakeholders to prioritize three areas for strong commitment, early action and effective management to protect patients from harm while maximizing the benefit from medication, namely: medication safety in transitions of care; polypharmacy and safety in high-risk situations.
<https://www.who.int/patientsafety/medication-safety/technical-reports/en/>

Evidence-based practice

BBC Health. High blood pressure in mid-30s may pose risk to brain health. People in their mid-30s need to watch their blood pressure to protect brain health in later life, says a study.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-49406879>

BMJ Quality and Safety. Nursing roles for in-hospital cardiac arrest response. Good outcomes for in-hospital cardiac arrest (IHCA) depend on a skilled resuscitation team, prompt initiation of high-quality cardiopulmonary resuscitation and defibrillation, and organisational structures to support IHCA response. This study examined the role of nurses in resuscitation, contrasting higher versus lower performing hospitals in IHCA survival.
<https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/early/2019/08/16/bmjqs-2019-009487>

BMJ Quality and Safety. Hospital nurse staffing and staff–patient interactions. Existing evidence indicates that reducing nurse staffing and/or skill mix adversely affects care quality. Nursing shortages may lead managers to dilute nursing team skill mix, substituting assistant personnel for registered nurses (RNs). However, no previous studies have described the relationship between nurse staffing and staff–patient interactions.
<https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/28/9/706>

NHS.UK. Does gluten in children's diets raise the risk of coeliac disease? This study looked at the diets of 6,605 children from Sweden, Finland, Germany and the US, all of whom had genetic variants that put them at higher risk of developing autoimmune conditions like coeliac disease.
<https://www.nhs.uk/news/food-and-diet/does-gluten-childrens-diets-raise-risk-coeliac-disease/>

NHS.UK. Social media use in teens linked to cyberbullying and less sleep and exercise. Researchers found that, particularly among girls, much of the association between frequent use of social media and poor mental health or wellbeing could be explained by cyberbullying, lack of sleep and reduced physical activity.
<https://www.nhs.uk/news/lifestyle-and-exercise/social-media-use-teens-linked-cyberbullying-and-less-sleep-and-exercise/>

NICE. Venous thromboembolism in over 16s: reducing the risk of hospital-acquired deep vein thrombosis or pulmonary embolism. This guideline covers assessing and reducing the risk of venous thromboembolism (VTE or blood clots) and deep vein thrombosis (DVT) in people aged 16 and over in hospital. It aims to help healthcare professionals identify people most at risk and describes interventions that can be used to reduce the risk of VTE.
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng89>

NICE. Alcohol interventions in secondary and further education. This guideline covers interventions in secondary and further education to prevent and reduce alcohol use among children and young people aged 11 up to and including 18. It also covers people aged 11 to 25 with special educational needs or disabilities in full-time education. It will also be relevant to children aged 11 in year 6 of primary school.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng135>

NICE. Review highlights the need for more research on cannabis-based medicinal products. NICE has published its draft recommendations on the use of cannabis-based medicinal products. The fast-tracked guidance follows the re-classification of these products last year to allow specialist doctors to prescribe them where the clinical needs of patients cannot be met by licensed medicines.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/news/article/nice-draft-guidance-and-nhs-england-review-highlight-need-for-more-research-on-cannabis-based-medicinal-products>

NIHR Themed review. Moving Matters - Interventions to Increase Physical Activity. Physical activity is important for physical and mental wellbeing and keeping socially connected. This themed review, Moving Matters, brings together more than 50 published and ongoing studies funded by the NIHR on ways to increase physical activity in everyday life.

<https://www.dc.nihr.ac.uk/themed-reviews/research-into-physical-activity.htm>

NIHR Signal. Physician associates appear to make a positive contribution to inpatient care. Physician associates improve continuity of care and patient experience within the hospital setting. This first evaluation of the new role in the NHS suggests they could provide safe and equivalent care on defined tasks, freeing up time for doctors, and help with patient flow.

<https://discover.dc.nihr.ac.uk/content/signal-000807/physician-associates-contribution-to-nhs-inpatient-care>

NIHR Signal. Virtual reality can help reduce the pain and anxiety of stressful medical procedures for children. Virtual reality shows promise in helping to distract children from self-reported pain and anxiety during medical procedures. Fear of medical interventions is a commonly recognised problem in children, and virtual reality as a distraction may offer a safe solution in counteracting this.

