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 Raybone and Ross Scrivener
RCN Nursing Department

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

News story

Improving digital literacy

“We are living through a technological revolution and digitalisation is developing at an incredible speed. It will continue to impact on many aspects of our lives and has the potential to transform the art and science of healthcare creating many opportunities for the population and those who care for them. It will stimulate innovation and enable us to work in very different ways.”

In this paper Health Education England introduces six key domains of distinct digital capabilities required to meet the challenge of living in a digital society. This work has been endorsed by the RCN.

See: Improving Digital Literacy

RCN highlights

RCN welcomes debate to scrap the cap. The RCN has welcomed a proposed amendment to the Queen’s Speech which seeks to force the Government to lift the public sector pay cap.

Summer of protest begins. The Prime Minister must remove the 1% cap or face a historic ballot of 270,000 nursing staff, the RCN says as it launches a new campaign.


No mention of pay cap in Queen’s Speech. The RCN has criticised the Prime Minister’s failure to scrap the public sector pay cap in the Queen’s Speech.


First protocol for animals in health care. The RCN is creating the first ever nationwide protocol for animals in health care in a bid to encourage more hospitals to explore animal therapy.


Unions send message to PM. The Royal College of Nursing has joined forces with 14 unions representing the NHS workforce to demand Theresa May ends the 1% cap on NHS pay.


RCN Foundation consults on funding structure. The RCN Foundation is consulting members on plans to amalgamate three of its main funds into two.


Nursing staff celebrated in Queen’s Birthday Honours. Chief Executive of the Queen’s Nursing Institute Dr Crystal Oldman has joined Jean White, Chief Nursing Officer for Wales, in receiving a CBE for services to nursing.


Termination of pregnancy. This guidance incorporates expert and evidence-based practice. It has been produced to support registered nurses and midwives working within the NHS and independent sector.

https://www.rcn.org.uk/professional-development/publications/pub-005957

National Curriculum and Competency Framework for emergency Nursing (Level 1). This framework (Part 1 005 883 and Park 2 005 923) developed by leading emergency nursing experts, is founded on nursing philosophy and details the depth and breadth of knowledge and skills required of emergency nurses.

https://www.rcn.org.uk/professional-development/publications/pub-005883

National Curriculum and Competency Framework Emergency Nursing (Level 2). This framework (Part 1 005 883 and Part 2 005 923) developed by leading emergency nursing experts, is founded on nursing philosophy and details the depth and breadth of knowledge and skills required of emergency nurses.

https://www.rcn.org.uk/professional-development/publications/pub-005923

10 Jul 2017, RCN, 20 Cavendish Square, Marylebone, London W1G 0RN So you want to be an IBD nurse specialist? Join our unique study day aimed at nurses with an interest in developing a career as an IBD (inflammatory bowel disease) nurse specialist.

https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/events/ibd-london

24 August 2017. Amba Hotel Marble Arch, Bryanston St, Marylebone, London W1H 7EH. RCN School Nurses Conference and Exhibition 2017. This RCN conference will provide a valuable opportunity for you to meet other like-minded nurses and remain professionally up to date. Aimed at all nurses working in schools and educational settings, including those from academies, independent, free and boarding schools.

https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/events/school-nurses

14 Sep 2017 - 15 Sep Cardiff City Hall, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3ND. 23rd International Mental Health Nursing Research (MHNRF Conference 2017. The International Mental Health Nursing Research Conference is the Network for Psychiatric Nursing Research Conference re-imagined and reinvented.

20 Sep 2017. Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, Marylebone, London W1G 0RN. Older People's Services: clinicians leading together. RCN Older People's forum and BGS joint conference. This is your opportunity to take part by submitting an abstract for presentation. Make your voice heard and share new solutions to older people's care whilst inspiring attendees to achieve personal excellence in the care of older people. 
https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/events/older-peoples-conference

21 Sep 2017. Novotel Hotel, 50 Arundel Gate, Sheffield S1 2PR. Best Practice in Procurement for Quality and Safety. The event is aimed at senior leaders, including nurses and those working in procurement and finance and it will give colleagues from across the North of England the opportunity to share best practice in procurement. https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/events/best-practice-in-procurement-for-quality-and-safety-september

