The News & Information Bulletin highlights news and developments relevant to health and social care and partner professionals.

Recent issues can be accessed via the Knowledge Resources website.

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News

BME staff more likely to report being bullied
Black and minority ethnic staff working in the NHS are more likely to report being bullied or harassed than their white colleagues, according to a major report by the NHS Equality and Diversity Council. The ‘shocking’ figures should be a ‘wake-up call’ to employers, says the BMA’s equality and inclusion committee chair Krishna Kasaraneni. The report presents the 2015 Workforce Race Equality Standard (WRES) baseline data for the four WRES indicators that align to the NHS Staff Survey and presents analyses against the four indicators by NHS trust type. The report found that more staff with black and minority ethnic backgrounds had reported discrimination from a manager, team leader or colleague than white staff at 81% of NHS trusts. In one hospital, 42% of BME staff reported being bullied, abused or harassed, compared with 18% of white staff. Eighty-six per cent of acute trusts’ staff from BME backgrounds told the review’s researchers that they did not believe their organisation offered equal opportunities. There is also a [BBC report](https://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/36044672.stm).

Building Carer Friendly Communities
The life chances of many of the 6.5 million unpaid people in the UK who care for a disabled, older or ill family member or friend are being damaged by inadequate support from local services, according to new research by [Carers UK](https://www.carersuk.org). The report, Building Carer Friendly Communities, was launched to coincide with Carers Week 2016 (6th – 10th June) and presents key findings on Carer Friendly Communities across five themes: community, health, employment, education and older carers. The research found that half of carers have let a health problem go untreated; while a similar proportion say, their mental health has deteriorated.

Capacity and consent: tool for health professionals
The [General Medical Council](https://www.gmc-uk.org) has launched an [interactive online tool](https://www.gmc-uk.org/guidance-and-resources/resources-and-tools/capacity-and-consent) to help health professionals determine a patient’s capacity to make a decision about their treatment. The tool draws on principles in GMC guidance [Consent: patients and doctors making decisions together](https://www.gmc-uk.org/guidance-and-resources/resources-and-tools/consent) and [Treatment and care towards the end of life](https://www.gmc-uk.org/guidance-and-resources/resources-and-tools/end-of-life) and includes downloadable resources, including a flowchart setting out all the steps in the tool, case studies and a record to help the health professional reflect on skills and understanding.

Carer strategy consultation extended
DH has announced that its [carer strategy consultation](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/carer-strategy-consultation) has been extended to 31 July 2016 (from 30 June 2016). The consultation is seeking to hear from carers, those who have someone who care for them, business, social workers, NHS staff and other professionals that support carers.

Councils go digital to improve services and save money
Improving the quality of adult social care visits, introducing live web chat for council taxpayers and an app that saves £20,000 in a year are just [three examples](https://www.lga.org.uk) of ways councils are using digital tools and solutions to improve services and cut costs. A team that covers the three councils of Kensington & Chelsea, Westminster, and Hammersmith & Fulham has saved an estimated £2 million. This is being delivered by cutting staff travel time by using mobile technology to collect, review and update case information for each adult social care visit. Equipping staff with mobile technology also enables them to look up information about a resident while in their home and spend time showing them related information and resources, encouraging greater self-sufficiency. This case study is just one of 13 in an [interim evaluation of the Digital Experts Programme for the Local Government Association (LGA)](https://www.lga.org.uk), which represents 370 councils in England and Wales.

‘Covert Rationing’ of medicines warning
Doctors’ leaders warned that GPs are being put at risk of contract breaches and confrontations with patients by ‘covert rationing’ of medicines by health managers, after it emerged that two CCGs had curbed the prescription of medicines as part of cost-cutting measures. In one case, NHS Stockport CCG advised GPs in the town against prescribing statins according to evidence-based guidelines issued by NICE (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence). The CCG has advised GPs to prescribe the medicine to patients who have a risk of cardiovascular disease of at least 20% even though NICE guidance says the drug should be considered for patients with a smaller risk — of 10% or more — of developing the condition.

Delayed hospital discharge figures still rising
A [BMA news report](https://www.bma.org.uk) shows the proportion of patients whose discharge from hospital is delayed has risen again amid signs that the problem is worsening because social care services are struggling to cope. These trends are identified in recent NHS England figures, revealing that the number of adult patients whose discharge was held up rose from 11.1% in 2014-15 to 12.3% last year.

Difficulties with baby bonding
The NCT has released statistics, which indicate that around a third of UK mothers experience difficulties [bonding with their baby](https://www.thenct.org). In addition, 12% of mothers said they are embarrassed to speak to a health professional, GP or midwife about these issues. There is also a report from the [Royal College of Midwives](https://www.rcm.org.uk).
Economic cost of a measles outbreak
The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) has released details of a study published in the journal Vaccine that shows that the total cost of the 2012-13 measles outbreak in Merseyside (£4.4 million) was more than twenty times the cost of the vaccinations that could have prevented it (£182,909). For the first time, the cost incorporated estimates of lost employment from having measles or from looking after someone with it, and accounted for 44% (£2 million) of the total.

Epilepsy in pregnancy guideline
The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists has produced Epilepsy in pregnancy (Green-top Guideline 68). This is the first edition of this guideline, which summarises the evidence on maternal and foetal outcomes in women with epilepsy (WWE). It provides recommendations on the care of WWE during the pregnancy, antepartum, intrapartum and postpartum periods. It does not cover the methods of diagnosis of epilepsy, detailed categorisation of seizures or strategies for the management of epilepsy. There is also a BBC News report.

Eye care resources
The Association of Optometrists has launched a range of new resources for its members to help raise awareness of the importance of children’s eye health. The new resources including posters, videos, presentations and lesson plans that help spot vision problems and ensure healthy eye care.

GP recruitment problems increase
The proportion of unfilled GP positions has reached its highest ever level according to a new survey by the magazine Pulse. Just a year after the Government promised to recruit 5,000 more GPs, the survey found that around 12% of GP posts are vacant. This represents a rise from the 9.1% vacancy rate in 2015 and 2.1% in 2011, the first year the magazine carried out the survey. The survey of 690 GPs further revealed that almost half of practices have had to recruit a partner within the past 12 months, with job hunts taking around six months on average.

Investigating and learning from deaths
The Care Quality Commission has launched a review of how NHS acute, community healthcare and mental health trusts investigate and learn from deaths. The review will also assess whether opportunities to prevent deaths have been missed. Following the Mazars report, the Government has asked the CQC to look at how NHS trusts across the country investigate deaths to find out whether similar problems can be found elsewhere. It will look particularly closely at how trusts investigate and learn from deaths of people using learning disability or mental health services.

It’s better to ask: working together to prevent maternal mortality
The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (RCPSG) and the Royal College of Gynaecology (RCG) have produced an animated video to help doctors assess unwell pregnant or postpartum women. It’s better to ask: working together to prevent maternal mortality aims to help reduce the number of maternal deaths in the UK. It is accompanied by a poster, which highlights the main causes of maternal death and provides midwives and doctors with advice for assessing pregnant and postpartum women who are feeling unwell.