<https://discover.dc.nihr.ac.uk/content/signal-000806/virtual-reality-in-childrens-medical-procedures-reduce-pain-and-anxiety>

Patient focus

BBC News. HRT: UK faces shortage for menopausal women. Women going through the menopause are facing a national shortage of hormone replacement therapy (HRT). Many of the most commonly prescribed forms of HRT, which helps deal with the symptoms of the menopause, are out of stock in some pharmacies. The Department for Health and Social Care said it was aware of "ongoing supply issues" due to "manufacturing delays".

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-49308083>

Centre for Social Justice. Ageing confidently: supporting an ageing workforce. This report proposes several recommendations to provide older people and employers with the support needed to unlock the potential of this demographic and enable older people to access the benefits of work.

<https://www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk/core/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/CSJJ7421-Ageing-Report-190815-WEB.pdf>

National Centre for Social Research. Majority of Brits think A&E services are overused but half think it is hard to get a GP appointment. The first ever large-scale research into attitudes towards

emergency care from the most recent British Social Attitudes Survey reveals significant differences in perspectives by a range of socio-demographic factors, such as area deprivation, age, young children in the household and gender.

<http://natcen.ac.uk/news-media/press-releases/2019/august/majority-of-brits-think-ae-services-are-over-used-but-half-think-it-is-hard-to-get-a-gp-appointment/>

NHS England. Reducing long stays: Where best next campaign. It's much better for a patient's physical and mental wellbeing to leave hospital as soon as they are medically optimised for discharge. NHS England has launched a campaign to support staff in reducing long hospital stays for their patients.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/urgent-emergency-care/reducing-length-of-stay/reducing-long-term-stays/>

NHS Improvement. Allied health profession (AHP) guide: enhancing health in care homes. Timely access to AHP services supports personalised care, independence, and reduces avoidable admission to urgent care services. This guide supports AHPs and other health and care staff to make faster progress in improving care for people living in care homes.

<https://improvement.nhs.uk/resources/ahp-guide-enhancing-health-in-care-homes/>

Public Health England. An evidence summary of health inequalities in older populations in coastal and rural areas. This report provides evidence on the health inequalities experienced by older populations in coastal and rural areas, together with a summary of key considerations to reduce inequalities and promote healthy ageing in these areas.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/824723/Health_Inequalities_in_Ageing_in_Rural_and_Coastal_Areas-Full_report.pdf

Self Care Forum. Self Care Week 2019 Resources. Self Care Week is an annual national awareness week that focuses on embedding support for self care across communities, families and generations. Think Self Care for Life is the strap line and organisations are being encouraged to use Self Care Week as a hook to help people "think" self care for a healthier, happier life.

<http://www.selfcareforum.org/events/self-care-week-resources/>

SCIE. Better Care Fund health and social care integration guides. This series of guides continue to be of practical use to everyone involved in planning and delivering joined-up, integrated care for individuals and communities, person-centred care as part of BCF plans as well as other programmes that foster collaborative cross-system working under the new goals and ambitions of the NHS Long Term Plan.

<https://www.scie.org.uk/integrated-care/better-care/guides>

eHealth

Digital Health. Digital tools prevent hundreds of sepsis deaths across three hospitals. Three hospitals have reduced sepsis deaths and increased screening for the deadly condition using digital "alert and action" solutions. Sepsis causes 37,000 deaths each year and is notoriously difficult to spot.

<https://www.digitalhealth.net/2019/08/digital-tools-prevent-sepsis-deaths/>

Digital Health. Digital solutions 'should be encouraged' to ease pressure on GPs. Future policies need to encourage the adoption of digital solutions to ease patient demand on GPs, the director of the Digital Healthcare Council has said. Simply "peddaling faster" to keep up with demand is unsustainable.