Quality improvement

Audit, reviews, legislation, inspections, regulation


King’s Fund. Tackling variations in clinical care. The Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT) programme aims to bring about higher-quality care in hospitals, at lower cost, by reducing unwanted variations in services and practices. https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/tackling-variations-clinical-care

NHS Health Research Authority. Report hails ‘significant progress’ in medical research regulation. Leading figures from the world of UK medical research attending the workshop in November 2016 strongly supported the development of the Health Research Authority’s new system, HRA Approval. Since the workshop, HRA Approval has fully bedded in, with good user feedback about the ease of setting up studies. http://www.hra.nhs.uk/news/2017/06/16/academy-report-hails-significant-progress-medical-research-regulation/


Guidance, innovation, tools

Adam Smith Institute. Instrumental variables. How the UK can become a world leader in medical innovation. The world of medical innovation is rapidly changing and Brexit has given the UK the opportunity to become a leader in it. However, doing so requires rethinking the role of the regulator. The MHRA should become a partner to innovation, not a hindrance. https://static1.squarespace.com/static/56eddde762cd9413e151ac92/t/5947fb8b86e6c05d9527f1f3/149789681752/medical_innovation.pdf

BBC Health. Painless flu jab patch for people scared of injections. The patch has a hundred tiny hair-like microneedles on its adhesive side that penetrate the skin's surface. http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-40402775
Care Inspectorate. Uro sheath – An alternative to long term catheterisation and containment products. NHSGGC are running short educational sessions around the use of sheaths.  

Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition. A Comprehensive Nutrition-Focused Quality Improvement Program Reduces 30-Day Readmissions and Length of Stay in Hospitalized Patients. Nutrition interventions can improve outcomes. This study tested effects of a nutrition-focused quality improvement program (QIP) on hospital readmission and length of stay (LOS).  
http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0148607116681468

King’s Fund. Cascading leadership programme. This free programme matches experienced, high-performing leaders in the voluntary and community sector (VCS) with others in the sector to share their knowledge and provide peer support. It is designed for those who want to develop both their organisational and leadership skills and contribute to the sector.  
https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/leadership/cascading-leadership-programme

NHS England. State of the art cancer-treating cyclotron arrives at UK’s first high energy proton beam centre. A state of the art proton beam therapy machine, the ‘cyclotron’, will be installed at the specialist cancer hospital The Christie in Manchester, marking a major milestone in a national NHS plan to provide high energy proton beam therapy in the UK from next year.  

NHS England. NHS England kicks off international search for ground-breaking patient-care innovations. The NHS Innovation Accelerator (NIA) has already successfully helped transform patient care across the NHS by fast-tracking the uptake of pioneering ideas, equipment and technology such as ventilation tubes that reduce cases of pneumonia and new approaches to mental health care.  

NHS Innovation Accelerator. For 2017, the NIA is seeking local, national and international innovations that address the following NHS priorities: mental health, urgent and emergency care and primary care. Applications will remain open until midnight on Wednesday 26 July 2017.  
http://nhsaccelerator.com/apply/

Public Health England. Adult weight management: guidance for commissioners and providers. This guidance outlines findings from qualitative research providing insight into patient experience of weight management services, evidence to support commissioning, and further information on evidence-based behaviour change techniques.  

Practice examples and case studies

Care Inspectorate. Come On In. Come On In - blog for Care Home Week (15 June – Ordinary Living).  

Care Quality Commission. Driving improvement. This report contains case studies of eight trusts that have shown significant improvement since a previous inspection. It explores what these trusts have done to become well-led. The CQC asked people in those trusts how they had achieved improvements, looked at the steps their leaders had taken and the effect of those actions on staff and patients.  

NHS National Institute for Health Research. International Nurses Day event provides insight into future of clinical research nursing. For the fifth year running, the NIHR Clinical Research Network (CRN) celebrated this special day with a national event, just for Clinical Research Nurses, who
provided an insight into their role and what they think the future of research nursing looks like in some short interviews available to view online.
https://www.nihr.ac.uk/news/international-nurses-day-event-provides-insight-into-future-of-clinical-research-nursing/6387

Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee. Community pharmacy services case studies hub. This case studies hub brings together articles and news stories that showcase commissioned community pharmacy services and Healthy Living Pharmacies. This hub can be used when looking for service inspiration and opportunities, or to support the commissioning of community pharmacy services.
http://psnc.org.uk/services-commissioning/locally-commissioned-services/services-case-studies-hub/

Swindon Wound Improvement Project (SWIPE). Launched in June 2016, the Swindon Wound Care Improvement Project (SWIPE) is helping to make improvements to wound care pathways for patients. In this video, Jacky Webb, Practice Nurse at the Hawthorn Surgery in Swindon talks about her involvement in the SWIPE project.

