

Dear Colleagues

Wessex LMCs News Update from the Team. . .

Wessex LMCs Intro...



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As we are fast approaching the November deadline to start implementing the National Standards of Healthcare Cleanliness, we wanted to reassure you that this is something that is still very much on our radar, and we continue to look at ways we can help support practices with this.

We are still awaiting confirmation of the planned date for the national webinar for primary care that is due to take place later this month and the release of the primary care adapted versions of the templates, which we will share details of as soon as these are made available. We are also still in communication with the BMA and are awaiting a further response on their stance of how the standards fit into the regulations that govern CQC requirements. We are continuing to work with the Infection Prevention and Control leads for each ICB / ICS, who have agreed to share some of their resources, please refer to our updated page on the website [Wessex LMCs: Infection Control in General Practice](#)

There is an excellent new training module - the gloves learning module, this has been designed to improve knowledge of appropriate use of non-sterile disposable gloves to aid risk assessment with regards to appropriate glove use. This can be accessed via the NHS National PPE online learning portal - <https://ppe.qlearning.england.nhs.uk/courses/GLOVES2022/home>, you will be asked to sign up but all modules are free. Please share this resource with your practice IPC lead.

UKSHA has recently sent out an alert to raise awareness of a recent increase in cases of diphtheria in the UK and WHO European Region amongst asylum seekers and refugees, a small cluster of cases has been identified in the South East England region. Clinicians should consider the potential for cutaneous and respiratory diphtheria in those who arrive from countries endemic for the infection.

Cases of suspected classical respiratory diphtheria should be urgently assessed by clinicians for Diphtheria Anti-toxin Therapy (DAT), all suspected cases should be notified to the local HPT, further advice can be sought from the UKHSA Colindale duty doctor in and out of hours (020 8200 4400) if DAT is being considered, additional resources are also available on GOV.UK webpages. It also serves as a reminder to ensure that new arrivals have their vaccination status checked and those with incomplete schedules are caught-up as per the UK schedule.

'Register with a GP Surgery' service now available via self-enrolment

Patients are now able to find practices offering the new '[Register with a GP surgery](#)' service via the NHS [Find a GP webpage](#). If your practice is interested in working with NHS Digital while they enhance this service further, [you can now self-enrol onto the service](#). Support is also available to participating practices via the onboarding team at england.register-gp-surgery.support@nhs.net.

Over 32,000 successful online submissions have been made to date by more than 100 practices and early testing has shown the service has reduced the application processing time for practice staff up to 15 minutes per registration, while offering patients more choice, convenience, and consistency in the way they register.

More information about the 'Register with a GP Surgery' service is available at the NHS Digital [Resource Hub](#).

New Patient Health Questionnaires (Ukraine & Russian Translations) now available

GP practices can now [download new patient health questionnaires with bi-lingual English/Ukrainian and English/Russian translations](#) for people arriving in the UK from Ukraine, supporting assessment and management of their initial health needs at the point of GP registration. The questionnaires have been developed with Doctors of the World UK.

There is also an English/blank version available which commissioners and providers can adapt for other languages in supporting initial health needs assessment for other vulnerable migrants. Further translations may be added in due course.

Appropriate Prescribing of Antipsychotic Medication in Dementia

A new toolkit aims to aid good practice and to help reduce variation in prescribing antipsychotic medication for dementia across England. It complements guidance available at a regional level, and provides information to address uses, risks and alternatives to antipsychotic medication, risk reduction in antipsychotic prescribing, and support for local systems to deliver best practice in antipsychotic prescribing and de-prescribing where appropriate. The toolkit is available on the [London Clinical Network webpage](#).

General Practice Nurses now included in the General Practice Fellowship Scheme

The [eligibility criteria for the General Practice Fellowship Scheme](#) has been expanded to include nurses new to general practice. The inclusion of new to general practice nurses will provide support to accelerate their clinical and professional development in primary care, further incentivise this career route and support those more experienced nurses to transition, ensuring these professionals feel valued and are best able to contribute to the wider workforce.

In addition, primary care will be provided access to staff who bring experience in a range of conditions which the portfolio offer would allow them to further develop. Nurses that are interested should discuss with their practice manager or their local training hub contact.

