



Registered Charity No. 292157

E-Bulletin from National Association for Patient Participation Issue Number 65 July/August 2012

1. 'Patients Matter' Summer 2012 edition

Read or download the online colour version of the latest edition of the N.A.P.P. newsletter in Members' Area of the N.A.P.P. website. Login details from edith.todd@napp.org.uk. The printed version will be despatched within the next few weeks

2. New data to help patients choose the right GP surgery

Data on over 8,000 GP practices in England, now available on the [NHS Choices](#) website, allows patients to make quick and direct comparisons between different GP practices in their area. Each GP surgery has a score out of ten, based on patients' responses to the GP Patient Survey, forming a new measure of patient experience based on things like:

- How convenient it is to get an appointment
- The length of time you have to spend waiting in reception
- What the opening hours are like
- Whether the doctors and nurses are good at explaining things and listening to patients.

This new data on patient experience which may also encourage GPs and the NHS to help drive up standards by making improvements to the way they do things.

3. Functions of Clinical Commissioning Groups

A document issued recently, [The functions of clinical commissioning groups](#) reflects the final content of the Health and Social Care Act is an update to and earlier The Functions of GP Commissioning Consortia: a Working Document, published in March 2011. It provides a helpful and accessible summary to which GPs and emerging CCGs can refer. It sets out

- the key statutory duties of CCGs – the 'must dos'
- the key statutory powers – the things that CCGs have the freedom to do, if they wish, to help meet these duties.

Patients may also find it to be a useful and straightforward guide to the complex issues in the Act. It will be helpful in informing the planning and implementation of CCG responsibilities.

4. Code of conduct on CCG conflicts of interest

This code will be of interest to those who have expressed their concerns to N.A.P.P. on the subject of conflicts of interest for GPs who may provide services commissioned by local Clinical Commissioning Groups. The NHS Commissioning Board has published a draft code of conduct, setting out additional safeguards that CCGs will be advised to use when commissioning services for which GP practices could be providers. The [code](#) is designed to support CCGs in further developing their governance arrangements. It is also intended to allow wider engagement on the proposals, which the NHS CB can take into account when it publishes statutory guidance on managing conflicts of interest later in the year.

5. Games for Life

In the run-up to the Olympics, and the ensuing interest in sport, the latest campaign from Change4Life, [Games4Life](#) is intended to build on the excitement and encourage millions of people to get involved and get active.

6. Clinical commissioning in action

This publication shares learning from CCGs around England in the form of [case studies](#), each of which illustrates an example of successful outcomes and service provision.

7. Patient Participation in Pharmacies.

N.A.P.P was recently interviewed by P3, the magazine for community pharmacy about the benefits of establishing patient participation groups in pharmacies. [Click here to view the June E-Zine](#) Click on the arrows at the bottom right of the page to go to pages 12 and 13 for the article and click on the Zoom button to enlarge the text to make it legible.

8. 'No engagement, no CCG'

The June e-bulletin highlighted the ten Smart Guides to Engagement. Adding weight to the guides, a ten-minute patient engagement [video](#) on YouTube summarises views of those involved in the commissioning process and patients who will receive the services provided. N.A.P.P's CEO, Stephanie Varah who was commissioned to write the Smart Guide for CCGs on how to engage with PPGs, 'Practices and patient engagement', participated in this film.

9. N.A.P.P. co-signs statement of support for GMC re-validation of doctors

The General Medical Council (GMC) is the body responsible for the regulation of around 240,000 doctors on the UK medical register and for the protection of patients by making sure doctors have the right knowledge, skills, experience and support to provide safe, high quality care. Information on a doctor's registration is freely available at www.gmc-uk.org Subject to legislation being passed, towards the end of 2012, a process of called 'revalidation' will begin This will involve a series of five yearly checks on doctors to ensure that they continue to be up to date. The GMC has been working with the UK governments and other organisations to prepare for this change. It is planned that 20 per cent of doctors will be revalidated within the first year, with dates for revalidation stretching over a three year period until March 2016. Doctors who register with the GMC after December will be automatically set a revalidation date five years from the date they become fully licensed and registered

In July 2012, after consultation with the GMC, N.A.P.P., along with a number of other patient organisations from both public and voluntary sectors, co-signed this [statement of support](#)

10. Structure of Public Health England

This 23 page 'factsheet' sets out the proposed [structure](#) for Public Health England when this organisation comes into being in April 2013. Its stated ambitions are to protect and improve health and wellbeing, while reducing health inequalities. The document will be used as the basis for transition and. It aims to provide a guide for staff who will join the new agency and for its partners. On page 14, there is a useful map, showing the four regions and 15 centres. These proposed centres will provide the points of access.

11. Reminder:

Please forward this bulletin to fellow members as promptly as possible.

We do not send hard copies of e-bulletins.

All previous e-bulletins and Newsletters are available on our website at www.napp.org.uk is in the website Members' Area. Login details from edith.todd@napp.org.uk

*Stephanie Varah,
Chief Executive
August 2012*