Reports, commentary, statistics

Association of Directors of Public Health. Future drivers of the health of Londoners. This online resource includes links to the delegate briefing packs and a horizon scanning game which aims to support professionals to consider the opportunities and implications of the future drivers of health.

Care Inspectorate. Scottish Urinary infection Network June newsletter. In this edition, SUTIN are focusing on the NHS Education for Scotland (NES) resources around urinary catheters and continence.
http://www.careinspectorate.com/index.php/news

Demos. The Financial Impact of motor neurone disease: Measuring the financial impacts of diagnosis on individuals and their families. This research looks into the hidden costs associated with a motor neurone disease (MND) diagnosis for both individuals, their families and carers. It captures the voices of hundreds of people living with the disease across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Department of Health. More A&E funding to help hospitals prepare for winter. The Secretary of State for Health Jeremy Hunt has announced a second wave of funding to ease pressure on hospital emergency departments ahead of next winter. The funding will be used to help hospitals properly equip themselves to handle the large volumes of patients attending A&E.
https://www.gov.uk/government/news/more-a&e-funding-to-help-hospitals-prepare-for-winter

Guardian. NHS launches urgent appeal for black people to donate blood. Health officials have launched an urgent appeal for more black people to give blood. NHS Blood and Transplant said that 40,000 more black donors are needed to meet growing demand for a special subtype of blood more common in black people.

King’s Fund. House of Commons debate on the address: health, social care and security. This briefing has been prepared ahead of the Queen's Speech debates and it outlines the key issues for health and social care in the new parliament. It emphasises the need for long-term sustainable options for social care and for greater funding for the NHS to address spending pressures and increased demand.
Localis. A healthy state of mind: improving young people's mental fitness. This report argues for reform of the mental health system to provide greater support for the majority of young people who will not receive treatment from specialist child and adolescent mental health services, whilst ensuring that those in desperate need of clinical intervention receive immediate help.

http://www.localis.org.uk/research/a-healthy-state-of-mind-improving-young-peoples-mental-fitness/

London South Bank University, School of Health and Social Care. Sustainability and transformation plans: how serious are the proposals? A critical review. This report argues that in order to deliver a better future for the NHS, all 44 STPs would need to be given legislative powers and support necessary to achieve effective collaboration, plus some much-needed clarification on their role.

https://www.lsbu.ac.uk/about-us/news/critical-review-44-stps-nhs

National Audit Office. Mental Health in prisons. This report suggests that the Government does not know how many people in prison have a mental illness, how much it is spending on mental health in prisons or whether it is achieving its objectives


NHS England. NHS England announces new sites to redesign mental health services and cut out of area placements. NHS England has announced a new tranche of sites to test new approaches to delivering mental health services – cutting the number of people travelling long distances for care.

https://www.england.nhs.uk/2017/06/new-sites-to-redesign-mental-health-services/

NHS Health Scotland. Monitoring and Evaluating Scotland’s Alcohol Strategy: Monitoring Report 2017. This report show that in 2015, an average of 22 people per week died in Scotland due to an alcohol-related cause - 54% higher than in England and Wales. The report does note that alcohol harm in Scotland has been falling over the last decade.

http://www.healthscotland.scot/health-topics/alcohol/monitoring-and-evaluating-scotlands-alcohol-strategy

NHS Litigation Authority. The rising cost of clinical negligence, who pays the price? Helen Vernor, Chief Executive of NHS Resolution says: ’We welcome the Medical Protection Society’s report ‘The Rising Cost of Clinical Negligence, Who Pays the Price?’ together with the wide ranging debate the report should prompt on how best to address the rising costs of clinical negligence.

http://www.nhsela.com/CurrentActivity/Pages/News.aspx

NHS National Institute for Health Research. Primary care working alongside allied health professionals to conduct research in Wessex. Across the UK, general practices are seeing an increase in the number of allied health care professionals helping to facilitate research in primary care environments.


