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

New healthy workplace, healthy you resource launched
Healthy workplace, healthy you is an online resource supporting employers and RCN representatives to work in partnership to improve working environments. It also supports nursing professionals to lead healthy lifestyles so they can maintain both physical and mental well-being.

See: Healthy.workplace.healthy.you

RCN highlights
RCN members deliver pay petition to Downing Street. Frontline nursing staff today handed a petition of 67,000 names to Downing Street, opposing the UK Government’s policy on public sector pay.


Data axe creates ‘blind spot’ on NHS staff assaults. The RCN has warned that the number of assaults on nursing staff is on the rise and at risk of worsening, as the Government confirms that associated data will no longer be collected and scrutinised.

We can’t afford to lose EU nurses. The RCN says the Government must make nursing staff from Europe feel welcome, as figures show more are leaving and fewer joining the NHS.

Hunt: the cap has been scrapped. In a victory for the RCN and its members, Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt has today said the 1% pay cap for NHS staff has been scrapped.
https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/news/hunt-the-cap-has-been-scrapped

Worrying decline in nurse numbers. The RCN has said that health and care providers must give urgent assurances that services are safe for patients this winter, after new analysis reveals falling nurse numbers.

Diversity in nursing exhibition launches. The RCN is launching a new exhibition celebrating the diversity of the nursing workforce and its historical relevance to the profession.

RCN ethical impact assessment tool. This RCN ethical impact assessment tool will help you decide on a course of action or planning a piece of work by answering a series of questions.
https://www.rcn.org.uk/professional-development/publications/pub-006499

The value of reps: In our own words. This book showcases the work of RCN accredited representatives. In the summer of 2017, a group of reps from all four corners of the UK were invited to share their experiences and feelings. This book features their stories, told in their own words. One half of the book focuses on the many ways in which reps help members and organisations, while the other half looks at how being a rep has changed their own lives for the better.
https://www.rcn.org.uk/professional-development/publications/pub-006238

Healthy workplace, healthy you. Healthy workplace, healthy you is supporting employers and RCN representatives to work in partnership to improve working environments. It also supports nursing professionals to lead healthy lifestyles so they can maintain both physical and mental wellbeing.
https://www.rcn.org.uk/healthy-workplace

International infection prevention week 2017. The third week in October is now a well-established global event to support awareness of the importance of preventing infection- read RCN Professional lead for infection prevention and control's blog.

Events

RCN Education Forum National Conference & Exhibition 2018. Partners in Practice: Nurses Working Together Through Change, 20 – 21 March 2018, Newcastle Civic Centre, Barras Bridge, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 8QH. If you are involved in educating and developing the nursing workforce and have a contemporary project, initiative or research to share, why not submit an abstract for this leading conference, which will focus on advancing all aspects of the practice of nursing education. Call for abstracts closes midnight on Monday 23rd October 2017. To submit and to find out more visit www.rcn.org.uk/RCNED18

Seeing is believing III: looking forward. 04 Nov 08:45-16:30 Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, Marylebone, London, W1G 0RN. Seeing is Believing III: Looking Forward recognises that modern ophthalmic nursing is changing. Ocular health care is taking place in a greater variety of settings than ever. The profession faces the challenge of maximising capacity, embracing new technology and treatments and utilising ophthalmic specialist skills, whilst also providing value for money and the highest standards of patient care.
https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/events/on17

Society of Orthopaedics and Trauma Nursing Conference and Exhibition 2017. 14 Nov 2017 09:00 -16:30 Crowne Plaza Chester, Trinity Street, Chester, CH1 2BD. Calls for abstract submissions are now closed. Full programme now available to view. Explore the challenges and innovations in
orthopaedic and fracture trauma care for patients, ranging from children and young people to the older person.

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

Quality improvement
Audit, reviews, legislation, inspections, regulation

BBC Health. Hospitals in chocolate crackdown. Sweets and chocolate sold in hospitals should be 250 calories or under, the head of the body says.
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-41630681

Care Quality Commission. Reporting on hospice services in England. The CQC has reported on the state of hospice services in England.


