



Registered Charity No 292157

## Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year

### E-Bulletin from National Association for Patient Participation Issue Number 146: December 2019

#### 1. Latest N.A.P.P. News

##### Diary dates

- **6<sup>th</sup> June 2020: N.A.P.P. Annual Conference.** The venue and topic will be publicised as soon as possible.
- **1<sup>st</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> June 2020: National PPG Awareness Week**

#### 1. Urgent invitation to those taking five or more medicines or suffer from a long term condition. Read attached invitation. Deadline 19<sup>th</sup> December

The NHS wants to hear your personal experiences as a patient or carer. This information will help to produce a national NHS report for the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care. The aim is to improve how medicines are managed and prescribed and how people are supported to take them properly. In some cases, this may also include how people can be supported to stop taking medicines that are not working for them.

Please read the attached invitation to an event which takes place on January in Leeds on January 16. **Reasonable and agreed travel expenses will be paid**

#### 2. Access to GPs

According to a [report](#) from the King's Fund, public satisfaction with general practice is lower now than it has ever been, while the number of people reporting difficulties in booking appointments continues to grow. So it's little surprise that access to GPs featured as one of the key political battlegrounds in the approach to the general election. The King' Fund is an independent charity working to improve health and care in England

#### 3. Running a successful network-wide patient group: Top tips

Mike Etkind is chair of a Buckinghamshire patient participation group (PPG) that has teamed up with others in the area to form a primary care network-wide patient group, thought to be one of the first in the country. He says there is no one-size-fits-all approach to setting up and running a successful PPG. Here he offers some [tips](#) for PPGs, GPs, practice managers, PCNs and CCGs.

#### 4. New guide: What people can expect when they visit a pharmacy

The General Pharmaceutical Council has produced a new [online guide](#) for patients and the public which explains what they can expect when visiting a pharmacy. It summarises the standards that registered pharmacies and pharmacy professionals have to meet, and what these standards mean for people using pharmacies.



## 5. Two thirds of adults will be carers and the burden falls mostly on women

A [report](#) from charity Carers UK says that two-thirds of UK adults can expect to provide unpaid care for a loved one who is older, disabled or seriously ill in their lifetime. The [research](#) also reveals that the average person has a 50:50 chance of becoming an unpaid carer by the age of 50. It finds that, on average, women can expect to take on caring responsibilities more than a decade earlier than men. Half of women will be carers by the age of 46, whereas half of men can expect to be carers at 57.

## 6. Challenges for the elderly: Remember them especially at this festive time

A report from Age UK outlines how ill health, poverty, unmet needs for care and support, poor housing, loneliness and social isolation are profound challenges for many older people. It estimates the numbers and percentages of people aged 65 and over in England with these disadvantages, and hears from older people about their experience. [More...](#)

## 7. N.A.P.P. website: Don't miss out this useful benefit of belonging to N.A.P.P!

Our website Member pages contain **key resources available only to affiliated PPGs**. For login details, **visit the website [www.napp.org.uk](http://www.napp.org.uk), click on Members and use screen instructions**. We recommend each PPG to have a generic group email address as the username for the login.

**8. Reminders:** Please email this bulletin to fellow members promptly. We do not send hard copies of e-bulletins. All previous bulletins can be found at <http://www.napp.org.uk/ebulletins.html>

*Edith Todd  
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December 2019*