Maternity clinic for rape survivors
The Royal College of Midwives (RCM) has announced the first UK maternity clinic offering specialist support to rape survivors. The clinic is a joint initiative between Barts Health NHS Trust, of which the Royal London Hospital is part, and an organisation called My Body Back Project, which provides services to women who have been assaulted. It will provide clinical and psychological support, as well as mental health advice. Women from across the UK are invited to contact the clinic via email (maternity@mybodybackproject.com).

Over-medication of people with learning disabilities
NHS England has produced Stopping over-medication of people with learning disabilities. This guidance is intended to support prescribing healthcare professionals to improve the quality of life of people with a learning disability by reducing the potential harm of inappropriate psychotropic drugs that may be used wholly inappropriately, as a “chemical restraint” to control challenging behaviour, in place of other more appropriate treatment options.

Quality of NHS complaints investigations
The Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee has published PHSO review: quality of NHS complaints investigations. The Committee’s report is supportive of the Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch (HSIB) whose purpose is to improve how the NHS investigates patient safety incidents. However, for it to succeed, the Government must bring forward primary legislation making the HSIB fully independent from the NHS and secure a ‘safe space’ for raising the most serious risks to patient safety. HSIB must take full responsibility for setting national investigations standards and providing accreditation and training for local investigators.
Royal College of Midwives survey shows safety concerns
The Royal College of Midwives (RCM) has released the findings of a recent survey, which show that midwife burnout is leading to safety fears. Over half (52%) of midwives and MSWs who responded to a survey said that they had seen an error, near miss or incident that could have hurt service users in the last month. The survey paints a picture of midwives and MSWs facing staffing shortages and increasing demands, being overworked and under pressure to deliver safe, high-quality care with dwindling resources. The survey comes as the RCM launches a major campaign ‘Caring for You’, which aims to improve midwives’ and MSW’s health, safety and wellbeing at work, so they are able to provide high quality maternity care for women and their families.

Share your views on health and social care integration
According to a news report by the NHS Confederation, there is a clear consensus that redesigning services around the needs of individuals in a ‘place’ provides the best opportunity to improve people’s health and wellbeing, address health inequalities, and help achieve financial sustainability. But what progress has been made to date and what more needs to be done? NHS Confederation has teamed up with #Confed2016 media partners the Health Service Journal and Local Government Chronicle to gauge the views of local leaders across health and care on the current state of service integration. The organisations are seeking local leaders’ views on integration where they are, their assessment of current demand for services and the factors that could improve integration in the future.

Situation awareness in hospitals
A new resource to introduce and improve situation awareness in hospitals is now available on the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health’s website. This free, online resource pack aims to improve communication, build a safety-based culture and deliver better health outcomes for children and young people. It includes informative presentations and useful tools with worked examples in six areas: quality improvement; patient safety culture; structured communication; recognising deterioration; the 'huddle', and evaluation and spread. The pack has been developed as part of the final phase of the College’s flagship quality improvement programme, Situation Awareness for Everyone (S.A.F.E).

Tackling bullying and harassment in the NHS
NHS Employers Health, Safety and Wellbeing Partnership Group (HSWPG) has launched a set of new resources and an infographic to support NHS organisations to develop cultures where staff are free from the fear of intimidating behaviour. The partnership group recognises that bullying can have a detrimental effect on an individual’s overall health and wellbeing. The new resources also include a webpage containing practical tools, evidence and support for tackling bullying.

Understanding the health needs of the armed forces
Health Education England in conjunction with NHS England, has launched an e-learning programme to help increase understanding of the armed forces population and facilitate improved care and treatment. The programme is designed to highlight both the similarities and the differences to allow healthcare personnel to understand both the context of military life and how to appropriately respond to patient need. The programme is broken into three sections: the NHS care of current serving personnel; the NHS care of the families of military personnel and finally the health needs of veterans.

Public Health

General:

All Our Health: about the framework
The above document is a call to action to healthcare professionals working with patients and the population to prevent illness, protect health, and promote wellbeing. The introduction explains how All Our Health provides a framework to support the call to action. It:

- includes care for individuals and local communities as well as larger populations such as cities and regions;
- supports all ages of life with the aim of improving health and reducing health inequalities;
- presents evidence and guidance to show the impact healthcare professionals can make through the topics aligned to the public health outcomes framework.

This publication has been developed as part of a digital-first successor to the Framework for personalised care and population health.

The Child’s Obesity Strategy: how our young people would solve the childhood obesity crisis
The Royal Society of Public Health in conjunction with the Youth Health Movement and Slimming World has jointly published The Child’s Obesity Strategy: how our young people would solve the childhood obesity crisis. The report shares what young people have to say about some of the government’s ideas to solve the obesity epidemic, and reveals what teenagers would do if they were in charge. The young people identify a number of steps, which could be taken by food manufacturers, retailers,
Government and others to help tackle childhood obesity. There is also a Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health press release.

The impact of taxation and signposting on diet: an online field study with breakfast cereals and soft drinks
The University of York Centre for Health Economics has published the above paper (research paper 131). It details the findings of a large-scale study where a nationally representative sample of 1,000 participants were asked to make real purchases within an online supermarket platform. The study captured the effect of price changes, and of the signposting of such changes, for breakfast cereals and soft drinks. The study found that such taxes are an effective means of altering food purchasing, with a 20% rate being sufficient to make a significant impact.

Living longer, living well
The Richmond Group of Charities has published Living longer, living well: how we can achieve the World Health Organization’s ’25 by 25’ goals in the UK. The World Health Organization has set targets for a 25% reduction in early deaths from common long-term conditions between 2010 and 2025. This study forecasts that without action the UK will miss this target, but that coordinated action could save lives above and beyond the WHO target and prevent a total of 1.12 million years lived with disability by 2025.

The missing millions: In search of the loneliest in our communities
As part of the Campaign to End Loneliness, the Housing Learning and Improvement Network (LIN) has published The missing millions: In search of the loneliest in our communities. This report has been published to support commissioners and services to identify people experiencing or at risk of loneliness in older age. Divided into three main sections, the first is aimed at commissioning teams, including those who provide research and data analysis to help inform and prioritise commissioning decisions. The second section is focused mainly at service designers and providers, and the third is targeted at helping front line workers and volunteers prepare for and engage in constructive dialogue with older people experiencing loneliness, in ways that can bring about positive change.

Physical activity and lifestyle
The Royal College of General Practitioners has announced that physical activity and lifestyle will be a clinical priority for the next three years. The new three-year programme aims to support GPs and their teams who deal with 90% of NHS patient contacts to help manage their patient’s physical health, with the aim of ultimately reducing long-term pressure on the health service.