NI Department of Health. Northern Ireland Hospital Statistics: Emergency Care (2016/17). The statistical bulletin presents information on the total activity at ED’s in Northern Ireland during 2016/17, including information on new, unplanned and planned review attendances, waiting times at ED’s, patient transport and emergency response.


NI Department of Health. The Prevalence of Autism (including Asperger’s Syndrome) in School Age Children in Northern Ireland 2017. These figures have been extracted from the Northern Ireland School Census collected by the Department of Education.


NI Department of Health. Young Persons Behaviour & Attitudes Survey 2016: Health Modules. This publication presents an overview of the health-related topics from the 2016 survey.


NI Department of Health. Shingles vaccination programme- eligibility criteria. Chief Executives must ensure that this information is drawn to the attention of all staff involved in elderly care and
vaccination programmes, to enable them to respond accordingly.

NHS Providers. Winter warning: managing risk in health and care this winter. This report highlights concerns from NHS leaders around the ability of the health system to respond to mounting pressures next winter. The report calls for a funding injection of £350m to ensure that there is enough capacity across the system and to ensure adequate resourcing.

Public Health England. Public health advice following the Grenfell Tower fire. Public Health England (PHE) has been providing specialist advice on health following the Grenfell Tower fire. This includes health advice on air quality, smoke exposure, asbestos, and the clean-up process.

Public Health England. Findings from the pilot of the analytical support package for alcohol licensing. This report outlines the findings of the pilot project and presents how the pilot areas engaged with the analytical support package in attempting to improve public health’s engagement with alcohol licensing.

**Patient safety**

Academy of Medical Sciences. Enhancing the use of scientific evidence to judge the potential benefits and harms of medicines. This report highlights the significant difficulties patients and some healthcare professionals face in using evidence from research to judge the benefits and harms of medicines, and calls for concerted action to improve the information patients receive.
https://acmedsci.ac.uk/more/news/action-needed-to-prevent-confusion-over-medicines

BBC Health. Vulnerable told to expect cuts to council care. The elderly and disabled in England are being told to expect cuts to care services and rises in charges after council chiefs unveiled spending plans.
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-40416105

BBC News. 'Unnecessary deaths' waiting lists warning. Some people in Northern Ireland may die unnecessarily while remaining on a hospital waiting list for treatment, according to the national independent health charity, the Nuffield Trust.
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-40320391

BMC Health Services Research. The effectiveness of emergency nurse practitioner service in the management of patients presenting to rural hospitals with chest pain (Australia). Health reforms in service improvement have included the use of nurse practitioners.
https://bmchealthservres.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12913-017-2395-9

BMC Public Health. Benefits and harms of prostate cancer screening. This study used the recalibrated model to assess the effects of familial risk, quality of life (QoL) preferences, age, and active surveillance.
https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-017-4439-9

BMJ. Beyond hand hygiene: a qualitative study of the everyday work of preventing cross-contamination on hospital wards.
http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/26/7/552

BMJ. Safety risks associated with the lack of integration and interfacing of hospital health information technologies. As part of an English programme of research, this study explores the social and technical challenges relating to integration and interfacing experienced by early adopter hospitals of standalone and hospital-wide multimodal integrated electronic prescribing (ePrescribing) systems.
http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/26/7/530
BMJ. Patients’ and providers’ perceptions of the preventability of hospital readmission. Because of fundamental differences in healthcare systems, US readmission data cannot be extrapolated to the European setting: To investigate the opinions of readmitted patients, their carers, nurses and physicians on predictability and preventability of readmissions and using majority consensus to determine contributing factors that could potentially foresee (preventable) readmissions. http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/early/2017/06/21/bmjqs-2017-006645

BMJ Open. Patient-reported safety incidents in older patients with long-term conditions: a large cross-sectional study. This paper concluded that “older patients with multimorbidity and depression are more likely to report experiences of patient safety incidents. Improving perceived support and involvement of patients in their care may help prevent patient-reported safety incidents.” http://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/7/5/e013524

