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Accident and Emergency

Mental health nurses and paramedics to respond together to reduce avoidable hospital admissions (07/12/18)

Londoners experiencing a mental health crisis will be sent a [specialist ambulance crew](#) of a mental health nurse and a paramedic, reports NHS England. By responding together such a crew are expected to reduce mental health hospital admissions from 58,000 to 30,000 per year once the scheme is rolled out across the capital.

The London Ambulance Service scheme aims to treat patients at home, which is often a better environment for those experiencing mental health problems. When an emergency mental health call comes in, the 999 call handlers work alongside a mental health nurse in the control room to decide whether to dispatch the mental health car.

At the scene, both clinicians will assess the patient, with the nurse able to assess mental health and provide brief psychological interventions and the paramedic able to assess their physical needs.

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Cancer/Stroke/Cardiovascular

Cancer services profiles: 2018 annual update (04/12/18)

The [cancer services profiles](#) have been designed to support commissioners and health professionals to assess the impact of cancer on their local population and make decisions about services, and are produced as part of the Cancer Research UK - Public Health England Partnership.

These profiles replace the GP cancer profiles that were previously presented in the Cancer Commissioning Toolkit.

[Annual update](#)

Cardiovascular disease profiles: December 2018 update (04/12/18)

The [cardiovascular disease profiles](#) have been updated by Public Health England (PHE).

The profiles provide an overview of data on cardiovascular and cardiovascular related conditions of heart disease, stroke, diabetes and kidney disease. They are intended to help commissioners and health professionals assess the impact of cardiovascular disease (CVD) on their local population, make decisions about services and improve outcomes for patients.

Cardiovascular disease prevention: action plan (03/12/18)

These [documents](#) from Public Health England aim to:

- highlight work to address cardiovascular disease
- showcase current projects and new resources
- provide updates on the progress of ongoing initiatives.

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Children/Young People/Families

Government review to improve the lives of autistic children (05/12/18)

The government's [review of services and support for autistic people](#) is covering autistic children as well as adults for the first time. The review will inform the new joint adults and children autism strategy to be published in autumn 2019.

The government will collect evidence from autistic children and adults, families, carers and professionals on how to improve services and support.

Supporting people on the autism spectrum or with learning disabilities is one of the 4 clinical priority areas in the NHS long-term plan.

Sexual abuse trauma: new support service for children (05/12/18)

The NSPCC has [launched](#) The Lighthouse. The facility is a partnership project with the University College London Hospitals Foundation Trust (UCLH), and Tavistock and Portman Foundation Hospital. It offers a full range of support to children and their families who have been affected by sexual abuse.

Until now, young people who reported sexual abuse could face multiple interviews with social workers, law enforcement and medical professionals in different and sometimes unfriendly settings, while also struggling to access long-term emotional support.

Based on the [Icelandic Barnahus model](#), The Lighthouse brings all that support under one roof. It will also gather evidence from interviews to help gain more successful prosecutions in the future.

A Better Start: supporting child development in the early years (03/12/18)

This [guide](#) from the Local Government Association sets out the reasons that the early years are so essential to future outcomes and wellbeing, and the measures being taken by local authorities to bring together health, social care and early education services to create a more holistic approach to identifying and meeting the needs of young children and their families.

The case studies demonstrate the importance of evidence-based practice, and of local authorities and area partnerships making sure that they commission provision and implement changes which fully reflect the particular local needs and priorities of their communities.

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Commissioning and Economics

Understanding the new commissioning system in England: contexts, mechanisms and outcomes (30/11/18)

Healthcare commissioning is the process by which population needs are assessed, and appropriate health care is purchased to meet those needs from organisations providing care. In 2012 there was a significant reorganisation of the NHS in England (enacted in the Health and Social care Act 2012 (HSCA12)), with the abolition of some organisations, the creation of others and a significant redistribution of responsibilities for commissioning different types of healthcare.

