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

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

News story

Working with dogs in health care settings

A protocol to support organisations considering working with dogs in health care settings and allied health environments. The aim of this protocol is to highlight the precautions that should be taken when dogs are brought into various health care settings and to provide clear guidance on all reasonable safeguards that should be put in place to protect residents, patients, visitors, staff and staff.

See: Working with Dogs in Health Care Settings

RCN highlights

Strike action in Northern Ireland set to continue in January. The RCN in Northern Ireland has notified the Department of Health and HSC employers that the next dates for strike action will be 8 and 10 January.


Booking for RCN Congress is now open. RCN members will meet in Liverpool in June to attend the UK’s largest nursing conference. [https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/news/uk-booking-for-rcn-congress-is-now-open-171219](https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/news/uk-booking-for-rcn-congress-is-now-open-171219)


Wanted: volunteers to make safe staffing history. RCN President Professor Anne Marie Rafferty is leading a project that will interview members involved in our safe staffing campaign, and you could be a part of it. [https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/news/uk-safe-staffing-oral-history-volunteers-wanted-100120](https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/news/uk-safe-staffing-oral-history-volunteers-wanted-100120)

RCN Blogs. Latest blogs include: Help us learn about your experiences of work-related dermatitis; Safety valve - why more must be done to protect staff mental health; Looking back on 2019; Looking back at the North West in 2019; The End of an Eventful Year; Eight years of nursing history; RCNi awards nominations are open - here's what the judges look for. [https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/blogs](https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/blogs)

RCN magazines. Latest news includes: Strike action in Northern Ireland set to continue in January; Ministers must waste no time in pushing investment to frontline health care; Student funding
announcement: what we know so far; Small increase in nurse numbers masks bigger workforce issues

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

Events

The value of care: Women’s work and emotional labour. 29 Jan 2020 17:00 - 19:00 20 Cavendish Square, Marylebone, London, W1G ORN. Nursing ”is essentially women’s work” wrote a journalist in the Yorkshire Observer in 1919. Join a panel of historians, nurses and social scientists to explore why nursing remains undervalued in terms of status and pay, and how we might change this for future generations of health workers.


Nursing and Midwifery First. 07 Feb 2020, Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, Marylebone, London, W1G ORN. 2020 has been designated the International year of the Nurse and Midwife in honour of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale. Recognising the contribution of nursing and midwifery to sustainable health 200 years on, this half day event will showcase the work of the Royal College of Nursing that enables nurses and midwives to deliver high quality, equitable and rewarding care.


Nightingale 2020. 27 – 28 October, ExCeL, London. Transforming the Impact of Nursing on Global Health and Care. This agenda-setting international conference will showcase how nurses and midwives can work collectively to transform global health and care for everyone, everywhere. Nightingale2020 will celebrate Florence Nightingale’s legacy, put the voice of nurses at the heart of health policy and contribute to the World Health Organisation’s work in the Year of the Nurse.

https://www.nightingale2020.com/

08 FEB 2020- London HQ. RCN and NaTHNaC Travel Health Conference 2020. Travel Health 2020 will provide a unique opportunity to learn how to address these challenges more effectively. The programme includes travel vaccines, rheumatological conditions, mental health and travel with cancer. There is an opportunity to bring your own cases to ask our panel of experts in a wide range of fields. You’ll leave feeling confident and ready for the challenge.


Valentine’s Late: Open Hearts, Racing Pulses. With the Surgery & Emotion project at the University of Roehampton, 12 Feb 2020 18:00 - 21:00, 20 Cavendish Square, Marylebone, London, W1G ORN Join us to explore the rich feelings associated with the operating theatre, from compassion and romance, to anxiety and fear. Make your own medical romance cover, play surgical Top Trumps, join a mystery treasure hunt, and hear short talks on the often surprising history of emotions in surgical care.

https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/events/valentines-late

Pain in Older People Workshop 26 Feb 2020 10:30 - 15:00, 20 Cavendish Square, Marylebone, London, W1G ORN. Presented by the RCN Pain and Palliative Care Forum and the RCN Older Persons Forum the workshop will explore common causes of pain in older people and provide practical guidance on assessment and ongoing management.

