

Welcome to the Patients Association's Weekly News

 Share

 Tweet

 Forward

Coalition report recommends action to improve uptake of digital health tech



To be successful, digital health technology must be accessible to all, says the new Patient Coalition for AI, Data and Digital Tech in Health, which the Patients Association chairs.

The Coalition's first ever report, [Digital Health during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Learning Lessons to Maintain Momentum](#) draws on research and case studies of good practice in digital health during the pandemic, including our major patient experience survey, and offers

recommendations on how the UK could capitalise on digital health to benefit patients, the NHS and wider society, once the pandemic subsides.

The new coalition has launched the report with support from other patient organisations and the Royal Colleges of Nursing and Radiologists. The report highlights that uptake of digital health technologies has been limited, while patient experience of technologies, including video conferencing and mobile apps, has been mixed. Patients strongly believe in the value of digital health, but there are still significant concerns about using it, particularly around data collection and sharing.

The Coalition draws on key learnings from 11 case studies of digital health technologies to recommend that effective digital approaches to healthcare need to:

1. Respond directly to patient needs
2. Ensure technology is easy to use
3. Embrace convenience and flexibility
4. Maintain the human aspect of healthcare
5. Support clinicians

The report concludes that the UK must build on progress made to digitise the NHS during the pandemic rather than revert to pre-COVID-19 service models, and draw on good practice examples that have helped facilitate service improvements, such as virtual self-referral and clinician communication support.

To read the report's full recommendations to Government and the NHS, please visit our website, where you'll find it.

[Read the report](#)

Would the environmental sustainability of anaesthesia affect your choice?



Medics at Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust want to know what you know about choices in anaesthesia and if choice is affected by the environmental sustainability of different options.

The survey they'd like you to complete is part of a project that involves looking at increasing the use of regional anaesthesia, where only part of the body is numbed to allow for pain-free procedures, unlike a general anaesthetic that causes complete loss of consciousness.

The motivation for this is that regional anaesthesia has a much lower environmental impact than general. Regional anaesthesia techniques are increasingly refined and could be used much more widely than they currently are. The doctors in Manchester say that sustainability of anaesthesia is rarely discussed with patients when they are about to go under treatments that need it and they would like to find out from the survey if this may be important to patients.

If you complete the survey, the information gained would be used to improve services to patients within the NHS.

[Take the survey](#)

Wound care survey still open



Please spare us 10 to 15 minutes to complete our survey on care chronic wounds, which are very painful and debilitating, and that affect nearly 3 million people.

We're working with Mölnlycke, a global medical products company that specializes in wound management, on a survey into chronic wound management. We want to hear from everyone, not just individuals who have chronic wounds.

We are also conducting a virtual focus group and looking for case studies. For the focus group and case studies, we're looking for people with experience of chronic wounds. If you would like to be considered for the focus group or case study interviews, please contact sharrie.mcintosh@patients-association.org.uk.

Tell us what you think

Last chance to complete professional accreditation survey

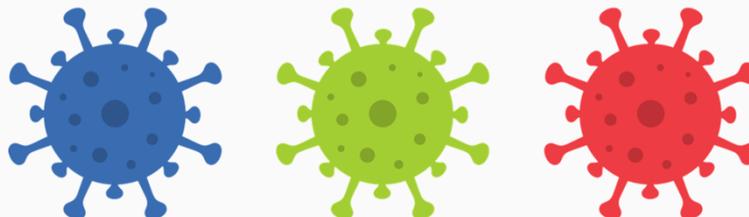


Our survey into possible changes to healthcare regulation by the Professional Standards Authority (PSA) closes next week.

If you've not completed it yet, please do. Your answers will help us formulate our response to the PSA.

Tell us what you think

COVID-19 vaccination Q&A



I have been offered the COVID-19 vaccine out of my area. How can I arrange to have it locally?

You can telephone NHS 119 to find out if you can move your appointment to somewhere local to you.

I want to change the date of my vaccination. How can I do that?

Call NHS 119 or use the [online service](#) if you have been invited to make an appointment.

Is there anyone I can talk to about the vaccine before I attend the appointment?

Call NHS 119 or your GP for more information about the vaccine. There is [information online too](#).

Will I be informed before my appointment which vaccine I will be given?

No, you won't be given this information in advance but you can ask during your appointment.

Source: NHS England

Contact our helpline



We have a range of information leaflets [on our website](#) which contain useful information and pointers if you have a quick question about your health and social care.

If you can't find the answers you need there, you can always call our helpline on 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.

What our team is reading

SNP health chief Jeane Freeman admits Scotland's vaccine programme needs to be faster

MP visits COVID-19 vaccine rollout at city health centre to encourage Liverpool's Black community to get the jab

More than eight in ten nurses have 'feared for patient safety' during pandemic

Up to 100 UK children a week hospitalised with rare post-Covid disease

COVID-19 and the pressure on NHS critical care beds

About Us

Our vision is that health and social care will be delivered in a way that meets every person's health and social care needs.

Our mission is to give effect to the patient voice, to improve patient experience and support people to engage fully in their own care. Find out more about our values on our [website](#).



Copyright © 2021 The Patients Association, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you subscribed to the Patients Association Weekly News. If you no longer wish to receive it and wish to unsubscribe, please follow the links contained in this email.

Our mailing address is:

The Patients Association
PO BOX 935
London, England HA1 3YJ
United Kingdom

[Add us to your address book](#)

Our full privacy policy [is available on our website](#).

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

The Patients Association is a registered charity in England and Wales (1006733). A company limited by guarantee. Registered company in England and Wales (02620761)

Registered address: P Block, Northwick Park Hospital, The North West Hospitals NHS Trust, Watford Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 3YJ