State of men’s health in Leeds
Leeds Beckett University has published The State of Men’s Health in Leeds. Commissioned by Leeds City Council, it is the first city in the UK to explore the specific health and social issues of its male population. The study looked at the reasons why men die prematurely and how services can be best designed around their needs. Data collected in the report reveals that men in Leeds are more likely than women to die while of working age and men have a worse death rate for all common causes of death including suicide, cardiovascular disease, cancer and respiratory disease.

Updated Zika virus guidance for primary care
Public Health England updated three guidance documents related to the Zika virus infection as follows:

- Zika virus infection: guidance for primary care - contains updated information on: sexual transmission; symptoms; diagnostic testing; complications and unusual presentations.
- Zika virus: interim algorithm for assessing pregnant women with a history of travel - revised definition of active transmission areas (now 3 months).
- Zika virus: advice for women returning from areas with active Zika virus transmission - revised advice about sexual transmission and deferral of pregnancy.

Alcohol and Drugs:
Taking a new line on drugs
The Royal Society of Public Health in conjunction with the Faculty of Public Health has published Taking a new line on drugs. The report assesses the situation in the UK regarding rising health harm from illegal drugs, with reference to their context within the wider ‘drugscape’ of legal drugs such as alcohol and tobacco. It also sets out a new vision for a holistic public health-led approach to drugs policy at a UK-wide level. The recommendations include: closely aligned health-led strategies; prevention through universal education; evidence-based drug harm profiles; decriminalising drug users; and supporting individuals to reduce and recover from harm. The government is expected to release a new drugs strategy later this year. There is also a BBC News report.
Widening the availability of Naloxone

The Department of Health, The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency and Public Health England has updated its guidance [Widening the availability of Naloxone](https://www.dh.gov.uk/en//NewsandPublications/LatestNews/2015/November/1611152001272). The revised guidance now includes section 5.1 on supply of Naloxone - a drug used as an antidote for heroin (or other opiate) overdoses - to children and young people. The guidance was originally published in November 2015.

**Cancer:**

Award-winning lung cancer service helping even more patients with NHS England support

NHS England reports on an [NHS Challenge Prize](https://www.england.nhs.uk/press/2016/nhschallengeprize/) winning lung cancer service, which is making a big difference to patients, and helping doctors all over England develop the same innovative techniques. Patients at Barnet Hospital are now able to have small lung tumours diagnosed and cells destroyed in a single hospital visit without surgery, after [Royal Free Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust](https://www.nhsft.org.uk/) was awarded the £100,000 Cancer Challenge Prize for its innovative 30-minute lung biopsy service. The funding is also being used to support a training symposium, which will help lung cancer teams from all over England to introduce these techniques.

**Be Clear on Cancer: respiratory symptoms awareness**

Public Health England has announced that it is planning a national Be Clear on Cancer respiratory symptoms awareness campaign for fourteen weeks between 14th July and 16th October. The campaign - which will focus on the symptoms of a persistent cough and inappropriate breathlessness - will be PHE’s main national broadcast campaign for 2016/17.

**Bowel cancer screening test**

The Department of Health (DH) has announced details of a new [bowel cancer home testing kit](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/bowel-cancer-screening/), which will be rolled out across England following a successful pilot involving 40,000 people. The new test is easier to use than current home testing kit. It is expected to increase screening uptake by around 10% and result in around 200,000 more people a year being tested.

**Cancer care in England and Scotland — what do patients really think?**

Cancer Research UK presents the results of the Cancer Patient Experience Survey published earlier in the month, [both for England](https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/cancer-in-england-and-scotland) and, for the first time, [for Scotland](https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/cancer-in-england-and-scotland#scotland). And they give us a valuable and fascinating snapshot of how real patients feel about the care they have had.

**Cervical cancer screening survey**

New research published by [Jo’s Cervical Cancer Trust](https://www.joscervicalcancertrust.org.uk/) and [Gransnet](https://www.gransnet.com/) indicates that 32% women over 50 do not think cervical screening is part of the healthy upkeep of a woman’s body and 22% do not think it is important to have regularly. Adding to concern, a worrying 1 in 3 (33%) have delayed or not attended this potentially life-saving test with an average delay of 26 months and 1 in 10 (10%) delaying for over 5 years. The figures were released to coincide with Cervical Screening Awareness Week (13-19 June).

**Cervical screening: colposcopy leaflet**

Public Health England has published [NHS Cervical Screening: having a colposcopy](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/cervical-screening/cancer/cervical-screening-colposcopy/). This updated leaflet is for health professionals to send to women referred for colposcopy, after an abnormal cervical screening result. This leaflet explains the colposcopy examination and includes information about: having a colposcopy; what happens afterwards and what happens if treatment is needed.

**Preventing bowel cancer**

Public Health England wants to see fewer people develop bowel cancer and encourage more eligible people to come forward for screening, to achieve an uptake target of 75%. Public Health England has published a [range of resources](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/bowel-cancer-screening/) to help improve the prevention and detection of bowel cancer. The resources include series of infographics providing information about: the scale of the problem; prevention; early detection; The NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme; increasing uptake of bowel cancer screening; and how to improve the prevention and detection of bowel cancer. See also Public Health England’s [case study](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/bowel-screening) on the 2012 Be Clear on Cancer campaign.

**Immunisation:**

**Immunisation schedule revised guidance**

Public Health England has published revised immunisation schedule guidance, which includes the changes to the MenC programme and the shingles vaccine administration. The details of the guidance are as follows:

- [The complete routine immunisation schedule from Summer 2016](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/routine-immunisation-schedule-for-children-from-summer-2016)
- [Routine childhood immunisations from Summer 2016](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/routine-childhood-immunisations-from-summer-2016)
Public Health England has published the following patient information leaflets:

- **Think measles: patient leaflet for young people** - explains the measles mumps rubella (MMR) vaccine to young people who may have missed their routine MMR vaccinations.
- **Think measles: poster about measles in young people** - reminds healthcare workers about measles presentation in young people, and to isolate them from immunosuppressed patients and pregnant women.
- **Protecting your child against flu** - information leaflet for parents on the flu programme.
- **Five reasons to vaccinate your child against flu** – this poster explains the benefits of the flu vaccine.
- **HPV vaccination pilot for men who have sex with men** - leaflet for use in selected clinics involved in the human papillomavirus (HPV) pilot programmes for men who have sex with men.

**Shingles vaccine reminder**

Public Health England is reminding those aged 79 years who have previously been offered the shingles vaccine but have not received it, to ensure they have it before their 80th birthday. For the 2015 to 2016 programme, people aged 78 years on 1 September 2015 have also been offered the vaccine as part of this catch-up programme. In addition, those eligible for the vaccine in the previous two years of the programme, but who missed out, remain eligible until their 80th birthday.

**Unlicensed BCG vaccine**

Public Health England has published *Unlicensed BCG vaccine: guide for parents and carers*. This information leaflet aims to explain to parents and carers why a brand of BCG vaccine without a UK licence is being used and why it is still recommended.