Care Quality Commission. The CQC has written to care homes, hospices and independent hospitals to encourage them to review their fire safety checks. The letter, from our chief executive, Sir David Behan, has been sent as a precautionary measure following the tragic events at Grenfell Tower earlier this month. http://www.cqc.org.uk/news/stories/cqc-writes-care-homes-hospices-independent-hospitals-encourage-them-review-their-fire


JAMA Network. Association of adverse events with antibiotic use in hospitalized patients. Although antibiotics may play a critical role when used appropriately, the findings underscore the importance of judicious antibiotic prescribing to reduce the harm that can result from antibiotic-associated adverse drug events. http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamainternalmedicine/article-abstract/2630756

Lancet. Mortality risks associated with emergency admissions during weekends and public holidays. Weekend hospital admission is associated with increased mortality, but the contributions of varying illness severity and admission time to this weekend effect remain unexplored. http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(17)30782-1/fulltext

Medical Protection Society. The rising cost of clinical negligence: who pays the price? Clinical negligence costs in the NHS have increased by 72 per cent over the last five years and costs could reach £2.6bn a year by 2022. It argues that there should be reasonable compensation for patients who suffer harm due to clinical negligence but that this must be balanced against society’s ability to pay. https://www.medicalprotection.org.uk/for-members/press-releases/press-releases/clinical-negligence-costs-at-tipping-point---urgent-reform-needed

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency. e-cigarettes and refill containers (e-liquids): report suspected side effects and safety concerns. The MHRA are encouraging the reporting of suspected side effects for e-cigarettes including defects and harm to non-users and children e.g. accidental poisoning. MHRA is working with Trading Standards to ensure products on the UK market meet acceptable safety standards. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/620777/DSU-June_PDF.pdf

NHS Confederation. Queen’s Speech delivers new patient safety legislation. The Draft Patient Safety Bill would establish the body in statute, helping to “improve how the NHS investigates and learns from mistakes.”

NHS National Institute for Health Research. Confusion over medication may be putting lives at risk, warn researchers. Research suggests that about 5,700 people die every year in the UK because of ‘medication related adverse events’, which includes side-effects and when incorrect medicines, dosages or strengths are administered.
https://www.nihr.ac.uk/news/confusion-over-medication-may-be-putting-lives-at-risk-warn-researchers/6385

NIHR. Benchmarking study helps hospitals improve measurement of adverse events. One in ten inpatients in Welsh hospitals experienced an adverse event of some sort, about half of which were potentially preventable. This is very similar to the rate in other countries. The figures come from a review of 4,388 patient records between October 2010 and March 2013.
https://discovery.dc.nihr.ac.uk/portal/article/4000674/benchmarking-study-helps-hospitals-improve-measurement-of-adverse-events

NSPCC. How safe are our children? 2017. This report compiles and analyses the most robust and up-to-date child protection data that exists across the 4 nations in the UK for 2017. The report sets out 20 difference indicators.

Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. Each baby counts. This inquiry looked at more than 700 recent neonatal deaths and injuries. “Although the UK remains one of the safest places to give birth, serious incidents do occur, some of which could be prevented if different care were given”.
https://www.rcog.org.uk/en/guidelines-research-services/audit-quality-improvement/each-baby-counts/

Royal Society for Public Health. Drug safety testing at festivals and night clubs. This report calls on all music festivals where drug use is common to provide safety testing facilities as standard. It comes in response to an increase in recent years of deaths related to the use of recreational club drugs, with ecstasy deaths in England and Wales up almost six-fold from ten in 2010 to 57 in 2015.

Evidence-based practice
Kidney International Supplements. Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO). The update addresses changes in evidence on diagnosis, management and treatment of CKD-MBD. Specifically, updated guidance on the proper management of calcium, phosphorus and PTH is provided. See also NICE guidance on CKD.

Lancet. Effect of antibiotic stewardship on the incidence of infection and colonisation with antibiotic-resistant bacteria and Clostridium difficile infection. Antibiotic stewardship programmes have been shown to reduce antibiotic use and hospital costs. We aimed to evaluate evidence of the effect of antibiotic stewardship on the incidence of infections and colonisation with antibiotic-resistant bacteria.
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473-3099(17)30325-0/fulltext

NICE. New type of treatment for Crohn’s disease is approved by NICE. Following NICE recommendations, patients with Crohn’s disease will have routine NHS access to drug ustekinumab, which offers a new way of treating the condition. It is an option for treating the disease in adults who have had little or no response, or an intolerance to existing therapies.