In the new system responsibilities for commissioning some types of services were divided between a number of different organisations. These changes were intended to: give front line NHS clinicians more freedom and a greater role in commissioning; increase the efficiency of the NHS by promoting greater competition between providers; focus commissioning activity upon achieving particular outcomes rather than on counting activity; create a new Arm's Length Body (NHS England) to oversee the running of the NHS; and to transfer responsibility for public health to elected Local Authorities.

This three-year study using qualitative and quantitative methods to explore how the new commissioning system was functioning. The [research](#), undertaken by the University of Manchester and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine on behalf of PRUComm, aimed to assess the impact of the reforms on the operation and outcomes of the commissioning system.

Evidence-Based Interventions: Guidance for CCGs (29/11/18)

NHS England has published a [guidance document](#) for Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), to assist them in fulfilling their duties relating to securing continuous improvements in the quality of services for patients and in outcomes, particularly regarding appropriate clinical interventions.

The interventions are listed alphabetically from Adult snoring surgery to Varicose veins. For each condition there is a summary, recommendations for treatment, and a list of references.

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Communities and Local Government

Brexit Preparedness – Kent County Council Update (07/12/18)

Paul Carter, leader of Kent County Council has issued a [press release](#) on the county's preparedness for Brexit. The release also contains a link to a report which is to be presented at a [Council meeting](#) on 13 December 2018.

The [report](#) updates Members on the work the County Council is undertaking to prepare in the event of a no-deal Brexit, including through the Kent Resilience Forum and with service-level Business Continuity Planning. The report also identifies further actions to be taken and requirements of Government to address the unique risks to Kent and to ensure that, as far as possible, Kent communities are kept moving and Kent remains open for business.

EU Settlement Scheme: community leaders toolkit (03/12/18)

The community leaders' toolkit, published by the Home Office and UK Visas and Immigration, equips community groups and local authorities with the right information to support EU citizens and their families to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.

The [toolkit](#) contains a briefing pack, as well as social media assets, a leaflet, poster, and factsheets, to help community leaders across the UK communicate clear and consistent messages about the EU Settlement Scheme.

See also Information/Evidence/Research/Ethics

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Disabilities

See Children/Young People/Families

Education

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Drugs/Alcohol

Substance misuse treatment for young people: statistics 2017 to 2018 (06/12/18)

Public Health England (PHE) has published [annual data](#) on alcohol and drug treatment for under-18s from the national drug treatment monitoring system (NDTMS).

Healthcare professionals can use these statistics to understand:

the availability and effectiveness of alcohol and drug treatment services for young people (under 18 years old) in England
trends in drug and alcohol use among the young people receiving treatment
the profile of young people accessing alcohol and drug treatment services.

This data is part of a larger [collection](#) of PHE alcohol and drug misuse and treatment statistics.

[Summary, including problem substances](#)

[Xanax: Treatment for addiction rises sharply in children](#), BBC Health

'How we drink, what we think' report (04/12/18)

The Alcohol Health Alliance UK (AHA), an alliance of 50 non-governmental organisations, has released a [new report](#) exploring what people think about alcohol, the risks associated with drinking, and what they would like to be done to address alcohol-related harms.

The report comes as a new national alcohol strategy is being developed, with health groups calling for it to follow the evidence.

[Alcohol Policy UK](#)

Local Alcohol Profiles for England (LAPE): December 2018 update (04/12/18)

Alcohol use has health and social consequences borne by individuals, their families, and the wider community. Reducing harmful drinking is one of 7 priority areas that Public Health England is focusing efforts on securing improvement.

The [local alcohol profiles](#) have been designed to provide information for local government, health organisations, commissioners and other agencies. The data is updated one a quarter.

[December 2018, with commentary and slide set](#)

Vulnerabilities and substance use: ACMD report (04/12/18)

This [independent report](#) by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) investigates the risk factors to substance use-related problems and harms.

It looks at definitions of risk and protective factors, models through which these can be explored, and the particular impact of adverse childhood experiences.

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Education

Ofsted Annual Report 2017/18: education, children's services and skills (04/12/18)

The [Annual Report](#) looks at schools, early years, further education and skills and children's social care for the academic year 2017 to 2018.