**Mental Health:**

**Better mental health for all: a public health approach to mental health improvement**

This report from the Faculty of Public Health focuses on what can be done individually and collectively to enhance the mental health of individuals, families and communities by using a public health approach. It is intended as a resource for public health practitioners to support the development of knowledge and skills in public mental health. It presents the latter from the perspective of those working within public health, giving valuable interdisciplinary perspectives that focus on achieving health gains across the population.

**Children and young people’s mental health**

The Centre for Mental Health has published *Missed opportunities: a review of recent evidence into children and young people’s mental health*. This document seeks to piece together the evidence about children and young people’s mental health and wellbeing in the UK, based on the most recent high quality research. It breaks down findings into four age groups: pregnancy to age 4; children aged 5-10, 11-15 year olds, and young adults aged 16-25. For all age groups, a dominant issue has been the persistent gap between children’s needs and their access to help and support, especially early on when difficulties with mental health first emerge.

**Children and young people’s mental health - policy, services, funding and education**

This briefing published by the House of Commons Library provides an overview of mental health service provision for children and young people in England. It looks at key government policies on children and young people’s mental health, government inquiries, and school interventions.

**Evidencing the impact of and need for Acting Up**

The Mental Health Foundation has published the above report, which looks at a programme introduced in Northern Ireland in 2011 that offers opportunities for older adults to get involved in creative activities, specifically the performing arts. The report builds on a limited but emerging evidence-base regarding the impact of creative arts activities on the mental and physical wellbeing of older adults which can lead to significant improvements in memory, problem solving and physical and mental wellbeing.

**A global map of mental health research funding**

The RAND Corporation has published the above document, which summarises a study mapping the global funding of mental health research from 2009 to 2014. The study took a bottom-up approach to identify who the major funders are, what kinds of research they support and how their strategies relate to one another.

**Housing policy and mental health**

The Centre for Mental Health has published *Briefing 49: A basic need. Housing policy and mental health*. This report examines how The Housing and Planning Act 2016 and other government reforms have impacted on those with severe and enduring mental health problems and on mental health services as a whole. The changes to benefits may result in many people who live with mental health conditions, especially in high cost areas, receiving less than they need to cover the rent of a suitable home.
Housing support for people with mental health problems

The Centre for Mental Health has published More than shelter: supported accommodation and mental health. This report reviews evidence about supported housing services for people with mental health problems in England. It finds very limited evidence about what kinds of support are most effective for people with mental health problems, but that most people prefer help in their own homes to being in sheltered or transitional accommodation. Small-scale studies indicate that housing support can reduce the costs of hospital stays for people who would otherwise require inpatient care.

Lightning review: access to child and adolescent mental health services, May 2016

The Children’s Commissioner has become concerned that not all children and young people are able to access children and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) and receive the mental health services and support they need. This lightning review is designed to cast light on potential issues that exist in the mental health services vulnerable young people need. In doing so, it is hoped it will draw commissioners’ and policymakers’ attention to possible weaknesses in local systems and help them improve provision so that more and more young people can have their mental health needs met.

Looking after infant mental health: a case for change

This report published by NSPCC argues that our approach to the mental health needs of infants and children in care requires rethinking. The report sets out a number of solutions to increase the range and amount of supportive services for both foster carers and birth parents to make sure babies and young children in care have stable and loving placements, undoing the neural damage caused by abuse and neglect in their early lives. The report is accompanied by a wide range of evidence from research and practice, from the UK and internationally.

Mental Health funding

An infographic has been published by the NHS Confederation Mental Health Network to highlight the need for government funding and the current financial position of NHS mental health trusts.

Mental Health in primary care: a briefing for clinical commissioning groups

The Mental Health Charity Mind has published Mental health in primary care: a briefing for clinical commissioning groups. This report presents the current issues around providing mental health support in primary care; identifies what mental health support in primary care should provide and makes recommendations for commissioners on how to achieve better mental health support. It includes case studies from across the country, highlighting schemes, which have improved the lives of patients with mental health issues.

Transforming mental health services for children who have experienced abuse

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) has published Transforming mental health services for children who have experienced abuse: a review of Local Transformation Plans. This report analysis CCG local transformation plans and assesses the extent to which the plans: recognise the role of abuse and neglect as a primary risk factor for mental health needs; assess the local level of need and current service offer for children who have experienced abuse and neglect; and whether local areas are planning additional services targeted at this group. The report found that only 14% of plans considered the needs for support of all children who have experienced abuse or neglect.

Sustainable Development:

Financial value of sustainable development

The Sustainable Development Unit has published Securing healthy returns: realising the financial value of sustainable development. This report outlines areas that offer potential economic savings and environmental benefits. These include providing mental health services to people being treated for physical health needs in hospitals, encouraging staff to travel to work by bike or foot and increasing use of technology for communication. A supporting technical annex will follow in July 2016.

The Health and Social Care System

General:

Communications and engagement toolkit

NHS Improvement has published Communications and engagement toolkit for teams in service change programmes. This toolkit is for anyone delivering programmes such as the Success Regime; interventions by national regulators; and local health and care economy-wide transformation programmes including new care models, and strategic transformation planning.
Evaluating healthcare system innovations
The National Institute for Health Research and partners has published Challenges, solutions and future directions in the evaluation of service innovations in health care and public health. This e-book addresses the challenges faced by healthcare providers in evaluating system-level innovations in healthcare services in an evolving landscape. It brings together opinions from experts following a two-day symposium in London last year.

Health and Wellbeing Boards explained
The Kings Fund has published a briefing document Health and wellbeing boards (HWBs) explained. It examines the roles and functions of health and wellbeing boards, focusing on the role that they could play in emerging policy developments such as integrated commissioning and place-based systems of care.

Health leaders’ survey: footprints, financing and staff morale
The Nuffield Trust has published the results of the sixth survey of their Health leaders’ panel of 100 health and social care leaders in England. Survey six: footprints, financing and staff morale was conducted in April/May 2016 and received 67 responses. The survey shows a conflicted view of the system's prospects over the next five years and beyond. Some recent developments – such as the ‘footprints’ proposed for delivering STPs and the potential hospital savings identified by Lord Carter – are seen as providing real chances for improvement. However, respondents remain concerned about the continuing decline in staff morale, and pessimistic about the state of finances within individual trusts and the health service in general.

Leadership in the NHS
The King's Fund has published Leadership in the NHS: thoughts of a newcomer. This report presents initial observations about leadership in the NHS from the King’s Fund’s Director of Leadership and Organisational Development. It sets out his thoughts on dealing with change; compassion and trust as the currencies of innovation and change; and developing leadership and talent.

Local digital roadmaps
NHS England has issued a reminder to CCGs that plans for local digital roadmaps should be submitted by 30 June 2016. Local digital roadmaps will layout out how each local health and care system will deliver the ambition of health and care professionals operating paper free at the point of care by 2020, and how place-based transformation plans will be enabled by digital technology.