Department of Health NI. Additional £40 million for health. The Department of Finance has written to the Department of Health authorising it to plan on the basis of an additional £40 million being available in this financial year.
https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/news/additional-ps40-million-health

Health Research Authority. New framework for UK health and social care research launched. Regulators and government departments who promote and protect the interests of patients across the four UK nations have set out the key principles in a new UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care Research. The 19 principles of good practice in research are for those who manage and conduct health and social research in the UK.

NHS Digital. Audit report on pregnancy in diabetes released. An audit report has been published measuring the quality of care and outcomes for women with pre-gestational diabetes who were pregnant in 2016.

NHS England. Sexual orientation monitoring information standard. Working closely with key stakeholders including NHS Digital, the Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Trans (LGBT) Foundation led the work to develop a Sexual Orientation Monitoring Information Standard on behalf of NHS England. The SOM information standard provides a consistent mechanism for recording the sexual orientation of all patients/service users aged 16 years across all health services in England.

Guidance, innovation, tools

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Pressure injury prevention in hospitals training programme. AHRQ developed the Pressure Injury Prevention in Hospitals Training Program to support the training of hospital staff on how to implement AHRQ’s Preventing Pressure Ulcers in Hospitals Toolkit.

Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association. Active disinvestment in low-value care in Australia will improve patient outcomes and reduce waste. This brief looks at steps toward disinvestment in ‘low value’ care in Australia and makes suggestions are to these could be extended so at to make health care more appropriate, cost-effective and equitable. The suggestions as to which actors undertake certain activities may need further consideration as to who may be best placed to take responsibility
for these actions.
http://safetyandquality.cmail19.com/t/ViewEmail//38FE77031FBB1AFD2540EF23F30FEDED/25A76C4D3B44AF6D9E794568BD214575#toc_item_0

BBC Health. Check NHS cancer, A&E and operations targets in your area. For each there are strict targets local services are expected to meet across the UK. But what are the chances of being seen in time where you live? Use this interactive tracker to find out.
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-41483322

Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy. Antimicrobial stewardship educational multimedia. The CIDRAP team at the University of Minnesota has, as part of their Antimicrobial Stewardship Project, has compiled this page of educational multimedia links featuring online courses, games, and presentations.
http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/asp/educational-multimedia

Faculty of General Dental Practice (UK). Dementia friendly dentistry: good practice guidelines. Dementia-Friendly Dentistry: Good Practice Guidelines enables dental professionals to understand dementia and its implications for dental practice, and adapt their patient management and clinical decisions accordingly.

NHS England. Guidelines consultation: Items which should not be routinely prescribed in primary care. NHS England has partnered with NHS Clinical Commissioners to support Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) in ensuring that they can use their prescribing resources effectively and deliver best patient outcomes from the medicines that their local population uses.
https://www.engage.england.nhs.uk/consultation/items-routinely-prescribed/

NHS England. Pharmacy quality payments scheme. The scheme will reward community pharmacies for delivering quality criteria in all three of the quality dimensions: clinical effectiveness, patient safety and patient experience.

NHS England. Commissioning for quality and innovation: enhanced supportive care data tool. This tool should be used to collect baseline data and return data relevant to each quarters payment trigger within the CA1 Enhanced Supportive Care (for Advanced Cancer Patients) CQUIN.

World Health Organisation. Guidelines on integrated care for older people. The provision of integrated care is key for older people. The WHO Guidelines on Integrated Care for Older People (ICOPE) propose evidence-based recommendations for health care professionals to prevent, slow or reverse declines in the physical and mental capacities of older people.

Practice examples and case studies

NHS Employers. Engaging staff to drive quality improvement. Read the case study looking at how Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has placed emphasis on staff engagement as part of its programme of quality improvement.