NICE. NICE Launches a competition for developers of healthcare technologies. NICE Scientific Advice has launched a competition for small or medium sized companies, charities and academic
research groups, who are developing transformative products that have the potential to change patients' lives and/or save the NHS money.  

NICE. More people who can get the flu jab for free should be vaccinated. New draft guidance from NICE highlights the need to educate people that having a flu vaccination each year is the single best way of protecting against catching or spreading flu.  

NICE. NICE approves COPD treatment roflumilast for routine NHS use. Thousands of patients to benefit from roflumilast, also known as Daxas, to treat chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) after NICE says it should be more widely available.  

National Institute for Health Research. New drug effective in shrinking cervical cancer tumours
A new drug could be lifesaving for women with advanced cervical cancer. The drug, Nivolumab, is already licensed to treat lung and skin cancer and this is the first time the treatment has been shown to be effective for women with cervical cancer.  

NIHR Signal: Asthma self-management programmes can reduce unscheduled care. Expert commentary is provided for this meta-review of 27 systematic reviews which found that asthma self-management programmes reduced hospital admissions. These work best when delivered in familiar surroundings and in a targeted fashion rather than impassively.  
https://discover.dc.nihr.ac.uk/portal/article/4000670/asthma-self-management-programmes-can-reduce-unscheduled-care

NIHR Signal. An end of life strategy probably improved choice of where to die for people with severe respiratory disease. Most people prefer not to die in hospital, but the majority of patients with long-term diseases other than cancer end up dying there. In England, an NIHR study showed that roll-out of the End of Life Care strategy in 2004 was linked to a reduction in deaths in hospital.  

PHG Foundation. Linking and sharing routine health data for research in England. This briefing discusses how the use of research using de-identified routine health data can provide unique insights to improve population health. It identifies the barriers and challenges to the wider use of routine health data.  
http://www.phgfoundation.org/file/17660/

**Patient focus**

BBC News. Don't be scared to let animals on wards, say nurses. Hospitals should let more dogs and other animals on to wards and even into operating theatres to help patients. The call comes after the RCN collected scores of anecdotes of therapy-animals, and sometimes pets, helping recovery.  
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-40346539

BMJ Quality and Safety. When patient-centred care is worth doing well: informed consent or shared decision-making. "High quality care is patient-centred. Efforts to promote patient-centred care in clinical practice should improve quality. Both shared decision-making (SDM) and the process of obtaining informed consent could be expressions of patient-centred care".  
http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/26/7/522

FoNS Centre for Nursing Innovation. How to enhance the experience of people living with a dementia in an acute hospital setting. The aim of this project was to introduce changes to the acute elderly assessment ward that will create an environment that is dementia friendly with a focus on safety and improved patient experience.  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0LYqK_IY720&feature=youtu.be&cn=bWVudGlvbG%3D%3D
FoNS Centre for Nursing Innovation. Improving the hospital experience of patients with a learning disability within Hywel Dda University Health Board. This initiative aims to gain an understanding of acute ward staff’s learning needs about learning disability issues, and what individuals who have a learning disability and their family and carers feel is important for ward staff to know.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xuRzsz3nSq

Health in Wales. With 1 in 3 older people falling every year, new handbook aims to cut numbers. New handbooks, which provide advice and information to help older people avoid falls, are being given to patients on non-emergency transport vehicles across Wales. The work is part of the ‘Steady On, Stay SAFE’ national falls prevention campaign for older people.
http://www.wales.nhs.uk/news/45168

Journal of Medical Internet Research. A mobile app for the self-management of type 1 diabetes among adolescents. While optimal blood glucose control is known to reduce the long-term complications associated with type 1 diabetes mellitus, adolescents often struggle to achieve their blood glucose targets. However, their strong propensity toward technology presents a unique opportunity for the delivery of novel self-management interventions.
http://mhealth.jmir.org/2017/6/e82/

National Voices. Enabling change through communities of practice. In June 2014, National Voices explored how communities of practice could facilitate the spread of large-scale change across England’s voluntary sector working for health and wellbeing. This report shares reflections on this project in order that others can use the learning.

