

## NHS NETWORKS weekly news stories:

12:01pm, 11 September 2020

### [Effective management of HR issues and challenges in primary care](#)

This three module programme delivered using our Zoom platform provides information and advice relevant and applicable to the day-to-day running of general practice.

11:59am, 11 September 2020

### [Venues required by law to record contact details](#)

Premises and venues across England must have a system in place to record contact details of their customers, visitors and staff in the latest move to break the chains of transmission of coronavirus.

11:58am, 11 September 2020

### [Nursing and midwifery response to the third phase of the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

This letter, from Ruth May, Chief Nursing Officer for England, follows a previous letter published on 6 April 2020 about the actions taken to support the nursing and midwifery workforce during the COVID-19 pandemic and Simon Stevens' and Amanda Pritchard's letter to the system on 31 July.

11:56am, 11 September 2020

### [Community pharmacy staff flu vaccination](#)

To help protect community pharmacy teams from seasonal flu and ongoing Covid-19 risks, NHS England and NHS Improvement is asking employers to ensure that all their staff, including locums, are vaccinated as soon as possible.

11:55am, 11 September 2020

### [Covid-19: what people are telling us](#)

This briefing looks at the key issues the public have faced during the Covid-19 pandemic, ranging from the affect lockdown has had on carers, to the problems getting emergency dental treatment.

11:54am, 11 September 2020

### Blood pressure testing and awareness event

High blood pressure is the number one risk factor for cardiovascular disease worldwide. Those who wait longer than six weeks with raised blood pressure have increasing risk of myocardial infarction or stroke and this is worst for those with the highest pressures.

10:39am, 10 September 2020

### PCC online Confident Leader programme

Our Confident Leader programme is perfect for your PCN clinical directors and aspiring clinical leaders.

10:37am, 10 September 2020

### Flu vaccination plans

PCC and the NHS Confederation's PCN Network are collecting examples of how PCNs are planning to manage vaccination programmes.

10:36am, 10 September 2020

### Campaign to prevent spread of coronavirus indoors this winter

The 'Hands. Face. Space' public information campaign urges the public to continue to wash their hands, cover their face and make space to control infection rates and avoid a second peak.

10:34am, 10 September 2020

### Impacts of current funding, policy and economic environment on independent pharmacy in England

According to this report, nearly three-quarters of family-owned pharmacies in England could be forced to shut their doors over the next four years.

10:33am, 10 September 2020

### COVID-19 and professional standards activities - resumption of appraisal

Medical appraisal was suspended for most doctors in March 2020, to free up clinical time to manage the COVID-19 emergency situation. Medical

Appraisal 2020, developed with partners and stakeholders, describes the restart of appraisals using a rebalanced approach that focuses on the doctor's professional development and wellbeing, and simplifies expectations around supporting information and pre-appraisal paperwork.

10:30am, 10 September 2020

### Digital innovation in adult social care

The Local Government Association and Association of Directors of Adult Social Services commissioned the Institute of Public Care at Oxford Brookes University to work with councils in capturing examples of social care digital innovation across local government.

10:12am, 9 September 2020

### Creating and maintaining change

Successful change agents are able to adapt to changing circumstances and to bring their teams with them. This requires sound judgement, decision-making skills in an uncertain environment, personal resilience and an ability to understand and support others at different stages of change.

10:11am, 9 September 2020

### Resources available to promote access to primary care

Social media resources advising patients about how GP and dental services are operating are now available to download from the Campaign Resource Centre.

10:05am, 9 September 2020

### Workforce race equality standard (WRES): indicators for the medical workforce

NHS England has published WRES indicators for the medical workforce to ensure employees from Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) backgrounds have equal access to career opportunities and receive fair treatment in the workplace.

10:00am, 9 September 2020

### Social prescribing

Social prescribing is a means for GPs and other health care professionals to refer patients via a link worker to non-clinical services in the local community.

09:57am, 9 September 2020

### Maternity services in smaller hospitals: a call to action

In rural and remote areas, the closure of maternity units can mean longer transfer times and poorer support for obstetric emergencies, but the viability of smaller maternity units is often questioned.

09:56am, 9 September 2020

### Every Mind Matters

NHS England and Public Health England has launched a renewed drive to encourage parents and carers to visit the Every Mind Matters website and take advantage of new advice developed in partnership with leading children and young people's mental health charities.

10:46am, 8 September 2020

### Changes to the General Medical Services contract for 2020/21

This letter and guidance document provides an update on the arrangements for the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) for the remainder of 2020/21 and the Dispensary Services Quality Scheme (DSQS) which was reinstated from 1 August 2020.

10:46am, 8 September 2020

### Commissioning and the legal implications of COVID-19

COVID-19 has implications for commissioners, from disruption of processes, to making decisions on resource allocation, and assuring the quality and human rights compliance of provision.

10:44am, 8 September 2020

### [Voluntary calorie guidelines to help tackle obesity](#)

The government is encouraging the food industry to support the national effort against COVID-19 and obesity, with voluntary calorie reduction guidelines to make it easier for the nation to choose healthier options in everyday meals and foods.

10:43am, 8 September 2020

### [Pharmacies in England carry out one million consultations a week](#)

PSNC has published the findings of the Pharmacy Advice Audit, showing the huge number of informal patient consultations that community pharmacies are carrying out and the positive impact those consultations are having both on patients and other healthcare services.

10:42am, 8 September 2020

### [The impact of Covid-19 on the use of digital technology](#)

This briefing explores how Covid-19 has changed the use of technology in the NHS, what has enabled these changes to happen, some possible risks and downsides and what might happen next.

10:40am, 8 September 2020

### [Hepatitis C service specification published](#)

The community pharmacy Hepatitis C Antibody Testing advanced service went live on 1 September 2020. Through this service, people who inject drugs and who are not currently accessing community drug and alcohol treatment services can be tested for the hepatitis C virus at a participating community pharmacy.

10:28am, 7 September 2020

### [Clear face masks to support people with hearing loss](#)

250,000 clear face masks are to be delivered to frontline NHS and social care workers to support better care for people who use lip-reading and facial expressions to communicate.

10:26am, 7 September 2020

### Seasonal influenza DES specification - updated

The Influenza and Pneumococcal Immunisation Directed Enhanced Service specification has been amended and republished to provide for additional new cohorts of patients to be vaccinated in general practice.

10:23am, 7 September 2020

### Roll out of Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) Phase 4

Phase 4 allows the EPS to be used for patients without a pharmacy nomination. All GP practices using EPS with TPP SystemOne and EMIS Web will have Phase 4 enabled between Monday 7 and Friday 11 September 2020.

10:22am, 7 September 2020

### Consultation on expanded role in vaccinations for pharmacy professionals

The government has published a proposal to expand the scope of patient group directions (PGD) to allow pharmacists to administer unlicensed vaccines, including any COVID-19 vaccine.

10:21am, 7 September 2020

### New nurse-led innovation programme for 2021

The Queens Nursing Institute (QNI) has received funding from the Burdett Trust for Nursing to run a new programme specifically focusing on people with complex needs in primary care.

10:17am, 7 September 2020

### Making a giant leap on childhood health

This report reveals the scale of the opportunity for the economy and the health service if the government is successful in its drive to tackle childhood obesity.

**NHS NETWORKS weekly editor's blog entries:**

15:49pm, 10 September 2020

[Risk stratifying elective care patients](#)

This blog has been shared by MBI healthcare technologies. As services are starting to treat routine patients those on waiting lists are making enquiries as to where they are on the list, and if they are still on the list.