



E-Bulletin from National Association for Patient Participation Issue Number 137 February 2019

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

- a. **N.A.P.P. Annual Conference “Celebrating General Practice” 15th June 2019** at the Cheltenham Chase Hotel in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. Patients and practice staff in member PPGs receive a 25% discount on fees, and there is a further “Early Bird” reduction for places reserved before 20th April. Further details and the online registration form can be accessed from our website [here](#), to use Eventbrite
- b. **PPG Awareness Week: 10th -15th June.** Our updated resource pack will be accessible from the home page or our website very soon at www.napp.org.uk
- c. **Corkill Award 2019:** The application form will be available on the N.A.P.P. website [here](#) by the end of February 2019. Closing date for applications is 30th April 2019

2. Rumours about PPGs becoming surplus to requirements

There have been some enquiries from PPGs who have heard that the GP contract no longer requires practices to have a PPG. **This is untrue.** The contract still requires every practice to have a PPG. Where practices have merged services, they are still expected to engage with separate practice-based PPGs. Each practice is required to make an annual self-declaration electronically to NHS England confirming that they *'have engaged with their PPG throughout the year and made available such feedback to the practice population', 'including actions and reports including where they have acted on suggestions for improvement'*. Care Quality Commission inspectors also expect to see and engage with a PPG in each practice. It would be useful for the separate PPGs to work jointly on matters affecting them all.

3. Where does your practice display the latest CQC ratings?

By law, all care providers have to display the ratings given by CQC at the most recent inspection. They must be displayed in places where they provide care, somewhere that people who use their services can easily see them. This might be the main entrance to a hospital or the waiting area of a GP surgery. They must also show their ratings on their website, if they have one.

3. National Data Opt-out Programme

[The national data opt-out](#) was introduced on 25 May 2018, enabling patients to opt out from the use of their data for research or planning purposes, in line with the recommendations of the National Data Guardian in her Review of Data Security, Consent and Opt-Outs. Patients who do not want their data to be used should be aware that they are responsible for opting out. Find out [here](#) how you can opt out online, by phone or in print by post.

4. The NHS long-term plan explained

The King's Fund, an independent charity working to improve health and care in England, has produced an ['explainer'](#) setting out the main commitments in the plan and provides a view of what they might mean, highlighting the opportunities and challenges for the health and care system as it moves to put the plan into practice

5. Plan for Universal Personalised Care

According to a [plan](#) published by NHS England, personalised care will benefit up to 2.5 million people by 2024, giving them the same choice and control over their mental and physical health that they have come to expect in every other aspect of their life.

6. Top tips for growing a thriving primary care network

The NHS Long Term Plan sets a demanding short-term deadline for all general practices to get together in primary care networks (PCNs), typically serving “natural communities” of around 30,000 to 50,000. With only 30% of practices currently in networks and even fewer meeting the definition set out in the NHS plan, there is little realistic prospect of countrywide coverage by the end of June. The ambition is to get practices organised in bigger groups to support sustainability and better enable participation in future integrated care systems. The big question is how they should go about it. This [article](#) distils PCC’s experience of working with existing practice networks. PCC is a not-for-profit organisation with roots in the NHS.

7. Extra appointments

GP practices in Gloucestershire are working together to provide 100,000 more appointments for patients across the county’s 75 practices. The county’s practices are organised in 16 [primary care networks](#). Over the next year, the extra appointments will be mainly provided by GPs and nurses, but increasingly practices expect to see new staff including clinical pharmacists, paramedics, mental health workers and physiotherapists relieving pressure on GPs and providing extra capacity. Feedback from patients has been positive.

8. Do patients benefit from integrated care?

QualityWatch is a Nuffield Trust and Health Foundation programme providing independent scrutiny into how the quality of health and social care is changing. The Health Foundation is an independent charity committed to bringing about better health and health care for people in the UK. As part of this initiative, a [briefing](#) has been produced. It breaks down a range of indicators to see whether integration initiatives really lead to improvements for patients in a variety of settings.

9. Challenges facing rural practices

It is generally acknowledged that small, rural NHS health care providers face higher costs than larger, urban areas. For a number of years, the NHS has adjusted financial allocations to account for these unavoidable variations in costs in different parts of the country. However, a [review](#) by Nuffield Trust for the National Centre for Rural Health and Care suggests these adjustments may not be compensating enough to prevent some rural trusts facing increased difficulties. The Nuffield Trust is an independent think tank.

10. Diabetes Prevention Week 1st – 7th April: Toolkits

Diabetes Prevention Week, 1 to 7 April 2019, aims to raise awareness of Type 2 diabetes, complications associated with the condition, at-risk groups and how to prevent it. Find out about the toolkits which are available to NHS organisations [here](#)

11. What does the long-term plan mean for the GP contract?

The BMA and NHS England have published a five-year “framework” setting out changes to the GP contract to stimulate the development of primary care networks (PCNs) and multidisciplinary teams. The [document](#) includes year by year funding commitments giving practices a clearer idea of levels of investment they can expect to see in social prescribing, clinical pharmacists and other initiatives designed to take pressure off the GP workforce.

12. N.A.P.P. website: Don’t miss out on this useful member benefit!

Our website Member pages contain **key resources available only to affiliated PPGs**. For login details, **visit the website, click on Members and use screen instructions**. We recommend each PPG to have a generic group email address as the username for the login.

13. Reminder: *Please email this bulletin to fellow members promptly. All previous bulletins can be found at <http://www.napp.org.uk/ebulletins.html>*

Edith Todd, Trustee, February 2019