**NHS NETWORKS weekly news stories:** 18 April 2019
[Bid writing level two: A practical approach](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/bid-writing-level-two-a-practical-approach-1)
This workshop on 7 May in Birmingham allows attendees to respond to a tender using a realistic scenario developed by the Crown Commercial Service.

11:51am, 18 April 2019
[Nominate someone for a general practice award](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/nominate-someone-for-a-general-practice-award)
Nominations are now open for the General Practice Awards 2019, which honour the contribution of primary care professionals in general practice. The deadline for entries is 31 May 2019.

11:51am, 18 April 2019
[An A&E perspective on violence in England and Wales](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/an-a-e-perspective-on-violence-in-england-and-wales)
A report from Cardiff University finds that despite the recent spate of knife violence and homicide in some UK cities, the number of people injured in serious violence in England and Wales dropped by 1.7% between 2017 and 2018.

11:50am, 18 April 2019
[Advances in cancer treatment](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/advances-in-cancer-treatment)
The pace of innovation in cancer treatment is rapid, with promising developments for patients in terms of survival and quality of life.

11:48am, 18 April 2019
[NHS Digital deal offers NHS organisations better insight into system data](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/nhs-digital-deal-offers-nhs-organisations-better-insight-into-system-data)
NHS Digital has agreed a deal that will allow NHS organisations to make better use of their machine generated information through a market-leading data monitoring and analytics platform.

11:47am, 18 April 2019
[Learning disability and autism training for health and care staff](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/learning-disability-and-autism-training-for-health-and-care-staff-1)
The government wants to know how we can make sure that health and social care staff have the right training to understand the needs of people with a learning disability and autistic people, and make reasonable adjustments to support them.

11:44am, 17 April 2019
[Practical support for primary care networks](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/practical-support-for-primary-care-networks-1)
The “what” of primary care networks is becoming clearer every day, but the “how” will continue to be a perplexing challenge for the vast majority of practices that have yet to make a start.

11:43am, 17 April 2019
[Record breaking numbers in GP specialty training](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/record-breaking-numbers-in-gp-specialty-training)
Figures released by Health Education England (HEE) show that recruitment to GP specialty training is the highest ever for this time of year with 2598 trainees accepted on to courses compared to 2533 for the same period last year.

11:41am, 17 April 2019
[Consultation on the updated NICE indicator process guide](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/consultation-on-the-updated-nice-indicator-process-guide)
NICE is seeking feedback on an updated indicator process guide.

11:38am, 17 April 2019
[Guidance for online and other pharmacy services provided at a distance](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/guidance-for-online-and-other-pharmacy-services-provided-at-a-distance)
This guidance explains what pharmacy owners should consider before deciding whether any parts of their pharmacy service can be provided safely and effectively at a distance (including on the internet), rather than in the traditional face-to-face way.

11:34am, 17 April 2019
[Report on pilot of global mental health assessment tool](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/report-on-pilot-of-global-mental-health-assessment-tool)
The government has published a report on the global mental health assessment tool (GMHAT), which was piloted in 2016/17 by Public Health England, the Home Office and the International Organization for Migration.

11:32am, 17 April 2019
[Pharmacy take on the network contract directed enhanced service 2019/20](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/pharmacy-take-on-the-network-contract-directed-enhanced-service-2019-20)
At the end of January 2019, NHS England published a five-year framework for GP services. One of the major changes in the contract is the introduction of the network contract as a directed enhanced service (DES).

15:05pm, 16 April 2019
[NHS England picks NHS Networks for digital leaders’ network](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/nhs-england-picks-nhs-networks-for-digital-leaders2019-network)
A new online forum for digital leaders in primary care will be launching soon, formed by NHS England’s Primary Care Digital Transformation team.

15:04pm, 16 April 2019
[Managing change](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/managing-change-3)
All NHS organisations continue to face change. The newly published NHS long-term plan has emphasised the need to accelerate the development of integrated care systems, changing the way services are commissioned and delivered in future.

15:02pm, 16 April 2019
[Health and wellbeing at work](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/health-and-wellbeing-at-work)
The latest annual survey from CIPD (Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development) highlights some cause for concern, including an increase in stress-related absence and a lack of support for managers, who are increasingly expected to take responsibility for their team's wellbeing.

14:07pm, 16 April 2019
[Procedures for CCGs merging or changing constitution](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/procedures-for-ccgs-merging-or-changing-constitution)
NHS England has issued policy and procedures to be followed by clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) and NHS England in the circumstances of a CCG wishing to apply to make changes to its constitution.

14:05pm, 16 April 2019
[NHS staff and parents to gain access to crucial child health information](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/nhs-staff-and-parents-to-gain-access-to-crucial-child-health-information)
Vital child health information will be available to health professionals and parents at the point of care, thanks to a new live national service which has been launched by the NHS.

14:02pm, 16 April 2019
[Survey for people benefiting from personal health budgets](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/survey-for-people-benefiting-from-personal-health-budgets)
The 2019-20 CQUIN scheme includes a CQUIN for providers of community stroke services, under the NHS standard contract, to undertake six month post stroke reviews and record these on SSNAP (Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme).

16:17pm, 15 April 2019
[Digital innovation in general practice - why, what, how?](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/digital-innovation-in-general-practice-why-what-how-1)
In line with the NHS Long Term Plan and the GP contract, new tools and services are already allowing general practice to work in new ways. Patients already have access to online appointment booking and prescription requests. What else can we offer as a range of contact options?

16:15pm, 15 April 2019
[GP scheme frees up half a million hours for patients](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/gp-scheme-frees-up-half-a-million-hours-for-patients)
An NHS programme has seen GP practices free up more than half a million hours of time for patients in the last year.

16:09pm, 15 April 2019
[Digital tool to help reduce avoidable lengthy stays in hospital](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/digital-tool-to-help-reduce-avoidable-lengthy-stays-in-hospital)
A new digital portal is being introduced by the NHS and councils which allows health and social care staff to see how many vacancies there are in local care homes, saving hours of time phoning around to check availability and helping people to get the right care or return home as quickly as possible.

16:07pm, 15 April 2019
[Early access to mental health support](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/early-access-to-mental-health-support)
A report from the Children’s Commissioner concludes that spending on low-level children's mental health services across England continues to fall in real terms.

16:04pm, 15 April 2019
[Consultation on the academy for advancing practice](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/consultation-on-the-academy-for-advancing-practice)
Health Education England is consulting on different standards for the establishment of its new academy for advancing practice.

16:02pm, 15 April 2019
[Choice of procedure urged for women to terminate their pregnancy](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/choice-of-procedure-urged-for-women-to-terminate-their-pregnancy)
All women should be able to access both medical and surgical procedures to terminate their pregnancy, says NICE in draft guidance.