Ofsted's findings are based on inspection evidence from around 30,000 inspections of, and visits to, schools, colleges and providers of social care, early years and further education and skills. The report also draws on findings from research and analysis.

Areas of concern have been raised about provision for young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), and the 19,000 pupils who drop off school rolls between Years 10 and 11 and around half did not reappear on the roll of another state-funded school.

In a wide-ranging [speech](#) to launch the report Amanda Spielman, Chief Inspector Ofsted, spoke of the core purpose of schools, and the responsibilities of parents and society generally. Child neglect, obesity and knife crime are wider societal issues.

See also [Children's social care data](#) to accompany the Ofsted Annual Report 2017/18.

[News release](#)

[Association of Directors of Children's Services \(ADCS\)](#)

[Children and Young People Now](#)

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Environment/Transport/Housing

£1 million funding for communities to create their own 'pocket parks' (05/12/18)

Green-fingered communities across England can [bid for a share](#) of £1 million fund to help develop their own 'pocket parks'. Up to £15,000 available to build new pocket parks and up to £25,000 available for renovating existing parks

Pocket parks are small plots of land, often about the size of a tennis court, and mostly seen in urban spaces. They provide a green oasis which can help improve the physical and mental health of the communities using them.

Existing pocket parks are used for everything from a quiet escape from busy city life to physical exercise, growing vegetables, children's play and community events.

The first [Pocket Parks programme](#) was launched in February 2016.

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Health Care

National General Practice Profiles: 2018 annual update (04/12/18)

The National General Practice Profiles are designed to support GPs, clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) and local authorities to commission effective, appropriate healthcare services for their local populations.

In this [annual](#) publication, the majority of indicators have been updated. The remainder will be done early 2019.

In safe hands? The need to know more about safety in health care (07/12/18)

Ensuring care is safe and harm-free remains high on the policy agenda, and rightly so. But are we measuring and monitoring safety appropriately, and what steps could be taken to improve it in the long run?

[Sarah Scobie](#) writing for the Nuffield Trust argues for a shift in understanding.

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Health Protection/Emergencies

Scarlet fever: symptoms, diagnosis and treatment (06/12/18)

Public Health England has published [updated guidance](#) on scarlet fever, sometimes called scarlatina. It is an infectious disease caused by bacteria called *Streptococcus pyogenes*, or group A streptococcus (GAS). Scarlet fever is characterised by a rash, which usually accompanies a sore throat, and is sometimes confused with the measles rash.

Scarlet fever is mainly a childhood disease and is most common between the ages of two and eight years. It was once dangerous, but antibiotic treatment means it is now less common and much less serious. Since 2014, a rise in numbers of cases has been seen with 15,000 to 20,000 cases

Vaccine uptake guidance and the latest coverage data (05/12/18)

Public Health England published information for health professionals and immunisation practitioners on vaccine uptake guidance and the latest coverage data.

The most recent additions to the [collection](#) are:

[Annual HPV vaccination coverage in adolescent females in England 2017 to 2018](#)
[Seasonal flu vaccine uptake in GP patients \(1 September 2018 to 31 October 2018\)](#)

Typhoid and paratyphoid: laboratory confirmed cases in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (03/12/18)

Typhoid fever is a serious disease and can be life threatening unless treated promptly with antibiotics. The disease may last several weeks, and convalescence takes some time. In the literature, paratyphoid is considered to be typically milder than typhoid and of shorter duration.

Public Health England has published the [annual report 2017](#) on enteric fever (typhoid and paratyphoid).

National flu reports: 2018 to 2019 season

[National influenza reports](#), tracking seasonal flu and other seasonal respiratory illnesses in the UK, are published by Public Health England.

In the influenza season (from October to May) the reports are weekly. During the summer months (from June to September) a summary fortnightly report is produced.