NHS England. Bite-sized guides. These guides will help providers and commissioners understand the use of patient insight better and to use it effectively in delivering local services. These two new guides focus on helping people with a learning disability to give feedback and building greater insight through qualitative research.

NHS National Institute for Health Research. Patient led research published by national charity. A patient driven research project supported by North East nurse Julie Goodfellow, has been published by national charity Cardiomyopathy UK.
https://www.nihr.ac.uk/news/patient-led-research-published-by-national-charity/6351

Nuffield Trust. Power to the people: What if we gave patients more of a say on health service reforms? Helen Buckingham reflects on how health professionals can sometimes impose decisions on patients, and ponders what would happen if those professionals stood back and gave the patient the power to decide themselves.
https://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/news-item/power-to-the-people-what-if-we-gave-patients-more-of-a-say-on-health-service-reforms


Social Care Institute for Excellence. Improving personalisation in care homes - Action planning tool. This action planning tool is for managers and owners of care homes for older people. It will help you to explore what personalisation means for care homes and more importantly help you have conversations together about where you are now and what you could do to improve things.

Social Care Institute for Excellence. Views of personalisation. These videos explore key aspects of personalisation, and feature a number of people reflecting on the importance of providing good person-centred care. Care home staff, directors and commissioners, and from national organisations talk about different aspects of personalisation, and how they can improve quality of care.
eHealth

BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making. Technology has significantly changed the way health organizations operate. However, the role it plays in healthcare systems remains unclear. This aim of this study was to evaluate the opinion of physicians regarding e-health and determine what factors influence their opinion and describe the advantages, inconveniences and threats they may perceive by its use.  
https://bmcmedinformdecismak.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12911-017-0489-2

BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making. Perceptions on use of home tele-monitoring in patients with long term conditions. Health information technology (HIT) may be used to improve care for increasing numbers of older people with long term conditions (LTCs) who make high demands on health and social care services.  
https://bmcmedinformdecismak.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12911-017-0486-5

BMJ Quality and Safety. Safety risks associated with the lack of integration and interfacing of hospital health information technologies. “Substantial sums of money are being invested worldwide in health information technology. Realising benefits and mitigating safety risks is however highly dependent on effective integration of information within systems and/or interfacing to allow information exchange across systems.”  
http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/26/7/530

Digital Health London. Digital Leadership in London’s NHS. This report aims to chart the impact of digital technology on the NHS in London over recent months. It follows a number of leaders of healthcare organisations in London and asks them why they made the decision to use a digital solution, what benefits they are finding and how this fits with their vision for the future.  

Digitalhealth.net. London trust researching clinical use of holograms. University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is using Microsoft’s HoloLens to consider whether holograms might help surgeons operating on patients with kidney cancer.  
https://www.digitalhealth.net/2017/06/london-trust-researching-clinical-use-holograms/

Digitalhealth.net. Special report on e-prescribing. The benefits of e-prescribing have long been emphasised, and uptake is increasing – albeit very slowly. The next step: harnessing the growing functionality and increasing intelligence that such systems can offer.  
https://www.digitalhealth.net/2017/06/special-report-e-prescribing-8/

Health in Wales. App launches to aid early intervention in eating disorders. An app has been launched in Wales which aims to bridge a knowledge gap and provide information to enable preventative and early intervention for those suspected of having an eating disorder, which will help increase the chances of individual recovery.  
http://www.wales.nhs.uk/news/45166

Housing LIN. Going Digital: Utilising smart technology at home. Living Better for Less with Technology-enabled Housing. This resource contains answers to key questions around digital technology – why is digital important, how does it support policy and commissioning objectives, what is the art of the possible/benefits of going digital and how do you make sure you’re making the right decisions.  
https://www.housinglin.org.uk Going digital/

Institute for Government. Improving the management of digital government. This report argues the digitisation of government and public services is happening too slowly in the UK and calls for the appointment of a minister responsible for digital government would help drive change and advance standards.  
Journal of Medical Internet Research. Trust and credibility in web-based health information. Internet sources are becoming increasingly important in seeking health information, such that they may have a significant effect on health care decisions and outcomes.  
http://www.jmir.org/2017/6/e218/

National Institute for Health Research. New digital game aims to help teenagers eat better and get active. The aim of the research is to educate young people about the impact their lifestyle choices have on their health. Teenagers will be offered support back in school from specially trained teachers and will be encouraged to use the new game to help them change their eating habits and be more active.  