Reports, commentary, statistics

BBC. Scottish cardiac arrest resuscitation rates rise. More Scots are being successfully resuscitated following a cardiac arrest, according to Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) figures.
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-41628411

Department of Health NI. Children’s social care statistics for NI 2016/17. The Department of Health has published the ‘Children’s Social Care Statistics for NI 2016/17’. 


International Journal for Quality in Health Care. Understanding the impact of accreditation on quality in healthcare. This study explores how organizations respond to and interact with the accreditation process and the actual and potential mechanisms through which accreditation may influence quality. [https://academic.oup.com/intqhc/article/4555279/Understanding-the-impact-of-accreditation-on](https://academic.oup.com/intqhc/article/4555279/Understanding-the-impact-of-accreditation-on)

King’s Fund. Making the case for quality improvement: lessons for NHS boards and leaders. The King’s Fund (and the Health Foundation) in the UK have produced this briefing that makes the case for quality improvement to be at the heart of local plans for health services. They defined quality improvement as “the use of methods and tools to try to continuously improve quality of care and outcomes for patients”. [https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/making-case-quality-improvement](https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/making-case-quality-improvement)

NHS Clinical Commissioners. New NHSCC report shows mental health ‘of primary importance’ to CCGs. NHSCC has launched a new report which showcases programmes that are embedding mental health in primary care and draws out advice from the commissioners and practitioners involved in their development and delivery. [https://www.nhscc.org/latest-news/mental-health-primary-care/](https://www.nhscc.org/latest-news/mental-health-primary-care/)

Royal College of Radiologists. Latest workforce report underlines “no end in sight” for UK’s radiologist staffing crisis. Figures released by The Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) underline the increasingly desperate situation in UK radiology, with the ongoing shortage of imaging doctors making late hospital diagnoses and delayed scan results a very real likelihood for patients. [https://www.rcr.ac.uk/posts/latest-workforce-report-underlines-%E2%80%9Cno-end-sight%E2%80%9D-uk%E2%80%99s-radiologist-staffing-crisis](https://www.rcr.ac.uk/posts/latest-workforce-report-underlines-%E2%80%9Cno-end-sight%E2%80%9D-uk%E2%80%99s-radiologist-staffing-crisis)

**Patient safety**

British Medical Journal. Speaking up against unsafe unprofessional behaviours: the difficulty in knowing when and how. Patient safety is a core focus now in medical education, with an increasing number of training programmes educating learners about its key tenets.1–3 Residents now undergo formal training about the importance of contributing to a culture of safety by speaking up to avoid errors or harm, but still face difficulties enacting these behaviours in practice. [http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/26/11/859](http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/26/11/859)

Care Quality Commission. Most people are getting good, safe care but future quality is precarious. This year’s State of Care report shows that thanks to the efforts of staff and leaders, the quality of health and social care has been maintained despite very real challenges and the majority of people are receiving good, safe care.
Care Quality Commission. Safety and quality of emergency care. Chief Inspector of Hospitals Prof Ted Baker has written to England’s NHS trusts to highlight good practice from successful emergency care departments.

Cochrane. Professional, structural and organisational interventions in primary care for reducing medication errors. This study aims to determine the effectiveness of professional, organisational and structural interventions compared to standard care to reduce preventable medication errors by primary healthcare professionals that lead to hospital admissions, emergency department visits, and mortality in adults.

Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety. Implementing the comprehensive unit-based safety program to improve patient safety in an academic primary care practice. While there is growing awareness of the risk of harm in ambulatory health care, most patient safety efforts have focused on the inpatient setting. The Comprehensive Unit-based Safety Program (CUSP) has been an integral part of highly successful safety efforts in inpatient settings. In 2014 CUSP was implemented in an academic primary care practice.

World Health Organisation. Global handwashing day. October 15 is Global Handwashing Day, a global advocacy day dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding about the importance of handwashing with soap as an effective and affordable way to prevent diseases and save lives. Global Handwashing Day is an opportunity to design, test, and replicate creative ways to encourage people to wash their hands with soap at critical times.