Six new Films on Population health Management Launched for Community Nurses

[Six new short films](#) will help community nurses use a Population Health Management (PHM) approach to improve patients' care. The 15-minute practical learning videos will upskill community nurses across the country to use PHM and can be used as part of their revalidation. The videos about topics including what is PHM, how PHM helps tackle the Core50Plus5 priorities and how it can promote engagement will be useful for any health and care professionals interested in finding out more about PHM. [Sign up to the PHM Academy if you're not already a member](#).

Speak Up Month Activity and Resources

NHSE recently updated the [Freedom to Speak Up \(FTSU\) policy](#) and [guidance](#) in partnership with the National Guardian Office (NGO). Along with the [planning and reflection tool](#), these will assist both primary care and NHS Trusts in evidencing the assessment of their FTSU arrangements which must be complete by 31 January 2024.

A new set of resources are also available, including [new videos and podcasts](#) which focus on developing inclusive speak up cultures, reducing barriers to speaking up, and encouraging our ethnic minority colleagues, evening staff, staff with disabilities, part-time and facility staff to speak up and have their voices heard.

The support of Freedom to Speak Up Guardians is a key principle of the refreshed guidance and policy. FTSU Guardians can refresh their knowledge and confidence by completing their [annual training](#) by 31 October 2022. Please email england.fts-u-enquiries@nhs.net with any enquiries.

Updated Staff Respect Materials available for all Primary Care Settings

We know the damaging impact that violence, abuse, and harassment can have on people's health and wellbeing, affecting both mental and physical health. [Public-facing assets are available to download from the Campaign Resource Centre](#), featuring NHS staff working in a range of different NHS settings, including general practice and pharmacy, carrying the message 'We are here to help you. Thank you for treating us with respect'. They have been produced with staff, stakeholders, and patient groups to support NHS teams to reduce abuse and violence against staff.

Mental Health & Wellbeing

Download the [Going home checklist](#)

Take a moment to think about today...

- Think about one thing that was difficult – let it go
- Consider three things that went well
- Are you ok? If not, have you told someone? Your colleagues, senior team and Occupational Health are here to support you.
- Check in on your colleagues before you leave – are they ok?
- Acknowledge your colleague's contribution – Have you said "Thank you"?
- Now switch your attention to home.
- How are you going to rest and recharge?



If you need help, a text service is available to all NHS colleagues who have had a tough day, who are feeling worried or overwhelmed, or who have a lot on their mind. Trained advisers will be available to help with signposting and confidential support.

You can access the text service by texting FRONTLINE to 85258 for support 24/7.

Wessex Support Hubs for Practice Staff

Banes, Swindon & Wiltshire: [BSW Wellbeing Matters service](#)

Dorset: [The ICS staff wellbeing service – Here For Each Other \(joinourdorset.nhs.uk\)](#)

Hants & IOW: [HIOW Staff Support Hub](#)

Wessex Education & Events

A Basic Introduction to Understanding Autism & Autistic People

Thursday 01 December 2023, 13:00 – 14:00

Wessex LMC Members £20pp

Book Online: <https://www.wessexlmcs.com/events/14020>

This webinar is aimed at anyone likely to interact with autistic people in the course of their work regardless of whether that is in the area of direct clinical support or administrative backup.



The course has been devised and is delivered by an autistic trainer, and draws chiefly on the work of autistic authors, activists, and academics. This brings an altogether different perspective to the subject which is often lacking in more generic 'awareness' training.

This session will explore some key aspects of the autistic way of being and suggest some generic strategies aimed at better accommodating autistic people in the service.

Please note this session will NOT be recorded

Emergencies in Cancer Care “rainy day thinking” – Cancer and end of life dilemmas in the urgent care setting

Friday 20 January 2023 13:00 – 14:00

Wessex LMC Members £25pp

Book Online: <https://www.wessexlmcs.com/events/12709>

Join Dr Andy Eaton for this online session looking at:



- Exploring our approach to managing some common urgent care cancer and end of life problems
- Discussing cases where cancer may be diagnosed as an emergency
- Exploring the factors that help us determine if a patient is “becoming” palliative in order to help us to provide more proactive palliative care where appropriate
- Sharing some tips (and pitfalls) in communicating with patients and their families in the palliative setting

Please note this session will NOT be recorded

Regards
The LMC Team

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