<https://www.digitalhealth.net/2019/08/digital-solutions-ease-pressure-gps/>

Digital Health. UH Bristol to expand 'tele dermatology' service in southwest England. University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust plans to expand its telehealth dermatology service for patients in the South West of England. The trust provides remote assistance for patients with skin problems that eliminates the need for them to attend hospital for appointments.
<https://www.digitalhealth.net/2019/08/uh-bristol-to-expand-tele dermatology-service-in-southwest-england/>

Digital Social Care. Summary Care Report pilot. There is currently a pilot taking place in a small number of care homes which allows care staff to view the Summary Care Record.
<https://www.digitalsocialcare.co.uk/summary-care-record-pilot-underway-in-care-homes/>

NHS Digital. Helping doctors and nurses to improve care for patients with a learning disability. NHS Digital pilot will improve care for people with a learning disability by introducing a reasonable adjustment flag on patient records.
<https://digital.nhs.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/reasonable-adjustments-flagging>

NHS England. Digital diabetes prevention rolled out as part of NHS Long Term Plan. Thousands of people who are at risk of Type 2 diabetes will receive digital support to prevent them developing the condition as part of the NHS Long Term Plan. In pilot schemes, offering convenient, 24/7 access to online advice significantly boosted the numbers taking up the flagship Diabetes Prevention Programme (DPP).
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/2019/08/digital-diabetes-prevention-rolled-out-as-part-of-nhs-long-term-plan/>

NHS England. Hundreds of lives saved through new tech to spot sepsis. The NHS has saved hundreds of people from sepsis thanks to better use of digital technology in hospitals.
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/2019/08/hundreds-of-lives-saved-through-new-tech-to-spot-sepsis/>

NHS Wales. Cancer care records available to view in the Welsh Clinical Portal. Health care professionals across Wales can now access cancer patient information through the Welsh Clinical Portal (WCP). Previously, this information was only available to Cancer Network Information System Cymru (CaNISC) users.
<https://nwis.nhs.wales/news/latest-news/cancer-care-records-available-to-view-in-the-welsh-clinical-portal/>

NHS Wales Informatics Service. Welsh Clinical Portal. The future is mobile. Doctors at two Welsh health boards are trialling a new, mobile version of the Welsh Clinical Portal (WCP). The Welsh Clinical Portal App is an innovative development from the NHS Wales Informatics Service helping the medical workforce go about their daily tasks more effectively.
<https://nwis.nhs.wales/systems-and-services/secondary-care/welsh-clinical-portal/>

Nuffield Trust. Achieving a digital NHS: Lessons for national policy from the acute sector. As a new body, NHSX, becomes established to lead national policy for technology, digital and data, and with the Secretary of State firmly behind plans to create a fully digital NHS, this report seeks to understand how national policy for digitisation is working from the perspective of acute trusts.
<https://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/research/achieving-a-digital-nhs-lessons-for-national-policy-from-the-acute-sector>

The Lancet. Opportunities, resources, and techniques for implementing genomics in clinical care. Advances in technologies for assessing genomic variation and an increasing understanding of the

effects of genomic variants on health and disease are driving the transition of genomics from the research laboratory into clinical care.

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(19\)31140-7/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(19)31140-7/fulltext)

Staff focus

Centre for Social Justice. Ageing confidently: supporting an ageing workforce. It is estimated that by 2035, over half of all adults in the UK will be over 50 years of age. This report proposes several recommendations to provide older people and employers with the support needed to unlock the potential of this demographic and enable older people to access the benefits of work.

<https://www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk/core/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/CSJJ7421-Ageing-Report-190815-WEB.pdf>

Courier. Future nurse initiative aims to help recruit next generation of frontline staff. Future Nurses of Scotland will see NHS Fife linking up with local primary schools and nurseries to provide uniforms for play and a suite of resources showcasing the role modern nurse.

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/local/fife/960465/future-nurse-initiative-aims-to-help-recruit-next-generation-of-frontline-staff/>

Department of Health and Social Care. Have your say on flexible working. The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has launched a new engagement exercise to understand what would help create the work-life balance NHS and social care staff want.

<https://dhscworkforce.crowdcity.com/category/111660>

Department of Health NI. NI Health and Social Care Workforce Census - March 2019. This statistical publication presents an analysis of staff in post by occupational family, organisation, gender, working pattern and age.