Evidence-based practice
BMC Nursing. A new undergraduate Evidence Based Practice module (Evidence Based Nursing 1) was developed in a large University within the United Kingdom. This study sought to formally evaluate attitudes and beliefs, knowledge level and utilization of evidence based practice though using two validated questionnaires: Evidence Based Practice Beliefs Scale© and Evidence Based Practice Implementation Scale©.


NICE. Technological appraisal guidance (TA480) Tofacitinib for moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis. Evidence-based recommendations on tofacitinib (Xeljanz) for treating moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis in adults.


NICE. Quality standard [QS162] Cerebral palsy in children and young people. This quality standard covers diagnosing, assessing and managing cerebral palsy in children and young people under 25. It describes high-quality care in priority areas for improvement. 
https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs162

NICE. Guideline (NG76) Child abuse and neglect. This guideline covers recognising and responding to abuse and neglect in children and young people aged under 18.
https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng76

NICE. Clinical Guideline (CG165) hepatitis B (chronic). This guideline covers assessing and managing chronic hepatitis B in children, young people and adults.
https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg165

NICE. Medtech innovation briefing [MIB124] Mepilex Border dressings for preventing pressure ulcers. NICE has developed a medtech innovation briefing (MIB) on Mepilex Border dressings for preventing pressure ulcers.
https://www.nice.org.uk/advice/mib124

https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta477

NICE. Technology appraisal guidance [TA478] Brentuximab vedotin for treating relapsed or refractory systemic anaplastic large cell lymphoma. Evidence-based recommendations on brentuximab vedotin (Adcetris) for treating relapsed or refractory systemic anaplastic large cell lymphoma in adults.
https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta478

NHS Improvement. Dementia assessment and improvement framework. An evidence-based framework to support and enable directors of nursing and medical directors to achieve ‘outstanding’ care standards for those living with dementia during their stay in hospital.
https://improvement.nhs.uk/resources/dementia-assessment-and-improvement-framework/

Patient focus
Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care. Patient and consumer centred care. Recognising the need to consider and address the challenges and opportunities in efforts to improve care quality and value, the Roundtable on Quality Care for People with Serious Illness of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine held a public workshop. This workshop was designed specifically to bring together diverse personal perspectives and experiences about priorities and values that are important to patients and families coping with serious illness, and to consider solutions that support integration of these priorities and values in practice. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.

Healthwatch. People share their experiences of being discharged from hospital. In a new briefing - What happens when people leave hospital and other care settings? Healthwatch share what over 2,000 people about their experiences of being discharged.
http://www.healthwatch.co.uk/news/people-share-their-experiences-leaving-hospital

National Institute for Health Research. First UK patient recruited to glaucoma clinical trial. Researchers have announced that the first UK patient has been recruited to the first study exploring an innovative new treatment for those impacted by glaucoma, a condition responsible for 13% of blindness among adults in Western Europe.
eHealth
British Medical Journal. Impact of an inpatient electronic prescribing system on prescribing error causation. The study objectives were to explore prescribers’ perspectives of the causes of errors occurring with electronic prescribing and to make recommendations to maximise benefits and minimise risks.
http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/early/2017/10/10/bmjqs-2017-006631

Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy. Antimicrobial stewardship educational multimedia. The CIDRAP team at the University of Minnesota has, as part of their Antimicrobial Stewardship Project, has compiled this page of educational multimedia links featuring online courses, games, and presentations.
http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/asp/educational-multimedia

Health Research Authority. Is tissue in biobanks going to waste? Studies involving human tissue can improve our understanding of health and disease, and ultimately lead to improved healthcare. But evidence supplied by the UKCRC Tissue Directory and Coordination Centre suggests some tissue in banks goes unused by researchers because it is not adequately linked to patient data or not linked to future health data.