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Inequalities/Minorities

UK Poverty 2018 (04/12/18)

The [report](#), from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, examines how UK poverty rates have changed over the last few years, and over the longer term. The research focuses particularly on changes to poverty among children and workers, as well as giving an overview of trends among pensioners and other groups.

Key points:

Child poverty has been rising since 2011/12;

4.1 million children are living in poverty, a rise of 500,000 in the last five years

4 million workers are living in poverty, a rise of more than half a million over five years

In-work poverty has been rising even faster than employment, driven almost entirely by increasing poverty among working parents.

[Children's Commissioner](#)

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Information/Evidence/Research/Ethics

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) - July 2018 to September 2018, Experimental Statistics Report (06/12/18)

The Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Enhanced Dataset is a repository for individual level data collected by healthcare providers in England, including acute hospital providers, mental health providers and GP practices.

The [dataset update](#) which is published by NHS Digital supports the Department of Health's FGM Prevention Programme by presenting a national picture of the prevalence of FGM in England.

National measures of loneliness: 2018 (05/12/18)

This [compendium](#) from the Office of National Statistics provides comprehensive information on how loneliness is measured, and the recommended national indicators.

Mortality Profile: December 2018 (04/12/18)

Public Health England (PHE) has launched the [Mortality Profile](#). It brings together a selection of mortality indicators, with the intention of making it easier to assess outcomes across a range of causes of death.

The Mortality Profile has been developed to present the mortality indicators from the Longer Lives tool (which is being removed in December 2018). It will also bring together a selection of mortality indicators already available in other Fingertips profile tools, including the Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF).

Alcohol-specific deaths in UK: registered in 2017 (04/12/18)

The Office for National Statistics has published [information and data](#) on deaths in the UK that are known to be direct consequences of alcohol misuse, such as alcoholic liver disease.

Main points include:

- In 2017, there were 7,697 alcohol-specific deaths in the UK, an age-standardised rate of 12.2 deaths per 100,000 population.
- For the UK, alcohol-specific death rates have increased in recent years to similar rates observed in 2008 where they were at the highest recorded.
- Since the beginning of the time series in 2001, rates of alcohol-specific deaths among males have been more than double those observed among females (16.8 and 8.0 deaths per 100,000 in 2017 respectively).
- In 2017, alcohol-specific death rates were highest among 55- to 59-year-old females and 60- to 64-year-old males.

Update on preparations for a potential no-deal Brexit (07/12/18)

The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Matt Hancock, has written three letters to different sectors updating information on preparations in the event of the UK exiting the EU without a deal.

[Letter to the health and care sector](#)

[Letter to the pharmaceutical companies on medicines supply contingency plans](#)

[Letter to suppliers of medical devices and clinical consumables](#)

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Long-term Conditions

Musculoskeletal diseases profile: December 2018 update (04/12/18)

Musculoskeletal conditions are the leading cause of pain and disability in England and account for one of the highest causes of sickness absence and productivity loss.

The [musculoskeletal diseases profile tool](#) has been designed to bring together meaningful data on a single platform, to enable the commissioning of musculoskeletal services.

[December 2018 update](#)

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in over 16s: diagnosis and management, NG115 (05/12/18)

This [guideline](#), from the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), covers diagnosing and managing chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), which includes emphysema and chronic bronchitis. It aims to help people with COPD to receive a diagnosis earlier so that they can benefit from treatments to reduce symptoms, improve quality of life and keep them healthy for longer.

NICE has also produced a [guideline on antimicrobial prescribing NG114](#) for acute exacerbations of COPD, and a visual summary covering non-pharmacological management and use of inhaled therapies.

[News article](#)

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Maternity/Infants

Institute of Health Visiting: survey (05/12/18)

Over 1200 English health visitors participated in the 2018 Institute of Health Visiting (iHV) [annual survey](#). For many their caseloads are increasing, they are experiencing high levels of stress, and they worry about not being able to deliver the services they should to all children with needs, especially the most vulnerable. This follows a significant reduction in local authority public health funding since 2015.