Managing conflicts of interest
NHS England has published Managing conflicts of interest: revised statutory guidance for CCGs. This guidance aims to support CCGs to identify and manage conflicts of interest. It is intended to be a practical resource and toolkit, which includes templates and case studies to support conflicts of interest management. This document supersedes Managing conflicts of interest: statutory guidance for CCGs (December 2014)

National Association for Patient Participation
The National Association for Patient Participation (NAPP) has launched Building Better Participation, a new resource guide, to help all GP practice Patient Participation Groups (PPGs) to work effectively. The resource will help all PPGs – whether they are long-standing or recently formed – to reflect on what they do. It is a useful tool for GP practices and CCGs seeking to support effective PPGs.

Six principles for engaging people and communities: putting them into practice
National Voices have published this document about creating person-centred, community-focused approaches to health, wellbeing and care. It builds on the proposed new relationship with patients and communities set out in the NHS Five Year Forward View. It aims to complement a wider suite of products to be produced by national bodies for the health and care system as it moves forward with the implementation of innovations in care delivery.

Working together: how health, social care and fire and rescue services can increase their reach, scale and impact through joint working
NHS England, in association with the LGA and the Chief Fire Officers Association, has published the above briefing. This document showcases work by the fire and rescue services to help reduce demand for other services through prevention, including health and social care. Underlying risk factors that ultimately result in fires, such as smoking and alcohol consumption, also have a strong impact on health. Fire and rescue services are applying the principles of early intervention and prevention, to these health-related risk factors, resulting in a reduced demand for the services of others, whilst also continuing to reduce demand for fire and rescue.
**Adult Social Care:**

Adult social care inquiry launched

The Communities and Local Government Committee has launched an inquiry into the financial sustainability of local authority adult social care and the quality of care provided. The Committee examines whether the funding available for adult social care is sufficient for local authorities to fulfil their statutory obligations to assess and meet the needs of people requiring care and support. This includes looking at the impact of policies such as the National Living Wage and the two per cent council tax precept. The inquiry also explores the role of carers and looks at alternative funding models for financing and providing care. It covers all adult social care provided or commissioned by local authorities and not just the support given to elderly care users. The Committee will invite local authorities, care providers and Government ministers to give evidence at public sessions. It also plans to hear from organisations representing carers and care users.

Improving home care services for older people

NICE has issued a new quality standard: Home care for older people (QS123). This standard covers home care given to older people in their own homes to meet their assessed social care needs. An age threshold is not specified for older people. Although almost 80% of people using home care services are over 65, the quality standard may also be relevant to some people under 65 with complex needs. The quality standard does not cover intermediate care, short-term reablement, home care for younger adults or children using home care services.

Personal budgets in social care

The House of Commons Public Accounts Committee has published its 2ND Report Personal Budgets in Social Care. The report finds that stronger measures are needed to safeguard the interests of adults receiving personal budgets for social care. The Committee was not assured that local authorities can fully personalise care while seeking to save money, and are concerned that users' outcomes will be adversely affected. The Department of Health has demonstrated the potential of personal budgets to transform care and improve quality of life but is not doing enough to ensure that all can reap the benefits, and has not set out how it will judge success.

**Commissioning:**

CCG Prescribing Data - January to March 2016

The above release contains data for the quarter January to March 2016, by Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

Commissioning for Value packs for CCGs

NHS Rightcare has published the last four in its set of Commissioning for Value packs for CCGs to help them identify the best opportunities for improving value for their populations. The focus packs are on Cancer and Tumours; Mental Health and Dementia; Maternity and Early Years; and Musculoskeletal, Trauma and Injuries. The information contained in each pack is designed to support local discussions and inform a more in-depth analysis around common conditions and pathways. There is also an NHS England press release.

Commissioning through competition and cooperation: final report

The Policy Research Unit in Commissioning and the Healthcare System (PRUComm) has published the above report. This project aimed to investigate how commissioners in local health systems managed the interplay of competition and cooperation in their local health economies, looking at acute and community health services. The project consisted of case studies of four local health economies located in four CCG areas across England. Case study sites comprised a mix of rural and urban settings and were located in the North (two), the Midlands and London.

Glucoma commissioning guide

The Royal College of Optometrists has published Commissioning guide: glaucoma. This guide aims to assist commissioners, clinicians and managers to deliver successful and efficient hospital eye services across England and the rest of the UK. It applies to commissioning services for adult-onset glaucoma and adults who are at risk of developing glaucoma. The guidance does not apply to paediatric and juvenile glaucoma.

Integrating care in Southwark and Lambeth: what we did and how we did it

Southwark and Lambeth Integrated Care (SLIC) was set up in 2012 as a partnership of commissioners and providers to work together with citizens to improve the value of care in Southwark and Lambeth. This evaluation report outlines the achievements of SLIC, highlights its key successes and challenges, and shares lessons learned. It explains how care was integrated in Southwark and Lambeth and includes a ‘Framework for Success’ as a resource for others undertaking similar programmes of transformation.
Outsourcing outpatient pharmacy services
DH has published NHS contracting for the provision of third party pharmacy out-patient dispensing service and service provider access to CMU framework agreement prices. This guidance informs all stakeholders involved in outsourcing of outpatient pharmacy services of their responsibilities. It includes a template letter to ensure a consistent message is sent to pharmaceutical manufacturers and suppliers about these arrangements.

Transforming community neurology
Thames Valley Strategic Clinical Network (SCN) has launched a commissioning brief for local commissioners to help them to improve the services provided in community settings to people diagnosed with a long-term neurological condition. Transforming community neurology: what commissioners need to know is a three-part resource consisting of a transformation guide, reference reports and examples which include case studies from around the country.

Policy and Strategy:

Inequalities experienced by children across the UK
The Royal College of Nursing has published Inequalities experienced by children across the UK accessing the right care, at the right time, in the right place. This briefing document highlights how the health care inequalities experienced by children are influenced by getting the right care at the right time and in the right place. It sets out the current policy context across the UK, spotlights some key areas and concludes with recommendations on the actions needed by all governments across the UK.

National framework for NHS continuing healthcare and NHS-funded nursing care
DH has updated the National Framework for NHS Continuing Healthcare and NHS-funded Nursing Care guidance. The decision support tool has been amended to include a question to find out if it’s completed while the individual concerned is in an acute hospital setting. The guidance sets out the principles and processes of the National Framework for NHS continuing healthcare and NHS-funded nursing care.

New Care Models update – June 2016
Issue 3 of the above update has been published. Included are reports on:
- The launch of the new care model vanguard evaluation strategy
- Vanguard funding for 2016/17
- Vanguards sharing best practice: Nottingham City CCG and Age UK working together to consult on services.

Stepping up to the place: the key to successful health and care integration
The NHS Confederation and Local Government Association have jointly published the above document. It describes what a fully integrated, transformed system should look like based on the evidence. It builds on existing joint work and calls on local and national stakeholders to work together to ensure integration becomes integral to a transformed system.