NHS Digital. Changes to published statistics on uses of the Mental Health Act. Previously, these statistics were produced from the KP903 aggregate data collection. They are now produced from the Mental Health Services Data Set (MHSDS) which re-uses existing operational data, collected from service providers. This change is estimated to save the NHS over £350,000 per year.


NHS England. Commissioning for quality and innovation: enhanced supportive care data tool. This tool should be used to collect baseline data and return data relevant to each quarters payment trigger within the CA1 Enhanced Supportive Care (for Advanced Cancer Patients) CQUIN.

NHS England. Sexual orientation monitoring information standard. Working closely with key stakeholders including NHS Digital, the Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Trans (LGBT) Foundation led the work to develop a Sexual Orientation Monitoring Information Standard on behalf of NHS England. The SOM information standard provides a consistent mechanism for recording the sexual orientation of all patients/service users aged 16 years across all health services in England.

NHS Wales. Welsh government has announced £5.5 million for digital priorities in Welsh NHS. The £5.5 million funding will be targeted at improving access to information and introducing new ways of delivering care with digital technologies set out in the 2015 Informed Health and Care strategy.

Staff focus
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Pressure injury prevention in hospitals training programme. AHRQ developed the Pressure Injury Prevention in Hospitals Training Program to support the training of hospital staff on how to implement AHRQ’s Preventing Pressure Ulcers in Hospitals Toolkit.
British medical Journal. Speaking up against unsafe unprofessional behaviours: the difficulty in knowing when and how. Patient safety is a core focus now in medical education, with an increasing number of training programmes educating learners about its key tenets.1–3 Residents now undergo formal training about the importance of contributing to a culture of safety by speaking up to avoid errors or harm, but still face difficulties enacting these behaviours in practice. http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/26/11/859

BMC Nursing. A new undergraduate Evidence Based Practice module (Evidence Based Nursing 1) was developed in a large University within the United Kingdom. This study sought to formally evaluate attitudes and beliefs, knowledge level and utilization of evidence based practice though using two validated questionnaires: Evidence Based Practice Beliefs Scale© and Evidence Based Practice Implementation Scale©. https://bmcnurs.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12912-017-0251-1

King’s Fund. Falling number of nurses in the NHS paints a worrying picture. Pressures on nursing staff and the potential impact on patients are again in the news just as Jeremy Hunt promises more nursing training places – for good reason as the latest NHS workforce statistics show. https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/blog/2017/10/falling-number-nurses-nhs-paints-worrying-picture

NHS Employers. GCSE grading changes. The way GCSEs in England are graded is changing. If you use GCSE grades to assess applicants to your organisation you will need to be aware of these changes. http://www.nhsemployers.org/news/2017/10/changes-to-gcse-grading

NHS Employers. Engaging staff to drive quality improvement. Read the case study looking at how Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has placed emphasis on staff engagement as part of its programme of quality improvement. http://www.nhsemployers.org/case-studies-and-resources/2017/10/sheffield-teaching-hospitals-quality-improvement

NHS England. NHS leaders unveil action to boost flu vaccination and manage winter pressures. NHS England, Public Health England, the Department of Health and NHS Improvement have today unveiled measures to boost the uptake of flu vaccinations along with package of new contingency actions to respond to pressures on frontline services this winter. https://www.england.nhs.uk/2017/10/nhs-leaders-unveil-action-to-boost-flu-vaccination-and-manage-winter-pressures/

Nursing Leadership. Collaborative leadership part 2: the role of the nurse leader in interprofessional team-based practice. This paper presents a discussion on the key role that nurses assume with their patients and also with other health providers. http://www.longwoods.com/content/25257

Primary Care Commission. New programme promises way forward for practice managers. Practice managers are crucial to the success of primary care, but their leadership development needs can be overlooked. https://www.pcc-cic.org.uk/

RCN ethical impact assessment tool. This RCN ethical impact assessment tool will help you decide on a course of action or planning a piece of work by answering a series of questions. https://www.rcn.org.uk/professional-development/publications/pub-006499