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

HQIP. Adult Asthma Audit Report 2019. The clinical audit report highlights three key areas for quality improvement (QI) in 2019/20. A selection of case studies, provided by participating hospital teams, are included in the report to showcase good practice. In addition, tips to achieving the QI priorities are included in the relevant sections of the report.

HQIP. National Oesophago-Gastric Cancer Audit 2019. This report looks at adult patients diagnosed in England and Wales with invasive epithelial cancer of the oesophagus, gastro-oesophageal junction (GOJ) or stomach, and patients diagnosed with high grade dysplasia (HGD) of the oesophagus. It describes the care received by patients diagnosed between April 2016 and March 2018.

This report from the National Diabetes Audit covers complications of diabetes. The report has been divided into three main sections: cardiovascular complications; diabetes-specific complications; and mortality. Each section aims to address overall rates, time trends, geographical variation and hospital utilisation.

Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership. Maternal, Newborn and Infant Programme: Saving Lives, Improving Mothers’ Care 2019. This report, the sixth MBRRACE-UK annual report of the Confidential Enquiry into Maternal Deaths and Morbidity, includes surveillance data on 549 women who died during or up to one year after pregnancy between 2015 and 2017 in the UK.

Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership. National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health – Annual Report 2019. The 2019 annual report from the National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health (NCISH) provides findings relating to people who died by suicide in 2007-2017 across all UK countries. Additional findings are presented on the number of people convicted of homicide, and those under mental health care.

Paediatric Intensive Care Audit Network (PICANet). Paediatric Intensive Care Audit Network annual report 2019: summary report. This report summarises paediatric critical care that took place in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland between 2016 and 2018. PICANet continues to provide key information to monitor the quality of care and clinical outcomes in relation to agreed standards, and inform national policy in paediatric critical care.
https://www.picanet.org.uk/annual-reporting-and-publications/
Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health. National Neonatal Audit Programme (NNAP): 2019 annual report on 2018 data. This report highlights the key findings and recommendations from the analysis of the data provided by neonatal units on the admissions of babies for neonatal care in England, Scotland and Wales in 2018.
https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/national-neonatal-audit-programme-annual-report-2019

Guidance, innovation, tools
AHSN Network. AHSN Atlas of solutions in healthcare. The AHSN Atlas is an online resource that shares some of the very best examples from across the Academic Health Science Networks of how to spread high impact innovation across the health and care system.
https://www.ahsnnetwork.com/atlas

NHS England. New advice released to support those with eating disorders at Christmas. The NHS and leading eating disorder charity Beat have drawn up new guidance to help people of all ages suffering with an illness and their families cope over the festive season.

NHS England. DNA testing on the NHS to fast track diagnosis for critically ill babies and children. The NHS in England is providing a new form of DNA test capable of rapidly diagnosing rare diseases for critically ill babies and children, as part of its Long Term Plan to use world leading technologies to improve care for the sickest infants.
https://www.england.nhs.uk/2020/01/dna-testing-on-the-nhs/

React To. Training resources for care homes. A series of training resources developed by healthcare professionals. Although aimed at care home staff these resources are also relevant to other carers and healthcare professionals. Topics include: dementia, moisture damage, falls, foot care, infection and malnutrition and dehydration.
http://www.reactto.co.uk/

Practice examples and case studies
Queen’s Nursing Institute. Homeless Healthcare in Action. The QNI website has profiled a number of projects, including a Hep C screening project in a pharmacy in Sussex, a cervical screening hub in Colchester, a voluntary nurse outreach project in Cardiff, and a specialist wound care intervention in Doncaster. The case studies highlight the work inclusion health nurses do and share best practice.

NHS England. NHS support sees people lose the weight of 43 ambulances. People finishing the world leading NHS Diabetes Prevention Programme have lost the equivalent weight of 43 ambulances.

Reports, commentary, statistics
Department of Health and Social Care. The 2019 voluntary scheme for branded medicine pricing and access: payment percentage for 2020. This scheme looks at getting the best value and most effective medicines into use more quickly. The voluntary scheme payment percentage for 2020 will be 5.9 per cent. This document sets out how the level was calculated.
Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare. Opportunities to embed sexual and reproductive healthcare services into new models of care: a practical guide for commissioners and service providers. More than 50 strategies and operational plans were reviewed for this audit, with results showing that few areas have explicitly recognised the opportunity to embed sexual and reproductive health care services in their plans.