The Institute's 2018 survey shows that 44% of health visitors reported working with caseloads of more than 400 children, up from 28% in 2015 when commissioning of their service transferred to local authorities. The Institute recommends a maximum of one health visitor to 250 children to deliver a safe service.

See also [Institute of Health Visiting annual report, November 2018](#)

[News release](#)
[Children and Young People Now](#)

Fit for and during pregnancy: a key role for local government (03/12/18)

It is easy to think responsibility for the health of pregnant women and infants lies with the NHS because of its role in delivering maternity and neonatal care. But the influence of local government through its public health role and wider responsibilities is significant.

This [report](#) from the Local Government Association includes examples of health visitors, family workers, midwives, social care and children's centres staff helping families through this vital period as well as areas experimenting with a new local government role of consultant public health midwife.

Antenatal and newborn screening resource (03/12/18)

Public Health England (PHE) has published updated information on [antenatal and newborn screening](#) in the collection of guidance on education and training in [population screening](#).

The interactive presentation replaces the pocket-sized resource cards that PHE used to provide to midwives. It includes important information on all the antenatal and newborn screening programmes, with illustrations and links to films, e-learning and other resources.

See also [Smoking/Tobacco Control](#)

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Mental Health and Wellbeing

Modernising the Mental Health Act – final report from the independent review (06/12/18)

The Independent Review of the Mental Health Act 1983 has set out recommendations for government on how the Act and associated practice needs to change. The [final report](#) sets out recommendations covering 4 principles that the review believes should underpin the reformed Act:

- choice and autonomy – ensuring service users' views and choices are respected
- least restriction – ensuring the Act's powers are used in the least restrictive way
- therapeutic benefit – ensuring patients are supported to get better, so they can be discharged from the Act
- people as individuals – ensuring patients are viewed and treated as rounded individuals.

In response, the government will introduce a new Mental Health Bill to transform mental health care. The government is accepting two of the review's recommendations to modernise the Mental Health Act.

Those detained under the Act will be allowed to nominate a person of their choice to be involved in decisions about their care. People will also be able to express their preferences for care and treatment and have these listed in statutory 'advance choice' documents.

[News release](#)

[Local Government Association](#)

[Community Care](#)

Children's and young people's experiences of loneliness: 2018 (05/12/18)

The Office for National Statistics has published [analysis](#) of children's and young people's views, experiences and suggestions to overcome loneliness, using in-depth interviews, the Community Life Survey 2016 to 2017 and Good Childhood Index Survey, 2018.

Main points include:

Children (aged 10 to 15 years)

- 11.3% of children said that they were "often" lonely; this was more common among younger children aged 10 to 12 years (14.0%) than among those aged 13 to 15 years (8.6%).
- 19.5% of children living in a city reported "often" feeling lonely, compared with just over 5% of those living in either towns or rural areas.
- Children who reported "low" satisfaction with their relationships with family and friends were also more likely to say they were "often" lonely (34.8% and 41.1%, respectively).

Young people (aged 16 to 24 years)

- 9.8% of young people said that they were "often" lonely.
- Nearly half of young men reported that they "hardly ever or never" felt lonely, compared with 32.4% of young women.
- Young people living in a household with other adults were more likely to say that they "hardly ever or never" felt lonely than those living in single-adult households (over 40% compared with 18.2%, respectively).

[The Children's Society](#)

Suicide prevention profile: December 2018 update (04/12/18)

The [Suicide Prevention Profile](#) collates and presents a range of publicly available data on suicide, associated prevalence, risk factors, and service contact among groups at increased risk.

It provides planners, providers and stakeholders with the means to profile their area and benchmark against similar populations.

Dads together with Mums to receive help with mental health issues (03/12/18)

NHS chief executive Simon Stevens has [announced](#) that new and expectant fathers will be offered mental health checks and treatment under action to support families.

It will mean that partners of expectant and new mothers who are seriously unwell, are not left to suffer in silence with mental health issues but are offered a range of help such as peer-support, behavioural couples therapy sessions and other family and parenting interventions in specialist community perinatal mental health settings or referred to a leading psychological talking therapy programme.