Quality and Safety:

Bristol Review of children’s cardiac services
The Independent Review of Children’s Cardiac Services in Bristol has today published its final report. Commissioned by NHS England Medical Director Sir Bruce Keogh in 2014, and chaired by Eleanor Grey QC, the Bristol Review is an independent review of the safety and quality of children’s cardiac services in Bristol. See NHS England’s response to the review.

CCG Outcomes Indicator Set: June 2016
The indicators, published by the Health and Social Care Information Centre, aim to provide clear, comparative information for Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBs) about the quality of health services commissioned by CCGs and, as far as possible, the associated health outcomes.

Each Baby Counts
The Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists has published the first annual report from the Each Baby Counts initiative. The report identifies that the quality of local investigations into cases of stillbirth, early neonatal death and severe brain injury occurring as a result of incidents during term labour must improve. 27% of the 921 reports examined so far were classed as poor quality. This is an early brief report which has been released as there are clear messages for improvement identifiable from the interim data.

Improving dementia reviews
The NHS Confederation has published Improving dementia reviews: Harrogate and Rural District Clinical Commissioning Group. This case study explains how the CCG and Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust worked with local GP practices to improve the system for routine dementia reviews. Reviews are now shared between the trust and GPs; patients are seen alternately by their GP and the memory clinic at 6-monthly intervals.
Patient Involvement
The Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership has published two new guides dealing with patient and public involvement in health care:

- [Developing a patient and public involvement panel for quality improvement](#) - an updated step-by-step guide to developing an effective patient led panel. It is suitable for patients, the public, and staff working in quality improvement in NHS healthcare provider organisations.
- [A guide to patient and public involvement in quality improvement](#) – an updated guide to the benefits of patient and public involvement in quality improvement projects and how to implement them effectively.

Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme
The Royal College of Physicians has published the [Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme](#) (SSNAP). This thirteenth report relates to patients admitted between January and March 2016 and includes named hospital results for the entire inpatient care pathway. The report highlights that twenty five stroke services scored an overall ‘A’ score for the quality of care they provide for patients. The report also provides commissioning level reports which give population-based results for every clinical commissioning group. It includes every CCG outcome indicator set measure and results for each key indicator of care measured on SSNAP.

Sixth annual leadership and management summit
The King’s Fund has published the presentations from the [above summit](#). This year’s national summit focused on how to ensure that health care leaders have the capabilities now and in the future to deliver cultures that are focused on the delivery of high-quality and continually improving care.

Workforce, Education and Training:

**BMA Q and A: teaching, training and research roles**
Why should all doctors undertake [teaching, training and research roles](#)? The medical academic staff committee of the BMA believes the quality of teaching and training and engagement with the latest research ensures decisions of the highest possible standard and this was a major theme of their recent annual conference. These additional roles, along with innovation, management and leadership, underpin the independent professionalism of doctors, helping to justify their public esteem and level of pay in the NHS. Failure to support these roles in NHS contracts undermines medical professionalism and the case for current pay rates.

**Dishonest behaviour by health and care professionals: exploring the views of the general public and professionals**
The [Professional Standards Authority](#) has published the [above document](#). This research report, undertaken by the independent research agency Policis, used qualitative methods to explore responses to a number of scenarios based on real-life cases of professional dishonesty. The authority commissioned this project to explore public and professional views on these types of cases.

**End-of-life care resources**
NHS Employers has developed a range of [information and tools to train staff in end-of-life care](#). The resources include: an overview of end-of-life care including where the strategy has come from and what work has been done nationally; benefits of investing in training, including how it can build a skilled workforce for the future; case studies from NHS organisations; a list of e-learning resources and training programmes; tools to implement an end-of-life care strategy in organisations.

**Evaluation of the Care Assistant Development Programme: learning from early implementation**
The Social Care Institute for Excellence has published the [above document](#). The programme aims to develop senior carers into nursing assistants who are trained up to assist with medication and care planning. This final report focuses on recruitment to the programme, how the programme was communicated, implementation of the role, emerging impacts of the programme and future aspirations. *NB The full report is free to download, however you are required to register for a MySCIE account.*

**Fairness in clinical training**
The [BMA](#) has welcomed new guidance aimed at promoting fairness for those in medical training. Support for people in difficulty and greater transparency in the selection processes for educational supervisors are among the recommendations included in [Ensuring Fairness in Clinical Training and Assessment: Principles and Examples of Good Practice](#). The guidance comes following collaborative work with 16 health bodies, including the BMA, GMC and Health Education England and the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges and identifies 10 principles aimed at encouraging best practice in clinical training, assessment and monitoring.

**Integrated health and social care**
The [King’s Fund](#) has published [Supporting integration through new roles and working across boundaries](#). Commissioned by NHS Employers and the Local Government Association, this report looks at the evidence on new roles and ways of spanning
organisational workforce boundaries to deliver integrated health and social care. The report includes examples of integrated schemes across the country.

**Medical workforce census report 2015**
This report published by the Royal College of Anaesthetists (RCoA) provides comprehensive data on the anaesthetics workforce in the UK. It finds that while there have been increases in the numbers of consultant and specialty and associate specialist doctors since the previous census in 2010, the 2015 report confirms a number of challenges facing the specialty, including an existing unmet need for anaesthetics and intensive care medicine in trusts across the UK.

**NHS staff health and wellbeing**
NHS Employers health and wellbeing team has launched the Boorman Review timeline which provides a summary of work that has taken place nationally, in relation to key recommendations from the Boorman report. The timeline enables health and wellbeing leads to reflect on their local strategy by plotting work and initiatives against the national progress.

**NHS staff health and wellbeing CQUIN**
NHS England has released further guidance to help NHS organisations work towards the health and wellbeing of their staff. Commissioning for Quality and Innovation (CQUIN) payment framework: NHS staff health & wellbeing; CQUIN supplementary guidance outlines the need for the NHS to improve its offer as an employer to look after the health and wellbeing of its staff. It provides additional context about the need for focussing on health and wellbeing; details of the content of the schemes, drawing on best practice examples; information about the methods of assurance and processes; and outlines future support available during 2016/17.

**NHS Workforce Statistics: March 2016, provisional statistics**
This report shows provisional monthly figures for headcount and full-time equivalent of NHS Hospital and Community Health Service (HCHS) staff groups working in Trusts and CCGs in England (excluding primary care staff).

**Supplying the demand for doctors: the need to end the rationing of medical training places**
This Civitas-published report proposes that, instead of Health Education England (HEE) making upfront payments for the training of its medics, medical students should be required to take out a loan from the Student Loans Company to cover the total cost of their training. It argues that the eradication of upfront payments by the NHS would mean the current cap on the number of doctors training each year could be lifted and the UK could train the number of doctors it needs. In addition to this, such a training loan would be repaid on behalf of each medic by the NHS through HEE on condition that doctors work for the NHS after graduating. If graduates leave the country to work abroad or transfer from the NHS into the private sector they would become liable for the repayment of these loans.