NHS England. Improved NHS migraine care to save thousands of hospital stays. Headache and migraine sufferers will benefit from better diagnosis and care as part of the NHS Long Term Plan to improve local health services, avoiding up to 16,500 emergency hospital admissions every year.

Office for National Statistics. Alcohol-specific deaths in the UK: registered in 2018. These statistics from the Office for National Statistics reveal that there were 7,551 deaths registered in the UK in 2018 that related to alcohol-specific causes. This figure is lower than the previous year’s 7,697 deaths but still the second highest since the time series began in 2001.

Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. Better for women: improving the health and wellbeing of girls and women. The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists is calling for better joined up services, as part of its “Better for Women” report, published today. It emphasises the need for national strategies to meet the needs of girls and women across their life course – from adolescence, to the middle years and later life.

Royal College of Psychiatrists. Improving mental health services in systems of integrated and accountable care: emerging lessons and priorities. As health and care services evolve, primarily as they move to integrated care systems (ICCs), the Royal College of Psychiatrists is working to ensure the voices of mental health services and their patients are clearly heard.

Royal College of Surgeons of England. National Vascular Registry: 2019 annual report. This report contains comparative information on five major interventions for vascular disease: lower limb bypass; lower limb angioplasty/stenting; major lower limb amputation; carotid endarterectomy; and repair of aortic aneurysms, including elective infra-renal, ruptured infra-renal, and more complex aneurysms.

University of Sheffield. Adult social care and wellbeing policy in the four nations of the UK. This review summarises main policy developments on wellbeing in the field of adult social care since
2000 in the four nations of the UK. It is the first paper from the Sustainable Care: Connecting People and Systems programme from the Centre for International Research on Care, Labour & Equalities (CIRCLE) at the University of Sheffield.


World Health Organization. Can people afford to pay for health care? New evidence on financial protection in Europe. Across the European Region, outpatient medicines are the main driver of financial hardship, especially for those on lower incomes. Many countries already have policies in place to protect people from out-of-pocket payments for health, but all countries can do more.


World Health Organization. TIP: Tailoring Immunization Programmes. To achieve high and equitable vaccination uptake, it is necessary to understand the barriers to vaccination among the population groups with suboptimal coverage. Then solutions can be designed that support, motivate and enable people to be vaccinated.


**Patient safety**

BBC News. NHS e-health systems 'risk patient safety'. Hospitals across England are using 21 separate electronic systems to record patient health care - risking patient safety, researchers suggest. A team at Imperial College say the systems cannot “talk” to each other, making cross-referencing difficult and potentially leading to "errors".

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-50675361

Care Quality Commission. Safe use of radiation in health care settings. CQC’s annual report on their work to enforce the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations in England has been published. The report gives a breakdown of the number and type of statutory notifications of errors received from healthcare providers in 2018/19 where patients were exposed to ionising radiation.


Centre for Mental Health. A sense of safety: Trauma-informed approaches for women. This report finds that services taking a holistic approach to supporting women’s needs were best able to make the change to becoming trauma-informed. However, many organisations faced barriers including short-term and fragile funding.

https://www.centreformentalhealth.org.uk/sense-of-safety

Drug Safety. Prevalence and nature of medication errors and preventable adverse drug events in paediatric and neonatal intensive care settings. This paper reports on a systematic review that examined empirical studies examining the prevalence and nature of medication errors and preventable adverse drug events in paediatric and neonatal intensive care units published between January 2000 and March 2019.

Guardian. Safety fears as hospitals redeploy nurses to care for patients in corridors. Hospitals are having to redeploy nurses from wards to look after queues of patients in corridors, in a growing trend that has raised concerns about patient safety. Many hospitals have become so overcrowded that they are being forced to tell nurses to spend part of their shift working as “corridor nurses” to look after patients who are waiting for a bed.


Independent. Using temporary nurses can increase risk of patients dying. Researchers at the University of Southampton have found that the risk of dying increased by 12 per cent for every day someone experienced a high level of agency or bank staffing. Patients are more likely to die on wards staffed by a high number of temporary nurses.


