HEALTH MANAGEMENT BULLETIN
30th November 2023

Quality and Safety

- **New report sets out how hospital admissions can be avoided and how patient flow can be improved ahead of busy winter period** County Councils Network
  This major new report sets out how the health and social care system can work better this winter – by avoiding unnecessary hospital admissions and improving patient flow.

- **New report on services that could transform patient care** Lords PSC
  This report explores how the services which deliver medicines to patients in their home could improve care for patients and reduce pressure on the NHS but that this significant potential is not being met.

- **Hospital at Home and virtual wards: the RCP view** RCP
  There has been considerable publicity and discussion from the NHS and UK government and in the media about the potential of 'virtual wards, including Hospital at Home' to alleviate current pressures on the NHS. It is important that professionals, patients and the public have a clear and balanced understanding of the terminology, and of the immediate and future benefits and risks of Hospital at Home and virtual wards.

- **90% of NHS trusts now have electronic patient records** NHS Digital
  A total of 189 NHS trusts have now introduced new systems, with Hillingdon Hospitals and Sheffield Health and Social Care NHS Trusts becoming the latest to go live.

- **Green surgery: reducing the environmental impact of surgical care** UK Health Alliance on Climate Change
  This report provides initiatives and recommendations to reduce the adverse impact of surgical care on the environment, based upon evidence synthesis and case studies. It also considers barriers and facilitators to implementation.

- **Reducing harm from ligatures in mental health wards and wards for people with a learning disability** CQC
  This guidance identifies 4 key themes for ligature harm risk management in the built environment. It has also developed a ligature point recording template to support staff in identifying and recording ligature risk points, controls and actions required to mitigate risks associated with the built environment.

- **Thirlwall Inquiry: terms of reference** DHSC
  The Thirlwall Inquiry has been set up to examine events at the Countess of Chester Hospital and their implications following the trial, and subsequent

convictions, of former neonatal nurse Lucy Letby of murder and attempted murder of babies at the hospital.

- **Blog: Reducing the carbon footprint of surgical care** RCOG
  In this blog Dr James Phillips, Consultant in Obstetrics & Gynaecology at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust explores the huge potential impact of the Green Surgery report.

- **Our position on safe hospital discharge** Healthwatch
  Recent changes to hospital discharge policy and processes have been positive. But the experiences of patients and families still vary. This position statement sets what Healthwatch is calling for to ensure people get the support they need during this time.

- **Faster progress needed to tackle barriers to care** Healthwatch
  This new report looks at health and social care from the patients' perspective and warnsof a "a two-tier health and care system" unless the NHS takes faster action to tackle access issues.

- **The public's perspective: The state of health and social care** Healthwatch
  This new report brings to light the public's perspective on the state of health and social care.

- **Waiting time prioritisation in the health sector: evidence from hip replacement surgery** Centre for Health Economics
  This study uses hospital administrative data in 2015-2021 on hip replacements in England to investigate the extent to which publicly-funded patients with higher need, measured by pre-operative health, are prioritised on the list by public and private providers.

- **Improving Health Inequality Data in the NCAPOP** HQIP
  This project was set up to identify and explore the barriers to health inequality data being routinely reported within the National Clinical Audit and Patient Outcome Programme (NCAPOP). It contains a number of recommendations for those planning and delivering care at national, regional and local levels, as well as for HQIP.

Service Improvement/Redesign

- **The contribution of at scale primary care to system working** NHS Providers
  This case study report highlights how primary care at scale can benefit organisations and contribute to wider systems aims.

- **Transforming power relationships in partnership working** King's Fund
  Exploring the practical challenges of working with power in the Healthy Communities Together Partnerships.

- **Improving health and care at scale: learning from the experience of systems** NHS Confederation
  The early work of work of integrated care systems at the forefront of improvement at scale.

- **NHS trials artificial intelligence system to prevent avoidable admissions** Pharma Times
  The NHS has announced that it is trialling an artificial intelligence (AI) system to help boost NHS winter responses and prevent avoidable admissions to hospitals.

- **Prof Sir Chris Ham: We need a culture of commitment to improvement, not compliance (audio)** NHS Confederation
  Prof Sir Chris Ham on system improvement, good practice and shifting the dial on health outcomes.

- **New NHS software to improve care for millions of patients** NHSE
  The NHS will roll out new software from spring next year to deliver better joined-up care for millions of patients, help tackle waiting lists and reduce hospital discharge delays.