The health service has also pressed ahead with plans to open four new, eight-bedded mother and baby units (MBUs), which will provide specialist care and support to mothers in parts of the country where access has historically been a problem.

The Rosewood Mother and Baby Unit, run by [Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust \(KMPT\)](#) based in Dartford, predominantly supports mothers from across Kent, Surrey and Sussex although will accept admissions from other areas of the country if bed availability is limited.

[Fatherhood Institute](#)

Post-traumatic stress disorder, NG116 (12/18)

This [guideline](#), from the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), covers recognising, assessing and treating post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in children, young people and adults. It aims to improve quality of life by reducing symptoms of PTSD such as anxiety, sleep problems and difficulties with concentration. Recommendations also aim to raise awareness of the condition and improve coordination of care.

The guideline includes new and updated recommendations on:

- access to care and supporting transitions between services
- principles of care, including providing support and information
- management of PTSD in children, young people and adults
- care for people with PTSD and complex needs.

This guideline updates and replaces NICE guideline CG26 (March 2005).

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Nutrition/Physical Activity/Obesity

Active lives: children and young people survey academic year 2017/18 (06/12/18)

More than 40% of children in England do an average of more than 60 minutes of physical activity a day, a first-of-its-kind survey has found.

The [Active Lives Children and Young People Survey](#), from Sport England, shows that around 3 million children (43.3%) lead active lives, however of that group, only 1.2 million (17.5%) are meeting the Chief Medical Officer's guidelines of more than 60 minutes of activity a day, every day of the week.

Figures also show that more than 2.3 million children and young people (32.9%) are less active, meaning they do fewer than 30 minutes of physical activity a day.

[News release](#)

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Pharmacy/Prescribing

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Public Health/Health Promotion

Young people profiles: 2018 update (04/12/18)

The [young people profiles](#) bring together a range of indicators on the health of young people by local area and are designed to give commissioners and providers a context to help them prioritise action for young people.

The indicators provide information on public health outcomes for young people, up to 24 years.

The profiles form part of Public Health England's [series](#) of statistical indicators across a range of health and wellbeing themes.

School-age children profiles: 2018 update (04/12/18)

The [school-age children profiles](#) bring together a range of indicators on the health of school-aged children by local area. They are designed to give commissioners and providers a context to help them prioritise action for school-aged children.

The indicators provide information on public health outcomes for children of school-age.

The profiles are published by Public Health England's as one of a [series](#) on different population groups and themes.

Health Survey for England 2017 (04/12/18)

The Health Survey for England (HSE) monitors trends in the nation's health and care. The [analysis](#), published by NHS Digital, provides information about adults aged 16 and over, and children aged 0 to 15, living in private households in England. The survey is used to monitor overweight and obesity and to estimate the proportion of people in England who have certain health conditions and the prevalence of risk factors and health related behaviours, such as smoking and drinking alcohol.

In total 7,997 adults (aged 16 and over) and 1,985 children (aged 0 to 15) were interviewed. 5,196 adults and 1,195 children had a nurse visit.

Key Facts:

- 64% of adults were overweight or obese, children of overweight or obese parents more likely to be obese or overweight themselves
- 18% of children had five or more portions of fruit and vegetables a day, the mean number of portions consumed per day was 3.2
- 17% of adults were current cigarette smokers
- 6% of adults were current users of e-cigarettes
- 19% of adults had 3 or more out of 5 risk factors, 32% had 2 risk factors
- 14% of adults reported having had a diagnosed cardiovascular disease
- Cardiovascular disease was more prevalent in lower income households
- 16% of adults were providing unpaid support to at least one person with long-term mental or physical health problems, a disability, or with problems related to old age, half said their caring role had an effect on their health.

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Safeguarding

Safeguarding children affected by parental alcohol and drug use (04/12/18)

Public Health England (PHE) has published a [guide](#) for local authorities and substance misuse services to help them work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

The guidance replaces the previous PHE guide for local authorities on developing protocols between alcohol and drug treatment and children and family social care services. It complements PHE's [parental alcohol and drug use toolkit](#) and supports cross-government policy and programmes on improving outcomes for families and children affected by parental alcohol and drug use.