**A survey of staffing levels of medical clinical academics in UK medical schools as at 31 July 2015**
This annual survey from the Medical Schools Council examines medical clinical academic staffing levels across the UK. Medical clinical academics are doctors who, in addition to treating patients in the NHS, are responsible for educating the doctors of the future and for carrying out research into all aspects of health and disease. The report finds that over the past five years, there has been a decline in the numbers of medical clinical academic staff in contrast to the increase in consultants across the NHS. The census also identifies changes in the make-up of the clinical academic workforce with an increase in women and an ageing profile.

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### Bulletins

The following bulletins and updates published in June:

- **Commissioning excellence**: June 2016
- **Drug Safety Update**: June 2016
- **GP Collections Bulletin**: Issue 41, 8th June 2016
- **GP In Hours Bulletin**: 23rd June 2016
- **Health and Wellbeing System Bulletin**: June 2016
- **Health Protection Report**: Volume 10 2016
• **National Institute for Health Research Programme Bulletin**: June 2016

• **NHS Improvement - Provider bulletin**: 8th June 2016

• **NHS Workforce Bulletin**: Issue 520, 6th June 2016

• **PHE bulletin**: 30 June 2016

• **Primary Care Commissioning News**: June 2016

• **Provider bulletin**: 22 June 2016

• **Vaccine Update**: Issue 247, June 2016, special edition

### Statistics

The following statistical releases published in June:

• **Cancer survival by stage at diagnosis, experimental statistics**: 2012 - 2014

• **Care Information Choices, England June, 2016**

• **Combined Performance Summary for April 2016**

• **Cover of vaccination evaluated rapidly (COVER) programme 2015 to 2016 quarterly data**

• **Critical care bed capacity and cancelled urgent operations** for May 2016

• **Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) January 2016 to March 2016, Experimental Statistics Report**

• **Hospital Episode Statistics: Deaths within 30 days of a hospital procedure or of an emergency admission to hospital Financial year 2014/15**

• **Improving Access to Psychological Therapies Report March 2016 Final, April Primary 2016 and most recent quarterly data (Quarter 3 2015/16)**

• **Influenza vaccine effectiveness (VE) in adults and children in primary care in the UK: provisional end-of-season results 2015 to 2016**

• **Internal migration, England and Wales: Year Ending June 2015**

• **Learning Disability Services Monthly Statistics England Commissioner Census (Assuring Transformation) - May 2016, Experimental Statistics**

• **Learning Disability Statistics - annual overview, England 2015-2016**

• **Maternity Services Monthly Statistics, England January 2016, Experimental statistics**

• **NHS Continuing Healthcare Activity England, Quarter 4, 2015-16**

• **NHS Dental Statistics for England 2015/16, Third Quarterly Report**

• **Population estimates for UK, England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland: mid-2015**

• **Provisional Monthly Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) in England April 2014 - March 2015 (June 2016 release)**

• **Provisional Monthly Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) in England April 2015 - January 2016**
- Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF) Recorded Dementia Diagnoses, May 2016
- Summary Hospital-level Mortality Indicator (SHMI) - Deaths associated with hospitalisation, England, January - December 2015

**NICE Guidelines**

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has issued the following guidance (NG) and quality standards (QS):

- **Tuberculosis** (NG33)
- **Breast cancer** (QS12)
- **Bronchiolitis in children** (QS122)
- **Home care for older people** (QS123)
- **Suspected Cancer** (QS124)

**NICE-related News and Publications**

**Eyes on Evidence**

NICE Evidence Services has published *Eyes on Evidence, Issue 85, June 2016*. This issue has articles on:

- Eyes on evidence: end of service
- Perioperative anticoagulation for people with atrial fibrillation
- Nurse-led titration of drug doses in chronic heart failure
- Basic versus advanced life support for medical emergencies
- Ultrasound during pregnancy to identify small-for-gestational-age infants
- Balance training to prevent injuries from falls in older people
- Ongoing effects of child contact arrangements in cases of domestic
- Evidence summaries from NICE’s Medicines and Prescribing Programme

Previous issues are available here.

**Mental wellbeing and independence for older people: NICE Quality Standard consultation**

NICE has launched a Quality Standard consultation on mental wellbeing and independence for older people. The closing date for submissions is 5pm on Thursday 14th July 2016.

**NICE News**

NICE has published *NICE News, June 2016*. These monthly newsletters bring you the following updates from NICE: the latest published and forthcoming guidance topics; Implementation advice; Consultations, meetings and events; and our latest news features and stories. Previous issues are available here.

**NICE recommends laser device for treating enlarged prostate**

NICE has published *GreenLight XPS for treating benign prostatic hyperplasia* (MTG29). The case for adopting GreenLight XPS for treating benign prostatic hyperplasia is supported in non-high-risk patients. GreenLight XPS is at least as effective in these patients as transurethral resection of the prostate (TURP) but can more often be done as a day-case procedure, following appropriate service redesign. There is also a BBC news report.

**Update for Primary Care (UPC)**

NICE has published *Update for Primary Care, June 2016*. These monthly updates highlight guidance, quality standards and other advice products published that month relevant to primary care, along with any accompanying tools to help put guidance into practice. UPC also features other news and information from NICE on our work relevant to primary care, such as QOF or educational and learning materials.
New Publications

Acute coronary syndrome: patient booklet
The Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) has published Acute coronary syndrome - immediate assessment, diagnosis and treatment: a booklet for patients, their families and carers. This patient booklet explains the recommendations in the SIGN clinical guideline and helps to make patients aware of the tests and treatments they should expect to receive from the NHS. This booklet is a lay translation of the clinical guidelines and is not intended to be a general information leaflet. It is also available as a large print version.

Adult inpatient survey 2015
NHS England has published the latest statistical information on patients’ experience of adult inpatient care in the NHS. This is an update to include results from the 2015 Adult Inpatient Survey. The 2015 survey included 149 acute and specialist NHS trusts. Eligible patients were aged 16 years or over, who had spent at least one night in hospital during July 2015 and were not admitted to maternity or psychiatric units. There is also a news report from NHS Providers and a Care Quality Commission report.

Assessment, diagnosis and interventions for autism spectrum disorders
The Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network has published Assessment, diagnosis and interventions for autism spectrum disorders Sign Guideline 145. This guideline provides recommendations based on the assessment, diagnosis and interventions for children, young people, adults and older adults with ASD. It includes screening and surveillance, diagnosis and assessment, clinical interventions and service provision, recommendations for further research and a checklist for information provision for patients.

British Social Attitudes survey 33
This British Social Attitudes report, published by the National Centre for Social Research, aims to uncover the consequences of seven years of austerity for social and political attitudes in Britain. The chapter on the NHS explores levels of dissatisfaction with the NHS and how this has changed over time and in relation to trends in NHS funding. It examines new data identifying the reasons for NHS dissatisfaction and satisfaction.

Dementia assessment and referral return - March 2016
NHS England has published the above statistical return. This data collection reports on the number and proportion of patients aged 75 and over admitted as an emergency for more than 72 hours who have been identified as potentially having dementia, who are appropriately assessed and, where appropriate, referred on to specialist services in England.

