



## E-Bulletin from National Association for Patient Participation Issue Number 126 February 2018

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

- a. **Annual Conference “40 years of patient engagement: What next?” 9<sup>th</sup> June** at the Nottingham Belfry Hotel, will feature two keynote speakers, Professor Mayur Lakhani, President of the Royal College of GPs and Professor Helen Stokes Lampard, RCGP Chair, workshop sessions, the popular Soapbox where delegates contribute ideas, information and challenges. The event will celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the foundation of N.A.P.P. and look forward to future developments. Further details about the programme will be published shortly. Details about registration and delegate costs will be sent to members by 1<sup>st</sup> March and on the [website](#).
- b. **PPG Awareness Week 4<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> June:** The updated Resource pack can be accessed in the N.A.P.P. website [here](#). Member login is not required.
- c. **Corkill Award PPG of the Year 2018:** Applications are invited from PPGs were members of N.A.P.P. on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 for activities and achievements during the preceding year. The criteria, guidelines and application form can be accessed [here](#)
- d. **N.A.P.P.’s Group of 100:** The Group has now completed its first mission - commenting on some resources about doctor revalidation for the GMC. The GMC has been delighted with the response. We intend to use the Group next to test out some questions we plan to put to the wider membership about what you think about N.A.P.P. We have other surveys in the pipeline too. If you are interested in joining the Group, please follow the link to the members only section [here](#).

### 2. Volunteering in General Practice: Opportunities and Insights

This is the title of [a report](#) published this month by the Kings Fund, an independent charity working to improve health and care in England. [The NHS five year forward view](#) sets out aspirations for a new relationship with patients and communities, with volunteering as one means of realising. With interest growing in the contribution that volunteering can make in health and social care, this paper examines the ways in which volunteers are involved with, and are contributing to, *general practice* across England. Approximately 1.7 million adults actively volunteer in the health and social care sectors in England, Scotland and Wales.

### 3. Divided we fall: getting the best out of general practice

This is the title of a report from Nuffield Trust which finds that initiatives that offer faster and easier access to GPs for some patients, risk undermining the ability of doctors to manage people with complex or unknown illnesses and keep them out of hospital. It calls on national policy makers to move away from splitting off services for different patient groups and to support better access, better continuity and medical generalist care within GP organisations. [More...](#) The Nuffield Trust is an independent health charity, which aims to improve the quality of UK health care by providing evidence-based research and policy analysis.

### 4. Larger proportion of strokes in the middle aged

The Act FAST campaign has re-launched, urging people to call 999 if they notice even one of the signs of a stroke (FACE stands for Face, Arms, Speech, Time) in themselves, or in others. In England, one in six people will have a stroke in their lifetime. New statistics released by Public Health England estimate that around 30% of people who have a stroke will go on to experience another stroke. [More...](#)

## 5. Parents warned about a rise in scarlet fever

Older PPG members will remember a time when they or a schoolmate was diagnosed with this infectious disease, entailing a spell of at least six weeks in an “isolation” or “fever” hospital with no visits from family or friends. Antibiotics put paid to that. It is a bacterial streptococcal infection, there is no vaccine. Following a substantial increase in reported cases across England in 2017 to 2018. Public Health England (PHE) has published [a set of FAQs](#), advising parents to be aware of the signs, symptoms, and treatment, to be aware of the signs and symptoms. New [guidelines](#) for health protection teams to control outbreaks of scarlet fever in schools, nurseries and other childcare settings.

## 6. NHS Continuing Care

Some people with long-term complex health needs qualify for free social care arranged and funded solely by the NHS. This is known as NHS continuing healthcare (CHC). For some time, anecdotal evidence has suggested that there may be significant variation in how this is accessed and delivered at local level. A new report from NHS Clinical Commissioners suggests ways in which the provision of NHS continuing healthcare (CHC) in local areas can be improved for the benefit of patients and commissioners. It shares some of the approaches that have been developed by local CCGs which have proved to be effective in delivering their CHC commitments. [More...](#)

## 7. In and out of hospital

A [report](#) from the Red Cross proposes automatic home assessments and other simple interventions for older and vulnerable people to reduce avoidable hospital admissions. It contains analysis of first-hand accounts of frontline health and care workers who argue that there are too many missed opportunities to prevent many of these admissions.

## 8. Promising approaches to living well with dementia: two new reports

The first, [a guide from AGE UK](#), offers a framework, setting out a number of scaleable and cost-effective interventions that can support people with dementia, will hopefully be useful to those seeking to improve things. There is comprehensive sign-posting to effective interventions for those seeking inspiration.

The second, from the International Longevity Centre examines the uses of therapeutic music to help people with dementia. The evidence shows that music helps to minimise some of the symptoms of dementia. It calls for a more effective co-ordination of national and regional activities, more research, improved public awareness and increased funding. Read more and download the report [here](#).

## 9. Opportunity to improve care of late stage macular degeneration: new guidelines

People with suspected late AMD (wet active) should be referred to a macula service within one working day, says NICE guidance. According to the Macular Society, over 600,000 people in the UK are affected by age-related macular degeneration (AMD). The new NICE [guideline](#) aims to ensure these people, who are at risk of blindness, receive a prompt diagnosis and fast access to effective treatments.

## 10. 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, click on Members and use screen instructions**. We recommend each PPG to have a generic group email address as the username for the login.

**11. Reminder:** *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, Trustee, February 2018*