[News release](#)

See also Children/Young People/Families

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Screening

Diabetic eye screening programme: failsafe procedures (05/12/18)

Public Health England has [updated guidance](#) on how the failsafe process works for the NHS diabetic eye screening programme. The update concerns managing referrals to hospital eye services.

See also Maternity/Infants

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Sexual Health

Menstrual Wellbeing Toolkit (11/18)

Menstrual related problems affect a significant proportion of the 25 percent UK female population of reproductive age, from menarche to menopause, affecting their physical, psychological and social well-being.

Opportunities to manage 'period problems' are often delayed because of stigma and myths, which leave women unsupported and in some cases at risk of long-term effects of untreated disease.

The [Menstrual Wellbeing Toolkit](#), developed by the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) in partnership with Endometriosis UK, is an 'easy to use', logical, evidence-based resource for GPs and other primary care clinicians to help diagnose, support and manage problems caused by menstrual dysfunction.

[Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare \(FSRH\)](#)

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Smoking/Tobacco Control

Statistics on Women's Smoking Status at Time of Delivery, England - Quarter 2, 2018-19 (06/12/18)

NHS Digital has published [results and trends](#) from the women's smoking status at time of delivery (SATOD) data collection in England. The results provide a measure of the prevalence of smoking among pregnant women at Commissioning Region, Region, Sustainability and Transformation Partnership and Clinical Commissioning Group level.

Key facts:

- 10.5% of mothers were smokers at the time of delivery, similar to 10.4% in Q1 2018/19, and above the current national ambition of 6% or less
 - 31 out of 195 CCGs met the national ambition of 6% or less.
-

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Social Care/Welfare

A 'NEWS' system for residential care settings (04/12/18)

In this [case study](#) nursing leaders from Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) led a collaborative, multidisciplinary project team in designing and implementing a digital system to identify care home residents with deteriorating health. The electronic system, based on an adaptation of the National Early Warning Score (NEWS) tool, has improved resident outcomes and experience and has led to better use of resources across healthcare services within the CCG.

NEWS is a tool developed by the Royal College of Physicians (RCP), to improve the detection and response to clinical deterioration in adult patients and is a key element of patient safety and improving patient outcomes. The tool is widely used across NHS services as it is an evidence-based approach to treat clinical deterioration and support clinical decision making. The CCG nursing team identified the opportunity for Care Homes to adopt the NEWS tool as while embracing a new IT system, to improve outcomes for residents.

The case study is part of a series by NHS England published under the banner [The Atlas of Shared Learning](#).

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Workplace

Policy paper on citizens' rights in the event of a no deal Brexit (06/12/18)

This [policy paper](#) explains the UK Government's announcement on what would happen to citizens' rights in the event of the UK leaving the EU without a deal, both for EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU. The contributions EU citizens make to the social, economic and cultural fabric of the UK is highly valued.

To remove any ambiguity, the UK Government guarantees that EU citizens resident in the UK by 29 March 2019 will be able to stay. To protect their rights in a 'no deal' scenario, the UK will continue to run the EU Settlement Scheme. The basis for qualifying for status under the scheme will remain the same as proposed in a 'deal' scenario and will be focused on residence in the UK. This means that any EU citizen living in the UK by 29 March 2019 will be eligible to apply to this scheme, securing their status in UK law.

The role of volunteers in the NHS: views from the front line (04/12/18)

This report was commissioned by Royal Voluntary Service and Helpforce in July 2018. Its intention is to ascertain the perceptions of frontline NHS staff working in acute care about the operational pressures they face, how they understand the roles and value of volunteers and what gaps there are that volunteers could help fill.

The report, by the King's Fund, sets out the findings from a survey, series of semi-structured interviews and a non-systematic literature review.

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Produced by

Betty O'Callaghan

Mark Doel

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