Diabetic eye screening
Public Health England has published Diabetic eye screening: consent and cohort management. This guidance document for local NHS diabetic eye screening programmes includes information on: patient consent; cohort management and how to manage exchanges of information between healthcare providers. It also includes information about: the provision and management of information; consent for screening and consent for use of information throughout the screening pathway.

Don't be left in the dark: Devolution questions answered
Devolution is one of the most fundamental changes to the way decisions are made for local areas and how public services are funded. Following the passing of the Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016, the Local Government Association has published a guide providing answers to some of the key questions about devolution and what it means for councils, their residents and communities.

End of life care for LGBT people
Marie Curie has published Hiding who I am: exposing the reality of end of life care for LGBT people. This report looks at the barriers that prevent lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) people from accessing end of life care and highlights their real-life experiences. It draws on interviews with LGBT people living with a terminal illness, and their partners. Many people interviewed said they felt anxiety about having to hide who they are when accessing end of life care, with one in four experiencing discrimination from health and social care professionals in their lifetime. There is also a Royal College of General Practitioners press release.

Infant mortality and stillbirth in the UK
The Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology has published Infant mortality and stillbirth in the UK. This document reviews recent UK data relating to infant mortality and stillbirths and examines the factors contributing to increased risk. It then looks at the policy options that may help to improve health outcomes for infants and their families.
Inflammatory arthritis guidance
The Royal College of Nursing has published a third edition of its guidance: Administering subcutaneous methotrexate for inflammatory arthritis. It contains the latest evidence-based guidance to support practitioners in the safe and confident administration in a variety of primary and secondary care settings, including community and managed care environments. The guidance covers aspects of both adult and children/young people’s care.

Living with Breathlessness: emerging recommendations
Rand Europe has published Agreement with, and feasibility of, the emerging recommendations from the Living with Breathlessness study. The Living with Breathlessness research programme has led to six emerging recommendations for improving care and support of patients with advanced COPD. This report describes survey findings to understand whether there was agreement that the recommendations would improve care and support, and to gauge how easy or difficult it might be to implement them.

Management of nausea and vomiting in pregnancy
The Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology has published The Management of Nausea and Vomiting of Pregnancy and Hyperemesis Gravidarum (Green-top Guideline No.69). The is a new guideline providing evidence-based or best clinical practice information regarding the diagnosis and subsequent management of nausea and vomiting of pregnancy (NVP) and hyperemesis gravidarum (HG) across community, ambulatory daycare and inpatient settings. It gives advice for multidisciplinary professionals involved in the care of women with these conditions, including how to counsel and support women before, during and after their pregnancies. There is also a Royal College of Midwives press release.

Medical image and report exchange
The Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) has published It's good to share: medical image and report exchange between UK health service providers. This report assesses the negative impact that difficulties in sharing images and reports between health service providers has on the quality and efficiency of radiology and oncology departments and the provision of patient care. The report is based on a survey of clinical oncologists and radiologists which took place earlier this year. It indicates that some UK regions have more functional image sharing systems than others and there are lessons to be learnt from these.

National diabetes inpatient audit 2015
The Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership has published The National Diabetes Inpatient Audit 2015. It sets out to measure the quality of diabetes care provided to inpatients. The report itself presents the 2015 results and analyses the changes in activity and outcomes over the last four contributory years (2010 to 2013). This year the number of patients in the audit exceeds 15,000; accounting for a record 16.8% of occupied bed – in some sites nearing 40%. This increase reflects the aging population and the increasing prevalence of diabetes in the community.

National Paediatric Diabetes Audit report 2014-2015
The Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP) has published National Paediatric Diabetes Audit report 2014-2015. This 12th annual report of the National Paediatric Diabetes Audit provides an analysis of data from healthcare professionals caring for children and young people in England and Wales between 2014/15. It includes a summary of diabetes prevalence, compliance with care processes, outcomes and makes recommendations for improvements.

The Health and Social Care Information Centre has published the above report. The NHS Safety Thermometer is a local improvement tool for measuring, monitoring, and analysing patient harms and 'harm free' care.

NIHR evaluations, trials and studies
The National Institute for Health Research Health (NIHR) has published the results of the following research during June:
- Implementing major system change in healthcare
- Managing obsessive compulsive disorder in adults
- Treating severe, steroid resistant, ulcerative colitis

Personal health records
The Royal College of Physicians has published Personal health record (PHR): Landscape review final report. NHS England provided the Royal College of Physicians (RCP) Health Informatics Unit (HIU) with grant funding to undertake a landscape review of current personal electronic health and care record (PHR) activity in the UK. The aim of the review was to collate information about the current status of PHR activity and best practice across the NHS, evidence of PHR benefits and learning about how to address barriers to adoption; and to identify equivalent activities, benefits and barriers in social care.
Prescribing Specials
The Royal Pharmaceutical Society has published Prescribing Specials: guidance for the prescribers of Specials. This updated guidance aims to support prescribers in the safe and appropriate prescribing of Specials (unlicensed medicines that are manufactured or procured specifically to meet the special clinical needs of an individual patient). The guidance is based around five principles that can be used to guide prescribing decisions; the principles are illustrated by case studies.

Providing nursing care for trans people
The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) has published Fair care for trans people: an RCN guide for nursing and health care professionals. This resource is designed to help nursing and care staff to respond to the needs of patients and clients who identify as ‘transgender’. The nursing community can, through its professional actions and interests, work to eliminate and significantly reduce prejudice and discrimination at both an individual and a societal level in partnership with a range of organisations, including those that represent the needs of trans people.

Quarterly Epidemiological Commentary
Public Health England has published the report Quarterly Epidemiological Commentary: Mandatory MRSA, MSSA and Escherichia coli bacteraemia and Clostridium difficile infection data up to January - March 2016.

Reaching Out: Involving fathers in maternity care
The Royal College of Midwives in conjunction with the Department of Health and the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecologists has published the above document. It provides insight to all maternity service staff as to how they might best encourage the involvement of fathers throughout pregnancy and childbirth, and into fatherhood and family life. It is intended to increase awareness of the importance of fathers being engaged in maternity care as well as assisting local maternity services in the development of their own local practices and guidelines.

Technology and data in health and care
The King’s Fund has published an interactive Map of technology and data in health and care. This map highlights case studies from England and the rest of the world that are experimenting with and implementing new technologies to achieve better health outcomes or more efficient care. The case studies are drawn from King’s Fund publications and events plus NHS test bed sites set up to evaluate the real-world impact of new technologies.

Waiting time policies
The Office of Health Economics has published Waiting time policies in the health sector: seminar briefing nineteen. The main purpose of the briefing is to discuss waiting time policies in the health sector from an international perspective and to highlight which policies have worked in the last decade in OECD countries. It also touches on comparisons of waiting times internationally and where the UK stands in relation to these international figures. Finally it discusses waiting time inequality based on socioeconomic status.

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