MBRRACE-UK. Saving lives, improving mothers’ care: lessons learned to inform maternity care from the UK and Ireland Confidential Enquiries into Maternal Deaths and Morbidity 2015-17. The authors analysed 2.3 million pregnancies from 2015-2017 in the UK and Ireland. During that three-year period, 209 women in the UK and Ireland died during their pregnancies or up to six weeks afterwards from pregnancy-related causes. This is equivalent to just over 9 women per 100,000.


NHS Confederation. NHS staff struggle to provide safe care over winter. Nurses, doctors and other front line staff give brilliant care to patients, but the latest weekly performance figures show many are now struggling to deliver the safe, high-quality care they want to provide.


NHS Digital. Safeguarding Adults, England, 2018-19. The aim of this publication is to inform users about aspects of safeguarding activity at national, regional and local level. It is labelled as Experimental Statistics as, due to local variation in how safeguarding activity is defined and reported, there are limitations in the interpretation and usage of the data.


NHS England. England’s top doctor slams ‘exploitative’ party drips. So-called ‘party drips’ are ineffective and potentially harmful, said England’s top doctor today, as he criticised companies for peddling fake health remedies to the public.

https://www.england.nhs.uk/2019/12/party-drips/

NHS England. Gambling ill health. The NHS is facing a rising tide of gambling related ill health as more betting addicts than ever before are being taken to hospital.

https://www.england.nhs.uk/2019/12/nhs-fighting-back-against-gambling/
NHS Improvement. Whistleblowers’ support scheme. This scheme helps current and former NHS workers who are having difficulty finding suitable employment in the NHS as a result of raising a concern in the public interest. 
https://improvement.nhs.uk/resources/whistleblowers-support-scheme/

NHS Improvement. Risk of harm to babies and children from coin/button batteries in hearing aids and other hearing devices. A National Patient Safety Alert has been issued around the risk of harm to babies and children from coin/button batteries in hearing aids and other hearing devices.

NHS Resolution. NHS Resolution statement regarding the Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts and the maternity incentive scheme. NHS Resolution’s maternity incentive scheme is designed, together with experts across the system to drive greater adherence to actions designed by them to improve maternity safety. The scheme has seen significant improvement in compliance with those actions.

Nursing Times. New ‘alcohol harm’ commission seeks evidence from nurses. Nurses are being asked to share their experiences of the consequences of alcohol abuse as part of a new independent inquiry seeking to shine a light on the true costs of excessive drinking in the UK.

Nursing Times. Neonatal nurse ‘crisis’ warning as third of shifts understaffed. The staffing situation facing neonatal units was assessed for the first time as part of the latest annual National Neonatal Audit Programme (NNAP) led by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health.

Evidence-based practice
BMJ Quality and Safety. Best evidence, but does it really change practice? The study by Reeves et al highlights interesting observations on the implementation of best practice and, with the increasing number of clinical trials performed in surgery, provides opportunities for further research to understand what drives change in daily practice.
https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/early/2020/01/06/bmjqs-2019-010513

Guardian. Severe childhood deprivation reduces brain size, study finds. Children who experience severe deprivation early in life have smaller brains in adulthood. The findings are based on scans of young adults who were adopted as children into UK families from Romania’s orphanages that rose under the regime of the dictator Nicolae Ceauşescu.

NICE. Menopause: diagnosis and management. This guideline covers the diagnosis and management of menopause, including in women who have premature ovarian insufficiency. The guideline aims to improve the consistency of support and information provided to women in menopause.
https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng23
NICE. Indoor air quality at home NG149. This guideline covers indoor air quality in residential buildings. It aims to raise awareness of the importance of good air quality in people’s homes and how to achieve this.
https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng149

NICE. Acute kidney injury: prevention, detection and management. This guideline covers preventing, detecting and managing acute kidney injury in children, young people and adults. It aims to improve assessment and detection by non-specialists, and specifies when people should be referred to specialist services. This will improve early recognition and treatment, and reduce the risk of complications in people with acute kidney injury.
https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng148

NIHR. £34 million into global health research on epilepsy, infection-related cancers and severe stigmatising skin diseases. The NIHR Research and Innovation for Global Health Transformation (RIGHT) programme has awarded Official Development Assistance (ODA) funding to eight projects led by teams made up of researchers in the UK and those in low and middle-income countries.

Public Health England. National measles guidelines. This guidance provides detailed public health guidance on the risk assessment of suspected measles cases, the management of their contacts and a description of the laboratory testing services available to support this. This is set in the context of a national surveillance system which is required to support and monitor progress towards WHO elimination targets.