NHS England. The roll-out of NHS wifi to primary care has now moved into its second phase which will see free wifi available to both patients and staff in all GP surgeries by 31 December 2017. From June 2017, funding has been made available to cover the hardware, implementation and service costs.  
https://digital.nhs.uk/nhs-wi-fi

NHS Wales Informatics Service. What NHS staff have to say about digital health initiatives. These case studies show how digital services are making a real impact on healthcare in Wales. From Palliative Care to Podiatry Referrals - in Cardiac Services, GP surgeries, and the comfort of patients' homes, electronic technology is transforming and improving the way NHS Wales works.  
http://www.wales.nhs.uk/nwis/page/91131

NICE. New digital therapies can help treat anxiety and depression. As part of NHS England's Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) programme, NICE has been asked to assess digital applications or computer programmes, which will sit alongside face-to-face, phone and online therapy.  

Royal Society for Public Health. Social media and young people's mental health and wellbeing. This report examines the positive and negative effects of social media on young people’s health. The report includes a league table of social media platforms according to their impact on young people’s mental health. YouTube tops the table as the most positive with Instagram and Snapchat coming out as the most detrimental to young people’s mental health and wellbeing.  

Scottish Government. Telecare self-check online tool. This is an easy to use online tool that allows you to find helpful information on telecare services in your area that could help you live independently at home for longer. The tool asks 6 – 12 questions and will take about 5 minutes to complete. Once you have completed the tool you will be given useful information relating to your answers.  
https://www.telecareselfcheck.scot/

**Staff focus**

BMJ. Nursing skill mix in European hospitals. This study aims to determine the association of hospital nursing skill mix with patient mortality, patient ratings of their care and indicators of quality of care.  
http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/26/7/559

BMJ Quality and Safety. Nursing skill mix in European hospitals: cross-sectional study of the association with mortality, patient ratings, and quality of care. This study aimed to determine the
association of hospital nursing skill mix with patient mortality, patient ratings of their care and indicators of quality of care.
http://qualitiesafety.bmj.com/content/26/7/559

Guardian. Government ‘reneging on promise to fund 10,000 extra nursing places’. Universities are warning that the government is quietly reneging on its promise to provide 10,000 new nursing degree places, intended to relieve pressure on the NHS.

HSC Public Health Agency. 10,000 MORE Voices: health service wants to hear from you. The Public Health Agency (PHA) and Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) are expanding the successful 10,000 Voices health service improvement programme.
http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/10000-more-voices-health-service-wants-hear-you

Longwoods. Nursing leadership. This paper focuses on the central role of senior nurse leaders in advancing organizational resources and support for communication between healthcare providers and carers that influences patient and carer outcomes during the transition from hospital to the community.
http://www.longwoods.com/content/25105

NHS Education for Scotland. Scottish IPC Education Pathway now available. NHS Education for Scotland is leading the way in demonstrating a national approach to infection prevention and control with the introduction of the Scottish Infection Prevention and Control Education Pathway (SIPCEP). The Foundation layer of the pathway is now available.

NHS Employers. Redundancy repayment for very senior managers. Following changes to the NHS England’s 2016/17 Standard Contract, very senior managers (VSMs) are now required to repay contractual redundancy payments if they have started employment with another NHS employer as a VSM within 12 months.

NHS Providers. Where next for commissioning? This report is the first in a series which promotes the views of leaders from a range of trusts and other parts of the service on some of the key issues facing the NHS today.

Nuffield Trust. Bullying behaviour should have no place in surgical teams. Alice Hartley explains why and how the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh is spearheading a campaign to tackle bullying behaviour within surgery teams.
https://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/news-item/bullying-behaviour-should-have-no-place-in-surgical-teams

Nursing Leadership. A new issue of Nursing Leadership has been published. Topics covered include: people powered care; home and community care; integrated comprehensive care and the role of Nurse Leaders in Advancing Carer Communication Needs across Transitions of Care: A Call to Action.
http://www.longwoods.com/publications/nursing-leadership/25104