- **How are ICSs tackling workforce challenges?** King's Fund
  Throughout this project the King' Fund will explore how the local partners involved in ICSs are working together to tackle problems that are system wide, and hence require a system-wide solution.

- **Smart prescribing: harnessing technology in the fight against AMR** Reform
  This report examines a critical, but often under-represented area of the UKs approach to antimicrobial resistance (AMR) by optimising antimicrobial prescribing.

- **Are we there yet? People's views on how far we have advanced in providing continuous and co-ordinated care** International Foundation for Integrated Care
  The International Foundation for Integrated Care (IFIC) conducted its second annual survey on integrated care, with a specific emphasis on collecting the experiences of our network regarding how coordinated and continuous care is today in different contexts, countries and from various stakeholder viewpoints.

- **Partnering with purpose: how integrated care systems and industry can work better together** NHS Confederation
  Exploring how ICSs and industry can work in partnership to solve the challenges facing health and care.

- **[Transforming health and wellbeing services through population health management](#)** **NHS Confederation**
  Exploring practical shifts towards population health and population health management approaches.

Communication

- **['I love the NHS, but…': preventing needless harms caused by poor communications in the NHS](#)** **Demos**
  In this report we make a powerful case for the urgent need to improve communication within the NHS. We demonstrate how fundamental good communication is to the quality of care and treatment that people receive and the levels of trust and satisfaction they feel. Communication and supporting administration should not be seen as a 'nice to have', but as fundamental to the functioning of the NHS.

Finance

- **[Landmark deal to boost nation's health and save NHS £14 billion](#)** **DHSC/NHSE/HM Treasury**
  New voluntary scheme for branded medicines pricing, access and growth (VPAG) will boost nation's health, save NHS £14 billion and support research investment.

- **[Health and care finance tracker](#)** **Nuffield Trust**
  Ahead of a general election where funding for the NHS and social care will be a crucial issue for our country, the Nuffield Trust has launched a new finances tracker which provide and explains the key numbers you need to understand.

- **[Cutting waiting lists and improving patient services casualties of growing £1.7bn NHS financial black hole](#)** **Nuffield Trust**
  New analysis from the Nuffield Trust think tank warns that despite an additional £450m of additional funding being made available to the NHS earlier this month, the current financial situation within the NHS is precarious with patients likely to feel the impact, with slower progress than hoped for on tackling waiting lists and initiatives to improve care quality and access stalled.

- **[NHS spending plans and reality over the past 10 years](#)** **Nuffield Trust**
  Alongside the launch of a new finance racker, Sally Gainsbury looks back over the past decade to show how repeated spending increases on the NHS pushed above what governments planned and expected.

- **[The Autumn Statement 2023: what was announced and what does it mean for health and care services?](#)** **King's Fund**
  A typical year in the UK has only two fiscal events – and the Autumn Statement is one of them. So it is a precious chance for a government to

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'course correct' if its plans for the economy and public services are off-track. So, did the Chancellor take that chance?

- **[The people's economic priorities: public attitudes and Autumn Statement 2023](#)** **Joseph Rowntree Foundation**
  This short briefing assesses the decisions made by the Chancellor in the Autumn Statement against what people are actually worried about.

- **[Hospital discharge funds: experiences in winter 2022–23](#)** **King's Fund**
  In this report commissioners and service providers in six local areas reveal their experiences of the process of receiving additional funding to reduce delayed discharge in 2022-23.

People Management

- **[The mental health of disabled staff](#)** **NHS Employers**
  Learn about how disabled staff can face additional mental health challenges in the workplace and access resources to help you support them.

- **[Growing occupational health and wellbeing together: look back, look forward report](#)** **NHSE**
  This Growing occupational health and wellbeing together: look back; look forward report showcases the journey, investment, and progress NHS England have made in the first year since the launch of the Growing occupational health and wellbeing together strategy.

- **[Making effective reasonable adjustments to support staff in their roles](#)** **NHS Employers**
  Under the Equality Act 2010, employers have a legal responsibility to make workplace adjustments for disabled staff.

- **[Sonographers, sonography and the regulation of the medical ultrasound workforce](#)** **NHS Employers**
  Information on the recruitment and regulation of sonographers.

- **[Beating burnout in the NHS](#)** **NHS Employers**
  Burnout in the NHS is more prevalent than ever. NHS trusts must address this to ensure staff wellbeing and high-quality patient care is sustainable.