NIHR Signal. Very small babies appear not to be affected by the rate of increasing milk feeds. A large-scale trial has found that the speed of increasing milk feed volumes in low birth weight or very low gestational age babies who are on intravenous feeding does not influence outcomes.
https://discover.dc.nihr.ac.uk/content/signal-000852/rate-of-increasing-milk-feeds-doesnt-affect-very-small-babies

NIHR Signal. Taking blood pressure medications at night seems best. People who took their blood pressure medications at bedtime were 45% less likely to experience a major cardiovascular outcome, such as heart attack or stroke, compared with people who took them in the morning.
https://discover.dc.nihr.ac.uk/content/signal-000851/taking-blood-pressure-medications-at-night-seems-best

Patient focus

BMJ Quality and Safety. Nursing home quality: what happens to patients? While the focus of the editorial is on process and outcome measures of quality, the authors acknowledge that measuring quality of life is ‘often paramount’ to nursing home residents.
https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/early/2020/01/01/bmjqs-2019-010338

Care Quality Commission. Children and young people’s survey 2018. This survey looks at the experiences of children, young people and their parents and carers attending hospital. Overall, children, young people and their parents or carers reported good experiences of care and the majority of children and young people were positive about communication with hospital staff. They were less positive about their, or their child’s, experiences of being discharged from hospital.
Health Foundation. Public perceptions of health and social care. Results from an Ipsos MORI poll commissioned by the Health Foundation for the 2019 General Election. It found people are willing to pay more tax to maintain and improve health and social care. The public also highlighted a lack of investment in the NHS and long waiting times as the top issues facing the health service, followed by an insufficient and overworked workforce.

NHS England. New advice released to support those with eating disorders at Christmas. The NHS and leading eating disorder charity Beat have drawn up new guidance to help people of all ages suffering with an illness and their families cope over the festive season.

NHS England. NHS to fast-track access to cannabis-based medicine for children with severe epilepsy. Thousands of people, including children with severe epilepsy will have access to a potentially life changing, seizure preventing cannabis-based treatment on the NHS from the New Year.

NIHR. UK Standards for Public Involvement. The UK Standards for Public Involvement are designed to improve the quality and consistency of public involvement in research. Developed over three years by a UK-wide partnership, the standards are a description of what good public involvement looks like and encourage approaches and behaviours that are the hallmark of good public involvement such as flexibility, sharing and learning and respect for each other.
https://sites.google.com/nihr.ac.uk/pi-standards/home

The Strategy Unit. Person-centred intelligence: our guide to implementation and our offer of support. This guidance describes an approach to implementing person-centred intelligence. It brings together the views of national policy experts, clinicians, researchers and those who have implemented person-reported measures; findings from a detailed review of the current evidence; and insight from the expertise and experience drawn from The Strategy Unit and Ipsos MORI.
https://personcentredintelligence.nhs.uk/

eHealth
BBC Health. 'Outdated' IT leaves NHS staff with 15 different computer logins. IT systems in the NHS are so outdated that staff have to log in to up to 15 different systems to do their jobs.
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-50972123

Digital Health. GP patients to be offered whole-genome screening in UK-first study. A “pioneering study” to assess the benefits of screening for gene faults will see people in the UK have their entire genetic code read from samples taken at a GP practice for the first time. Some one thousand GP patients in London will have their genomes screened to assess the feasibility of testing for faulty genes that increase the risk of cancer and heart disease.

Digital Health. Matt Hancock announces new programme to help NHS trusts go digital. Matt Hancock has announced a new ‘digital aspirant’ programme to support NHS providers deliver core digital capabilities in his first keynote speech after the general election. A new Digital Aspirant programme will be put in place to support providers to have the core digital capabilities they need to deliver safe, high-quality and efficient care.
Digital Health. Privacy organisation raises concerns over NHS and Amazon deal. A privacy organisation has raised concerns about the NHS’ partnership with Amazon which allows the tech giant to use NHS data for free on its Alexa platform. UK-based advocacy group Privacy International is claiming the information could allow Amazon to make, advertise and sell their own products based on what it’s collected from the NHS.

