

The weekly newsletter from NHS Networks

Top stories

[The role of the clinical pharmacist in the primary care network](#)

What do clinical pharmacists do and what do PCNs need to think about if they're employing a clinical pharmacist for the first time?

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[Dealing with difficult people and situations - courageous conversations](#)

This workshop looks at workplace challenges and fears, what causes stress in these difficult situations, and how to cope with them. We discuss how to build personal resilience and develop assertiveness skills, followed by a session on courageous conversations – things to consider and top tips. We also spend time testing out some difficult conversations, to help you to understand what to do when you face resistance or hostility.

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[Adult inpatient survey 2018](#)

Findings from the Care Quality Commission's latest annual survey of people who stayed as an inpatient in hospital show that most people had confidence in the doctors and nurses treating them and felt that staff answered their questions clearly.

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[CQC finds Mental Health Act Code of Practice not being used as intended](#)

The Mental Health Act (MHA) Code of Practice is not being used as it was intended due to a lack of awareness and understanding of the statutory guidance amongst providers and staff.

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[Increase in adult carers feeling stressed or depressed](#)

60.6% of carers reported feeling stressed in 2018-19 (up from 58.7% in 2016-17), according to a survey of 50,800 adult carers in England, published by NHS Digital.

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[PCN support: Think Pharmacy prospectuses relaunched](#)

As part of the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee's (PSNC) ongoing support to help Local Pharmaceutical Committees (LPCs) and community pharmacy contractors engage with Primary Care Networks (PCNs), the PSNC Think Pharmacy prospectuses

have been reviewed and updated. A number of new prospectuses have also been published to add to the range of services covered.

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[NHS long-term plan: legislative proposals](#)

This report welcomes, in principle, NHS England and NHS Improvement's proposals to promote collaboration, especially the proposal to repeal section 75 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and revoke the regulations made under it.

[Read more »](#)

[Smiling matters: oral health care in care homes](#)

The Care Quality Commission has published the findings of an in-depth review on the state of oral health care in care homes across England.

[Read more »](#)

[General ophthalmic service fees and voucher values from April 2019](#)

Details of NHS general ophthalmic fees and optical voucher values for the financial year 2019 to 2020.

[Read more »](#)

[Tackling childhood obesity: £1.5 million funding for local projects](#)

Five local councils with forward-thinking ideas to address childhood obesity will receive funding.

[Read more »](#)

[Hidden no more: dementia and disability](#)

Evidence reveals that, across the country, people with dementia are not having their disability rights upheld.

[Read more »](#)

[What's in store for integrated care?](#)

PCC recently took part in the ICS Summit 2019, a meeting of some of the country's leaders in the development of integrated care systems.

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[Influencing skills](#)

As NHS and other organisations increasingly have to work together to solve common problems, influencing skills are more important than ever. Influencing is a combination of persuasion and negotiation - being able to persuade others and negotiate to reach an agreement. Influencing is a vital part of communication and essential for managers and leaders both to increase effectiveness within their own organisation and when working with external parties.

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[STOMP and STAMP: patient leaflet](#)

NHS England has published a leaflet for families of children and young people with a learning disability, autism or both who may be prescribed (or are prescribed) psychotropic medication, to help them ask questions about their care and be more involved in discussion.

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POLLS

Last time: Time for a person to lead the NHS

As there have been two female prime ministers but no women in the top NHS job, we asked if it was time for a change. Some (25%) agree that it's high time a woman was in charge, but most (71%) think the job should go to the best candidate regardless of gender. A minority (4%) thought it was a silly question to ask.

This time: Do we need to rethink doctors?

Should doctors put more energy into preventing or treating illness? Logic suggests the former, but doctors are trained to do the latter.

As ill-health continues to increase do we need to rethink the role of the doctor or should we stop trying to turn them into health preachers and social workers and let them concentrate on dealing with the sick?

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NHS Networks is operated by Primary Care Commissioning CIC (PCC), a not for profit company spun out of the NHS that provides training and development for NHS organisations. Find out more [about PCC](#).

NHS Networks is managed by an NHS IT provider, Leicester Health Informatics Service, and runs in a secure UK based server environment complying with NHS Digital technical and information governance requirements.

NHS Networks is the home of networking in the NHS. It allows communities of interest to form around any issue people feel strongly about whether clinical, managerial, professional or social. Anyone who works for or is closely involved with the NHS can be a member. Joining and forming networks is easy. Our mission is to help the NHS collaborate, share information and nurture new ideas.

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