- **[Why there's still work to be done to close the gender pay gap in the NHS and social care](#)** **King's Fund**
  The latest figures on the gender pay gap in the UK show that it is reducing. However, there is still work to be done to close the NHS gender pay gap and the gap across the wider health and social care sector.

- **Increased demand and staff shortages take toll on nurses' mental health** NHS Providers
Saffron Cordery responds to new figures published by the Royal College of Nursing which shows a 98% rise in reported suicidal thoughts among nurses compared to the same period last year.

- **Surviving healthcare: sexism and sexual violence in the healthcare workforce** Surviving in Scrubs
This report is the first analysis of stories submitted anonymously to the Surviving in Scrubs website. It is an analysis of 150 stories, detailing 174 incidents of sexism, sexual harassment and sexual assault occurring colleague to colleague within the healthcare workforce.

- **Increase in registered nurses doesn't tell the full story** Nuffield Trust
Billy Palmer responds to the NMC mid-year data report on registered nurses in the UK.

- **Advanced practice** NHS Employers
Learn more about advanced and enhanced practitioners and what they can do to support your multi-disciplinary teams.

- **Understanding and reducing tensions between staff in relation to agile working** NHS Employers
Agilab's research report explores interpersonal tensions between clinical and non-clinical staff in the NHS in relation to agile working arrangements.

- **Over 50,000 extra nurses in NHS - hitting government target early** DHSC
It marks the largest ever sustained growth in the NHS nursing workforce, with the expanded workforce delivering hundreds of thousands of extra appointments.

- **Past, present and future of NHS nurse numbers** Nuffield Trust
The Government's manifesto pledge to increase the number of nurses working in the NHS by 50,000 by 2024 has been achieved, representing historic levels of growth. However, not all branches of nursing are benefitting equally and challenges remain to increase domestic supply and reduce reliance on vast levels of overseas recruitment.

Patient Experience

- **What do people think about patient choice?** Healthwatch
This blog explores what's working and what could be better regarding people's right to choose where they receive treatment.

- **Exploring public attitudes towards the use of digital health technologies and data** Health Foundation

Understanding how the public feels about digital health technologies and data use is crucial to their successful rollout to improve health care quality and efficiency.

Research and Innovation

- **NHS expands use of secure COVID-19 research platform to help find new treatments for major killer conditions** NHSE
  The NHS is to expand the use of a research platform behind the roll-out of new Covid-19 treatments to help drive life-saving advances for other major diseases.

- **Digitally enabled care in diverse environments (DECIDE) programme** RAND
  Technology-enabled remote monitoring has the potential to improve care quality, reduce length of stay in hospitals, prevent infection transmission and allow people to access care safely, at a suitable time and location. DECIDE (digitally enabled care in diverse environments) is a programme for the rapid evaluation of technology-enabled remote monitoring in health and care.

- **Shared commitment to public involvement in health and social care research** Health Foundation
  The Health Foundation has signed a shared commitment to improve public involvement in health and social care research.

Public Health

- **What we know about the UK's working-age health challenge** Health Foundation
  This long read sets out the major trends in workforce health and examine the inequalities between people, sectors and places.

- **State of ageing 2023** Centre for Ageing Better
  This year's State of Ageing report paints the most detailed picture yet of the older population in England, using data from a variety of sources, including Census 2021. It shines a light on the growth in size and diversity of older age groups and the many ways in which the older population is changing. It highlights stark inequalities, and the need for urgent action to stop them growing rapidly over the coming decades.

- **State of caring 2023: the impact of caring on health** Carers UK
  Carers UK carried out an online survey between June and August 2023. A total of 11,667 carers and former carers responded to the survey. This report summarises the responses from the 10,751 people who are currently providing care.

- **Population health management: an introduction** NHS Confederation

This explainer offers an overview of population health management (PHM), answering key questions and highlighting the benefits of successful adoption. It is intended to provide an introduction for primary care teams looking to develop and strengthen PHM in local systems.

Bulletins

● **SPS Monthly Digest – November 2023**

Annual Reports & Statistics

● **Deaths registered weekly in England and Wales, provisional: week ending 10 November 2023**
● **Mental Health of Children and Young People in England, 2023 - wave 4 follow up to the 2017 survey**
● **Deaths registered monthly in England and Wales: October 2023**

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