Med-Tech Innovation News. NHS Hospital begins using robotic for knee replacement surgery. The hospital anticipates that approximately 300 patients will benefit from the robotic procedure in the first year. The aim is for patients to benefit from greater implant accuracy, reduced soft tissue damage and blood loss. The procedure is less invasive - resulting in reduced pain, shorter length of stay and an earlier return to normal activity.

NHS Digital. Number of NHS App users more than double in 3 months as ‘App Ambassadors’ set to work. The number of patients using the NHS App has more than doubled since Chief Nurse Ruth May announced the ‘NHS App Ambassadors’ scheme in early September.

NIHR. Artificial intelligence could help to detect breast cancer. An artificial intelligence algorithm has been shown to be as effective as human radiologists in detecting breast cancer from mammogram images. The researchers designed and trained an artificial intelligence algorithm using mammography images from almost 29,000 women in the UK and the US.

PharmaTimes. New ‘smart pill‘ technology reports 100% success rate. Elucid Health has announced that its “Pill Connect” smart pill bottle has reported 100% reliability in a recent survey. The technology, which prompts patients to take their medications on time and also to lets the doctor to know if the patient has dispensed, was designed to help improve medication adherence.

Staff focus
BBC News. Deeds not words count for striking nurses, says RCN. The President of the Royal College of Nursing says that health workers need to be convinced a deal has been delivered before they end their strike action.

BMC Nursing. Advanced practice nurses in primary care in Switzerland: an analysis of interprofessional collaboration. This paper aimed to investigate the practice of interprofessional collaboration between advanced practice nurses, registered nurses, and medical practice assistants within new models of PC in Switzerland using the National Interprofessional Competency Framework.
Cancer Research UK. Online Learning for Health Professionals. Cancer Research UK has developed a suite of high quality evidence-based online learning resources specifically for health professionals. The resources include videos, podcasts, and e-learning.

https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/learning-and-support/online-learning

NHS Confederation. NHS Wales staff continue to work tirelessly despite immense pressure. NHS staff continue to work tirelessly to make sure everyone gets the best possible care for their individual needs.


NHS Confederation. NHS staff struggle to provide safe care over winter. Nurses, doctors and other front line staff give brilliant care to patients, but the latest weekly performance figures show many are now struggling to deliver the safe, high-quality care they want to provide.


NHS Employers. People performance management toolkit: communications pack. This toolkit includes practical support for both new and experienced managers, including tips on where to start with line management, how to work with both underperforming and exceptional staff and advice on how to give constructive feedback.


NHS Employers. What line management practices impact performance? Read the summary of an independent review, which highlights the line and middle management practices that have the most positive outcomes on workplace performance.


NHS Employers. The state of medical education and practice in the UK. The report highlights some key changes in the workforce joining the health service, with a larger emphasis on work-life balance and career development.


NHS Employers. New grant for nursing students. All nursing, midwifery and many allied health students will be eligible for £5,000 a year to help with living costs, as part of new plans set out by the government.

https://www.nhsemployers.org/news/2019/12/new-grant-for-nursing-students

NHS Employers. Improving access to hot and healthy meals for night staff. After surveying junior doctors to find out how to improve staff wellbeing, Royal Free London found that access to healthy food and drink 24 hours a day, seven days a week was a key priority.


NHS England. ‘Never a better time to join the NHS’ says health chief Simon Stevens. NHS chief Simon Stevens is today urging people of all ages to consider embarking on a career in the health service next year, as he thanks those current staff who will be working over Christmas.

NHS Providers. A place to work: system approaches to workforce challenges in the NHS. This briefing aims to explore how trusts are working with their staff and with local partners to enable the health and care workforce to adapt to new ways of collaborative working in systems, and to support the aim of integrated, joined up care. It contains a number of case studies based on interviews with trusts, STPs and ICSs and local authorities.
https://nhsproviders.org/a-place-to-work

Nursing Times. Neonatal nurse ‘crisis’ warning as third of shifts understaffed. The staffing situation facing neonatal units was assessed for the first time as part of the latest annual National Neonatal Audit Programme (NNAP) led by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health.

Royal Pharmaceutical Society. A competency framework for designated prescribing practitioners. This framework supports individuals across all independent prescribing professions, training providers and universities to understand what competencies must be met to provide safe and effective prescribing supervision to independent prescribers.
https://www.rpharms.com/index.html