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/news/ni-health-and-social-care-workforce-census-march-2019>

Guardian. Nurses in Wales leaving job due to stress. Morale among community nurses is low and many are leaving the service due to stress and an increased workload. The report from a Welsh assembly committee said the changing nature of healthcare, in particular the move to provide more help in the home and the ageing population, made the role of community nurses increasingly important.

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2019/aug/21/nurses-in-wales-leaving-job-due-to-stress-report-says>

Health Education England. We are the NHS. "Being a nurse in the NHS is more rewarding than ever and I would encourage anyone who is currently thinking of applying to university to consider a career in nursing."

<https://www.hee.nhs.uk/news-blogs-events/news/we-are-nhs>

National Guardian's Office. National guidelines on Freedom to Speak Up training. These guidelines are for any individual or organisation commissioning or delivering Freedom to Speak Up training for their workers. Speaking up training has an essential part to play in patient safety and the experience of workers and as such, should be considered on a par with other mandatory training.

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/national-guardians-office/content/publications>

NHS Employers. Professionalism and Cultural Transformation (PACT) toolkit. This toolkit aims to educate and empower staff to improve professionalism within their workplace. It contains practical

information, advice and solutions to equip staff to deal with unprofessional attitudes and behaviours in the workplace.

<https://www.nhsemployers.org/case-studies-and-resources/2019/08/professionalism-and-cultural-transformation-pact-toolkit>

NHS England. NHS calls on A-level students to join the NHS. As nearly half a million students get their A-level results today, NHS leaders are calling on young people to consider a career in nursing.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/2019/08/nhs-calls-on-a-level-students-to-join-the-nhs/>

NHS England. Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service: Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme Guidance. This guidance document provides information on the additional roles reimbursement scheme, including the process by which Primary Care Networks (PCNs) can claim reimbursement for additional staff.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/network-contract-directed-enhanced-service-additional-roles-reimbursement-scheme-guidance/>

NHS Wales. Cancer care records available to view in the Welsh Clinical Portal. Health care professionals across Wales can now access cancer patient information through the Welsh Clinical Portal (WCP). Previously, this information was only available to Cancer Network Information System Cymru (CaNISC) users.

<https://nwis.nhs.wales/news/latest-news/cancer-care-records-available-to-view-in-the-welsh-clinical-portal/>

Nursing in Practice. Nurse leadership: one-to-one with Jane Cummings. Nursing in Practice's sister publication, Healthcare Leader, spoke to former chief nursing officer Jane Cummings about her new role in leadership, stabilising the nursing workforce and why nurses make fantastic leaders. Her ambition as chair of the RCN Foundation is to make the organisation 'an incredibly well-known nursing charity'.

<https://www.nursinginpractice.com/article/nurse-leadership-one-one-jane-cummings>

Nursing Notes. The RCN has asked the Department of Health and Social Care to confirm in writing how the proposed pension changes will affect nursing staff. DHSC has announced plans to change the NHS pension rules after senior doctors started to refuse to work overtime as changes to the annual tax-free allowance meant surprise bills were cancelling out additional earnings.

<https://nursingnotes.co.uk/rcn-asks-for-clarity-on-how-nhs-pension-changes-will-affect-nursing-staff/>

Nursing Times. Development of an innovative education programme for nursing associates. In Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR), an innovative approach has led to the development of an education programme for nursing associates (NAs) that is both rooted in clinical practice and supported by a robust partnership with a university.

<https://www.nursingtimes.net/roles/nurse-educators/development-innovative-education-programme-nursing-associates-19-08-2019/>

Office for National Statistics. International migration and the health care workforce. This analysis draws on all currently available data to set out how many migrants work in health care in the UK and explore their age structure, location and changes over time. It also presents data on specific health workers in England, such as hospital nurses and general practitioners.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/internationalmigration/articles/internationalmigrationandthehealthcareworkforce/2019-08-15>

Social Work England. Professional standards guidance. The new specialist regulator for social workers, in collaboration with a range of stakeholders, has developed new rules and standards for the social work profession. This document provides guidance on these professional standards. The standards set out what a social worker in England must know, understand and be able to do after completing their social work education or training.

<https://socialworkengland.org.uk/professional-standards/>