



**Welcome to the Patients Association's
Weekly News**

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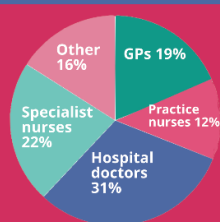
 Forward

**NHS crisis undermines patient involvement in
decision making**

shared decision making from the perspective of clinicians and healthcare professionals

What would make it easier for you to practise shared decision making?

- 1 Time
- 2 Better IT systems
- 3 More staff



The types of professionals who responded to the survey

Practising shared decision making



1 in 3 respondents said that they always practised all three of the core elements of shared decision making



9 in 10 of respondents said shared decision making should be routinely practised



7.5 in 10 said they always or often practised shared decision making



The Patients Association gathered the opinions of clinicians and healthcare professionals in an online survey in April and May 2022. The report, which is available on our website, is based on the views of 1,416 respondents. Full methodology and all data are also available on the website.

 the patients association

Our latest report, [Shared decision making from the perspective of clinicians and healthcare professionals](#), finds healthcare professionals are positive about shared decision making, a way of working with patients to decide treatment options.

But the report also finds professionals' ability to practice shared decision making regularly is limited by the current crisis in the NHS.

Many respondents - among them GPs, consultants, specialist nurses and practice nurses - said lack of time, gaps in the workforce or large caseloads prevented them partnering with patients to make decisions about treatment and care together.

Most respondents to the survey said they practised shared decision making always or often. They recognised its benefits and were positive about involving patients in choices about their care.

We make a number of recommendations in the report and will now look to partner with NHS England, the Personalised Care Institute and other organisations to support professionals' call for more support to practice shared decision making.

As members know, we are very supportive of shared decision making. We

believe this a great way to partner with patients and results in better outcomes for patients and the NHS.

You can read this report and more about shared decision making [on our website](#).

[Read the report](#)

Apply to be our Honorary Treasurer



Our current Honorary Treasurer, Isaac Egberedu's term as a Trustee is ending soon, so we are looking for someone to fill this very important voluntary role with us.

We're looking for someone with accounting qualifications and experience. If you have knowledge of and expertise in charity finance, fundraising and pension schemes that would be very helpful, as well as an understanding of the UK health and social care sector.

We are also looking for someone who shares [the values](#) of the Patients Association. Experience of chairing meetings or committees would also be helpful as Treasurer chairs the Finance Committee.

For more information about the role, please read [the role description](#).

We welcome applications from potential trustees from a wide range of diverse backgrounds. We want to make sure that the people we represent, are represented in our Trustee Board.

[Read more and apply for the role of Honorary Treasurer](#)

Nurses' English language skills



The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) wants to hear from the public about its proposals to change the English language requirements for nurses and midwives in the UK.

The NMC is the regulator of nurses and midwives in the UK. When people apply to join its register, they must show they can communicate clearly and effectively in English.

The NMC has been reviewing these requirements and now wants views from the wider public about proposed changes to its approach.

It is inviting patients to complete a survey that takes about 20 minutes and is available in English and Welsh. An Easy Read version will be available soon.

The survey is open until 12 August. Find out more about the consultation and how to respond, by following the link in the box below.

[Respond to the consultation](#)

GP set to be England's Patient Safety Commissioner



Dr Henriette Hughes. Photo credit: NHS Confederation.

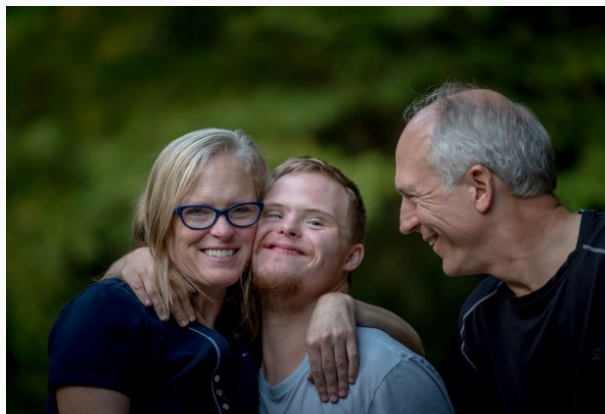
London GP Dr Henrietta Hughes OBE is the Government's pick for England's first Patient Safety Commissioner.

Dr Hughes has been the NHS national guardian, supporting the Freedom to Speak Up Guardians, and is a former medical director at NHS England.

The role of Patient Safety Commissioner is a new one created by the Government following the [Cumberlege Report](#), which was critical of how the NHS responded when patients raised concerns about medications and medical devices.

Dr Hughes' appointment will be subject to pre-appointment scrutiny by the Health and Social Care Committee on 5th July.

A day for families with SEND children



Families with children who have special educational needs (SEND) are invited to a day in London to learn about managing violent and challenging behaviour in SEND children and young people

Organised by the charity, Newbold Hope, the day will include masterclasses in, among other topics:

- How to recognise the underlying causes of anxiety
- How to reduce anxiety levels in children and parents
- Dozens of easy, practical strategies for each topic to enable families to build a toolkit of ideas to get started with straight away.

For families who can't make it to London, there's an online event with the same format.

Professionals are also able to attend either event, both of which are accredited for continuing professional development.

The dates are

- Online 10.00am – 5pm, Saturday, 2nd July 2022
- Central London 10.00am – 5pm, Saturday, 9th July 2022.

Follow the link in the box below for more information including how to book.

[More information and how to book](#)

If you want to read Weekly News in another language...



... you can, if you use the Chrome web browser.

Open Weekly News in Chrome, rather than reading it as an email, right click anywhere on the page and choose 'Translate'.

If you find the language is set to English click the three dots and then select your chosen language.

The option to open Weekly News in a browser is usually found at the start of the email. Or try this [link](#) to open this week's edition and try Chrome's translation services.

Using Chrome to translate

From the helpline

Medical records - our most popular online resource



So far this year, nearly 200 people have called our helpline to ask how to access medical records and nearly 40,000 have visited our website to read our information on the topic.

Since making information on how to access medical records on our website two years ago, this resource has grown in popularity and is now the most read of all our advice leaflets.

Why are so many people accessing their medical records? The reasons vary: some are after their childhood records, others want the records of a loved one who has died, and others want their records so they can find out more about the medical procedures and medicines they have received.

Across the UK, all patients have the right to see their medical records. The information on our website focuses on England and Wales: information on how to access records in [Northern Ireland](#) and [Scotland](#) are available online.

To contact our helpline team, call 0800 3457115 between 9.30am and 5pm on weekdays or email helpline@patients-association.org.uk. See [our website](#) for more ways to get in touch.

And remember, we have a [range of information](#) on our website from our very popular nutrition checklist right through to understanding your medicines.

What our team is reading this week

Boots criticised over pill boxes for the elderly

National Care Service for Scotland will 'end postcode lottery'

Vaccine Damage Payment Scheme: The battle for compensation

Bold action needed to improve public health

Covid: Two Welsh health boards bring back face masks

About Us

Our purpose is to ensure that everybody can access and benefit from the health and care they need to live well, by ensuring that services are designed and delivered through equal partnership with patients.

Our strategic focus for 2021-25 is patient partnership in the design and delivery of health and care services.

We are a registered charity raising all our own funds. If you'd like to support our work for all patients and make a difference, please [donate or consider making a regular donation](#). You can also raise funds for us at not cost to you by making us your charity of choice on [AmazonSmile](#). If you choose us, every time you buy something through the website, AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price to us. Thank you.



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