



Future-proofing General Practice – 9th June 2017

[Covering [innovation](#), [leadership](#), [skill mix & workforce planning](#), [telehealth](#)]

Innovation

Virtual consultations in general practice: embracing innovation, carefully

Chada, Bharadwaj V, The British Journal of General Practice; Jun 2017; 67(659):264

GPs have used telephone consultations for over a century so upgrading the medium may be seen as a logical extension of this. However, aside from this natural progression, there exists an altogether stronger force expediting the rate of adoption: the evolving healthcare user.

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[Patients' use and views of real-time feedback technology in general practice.](#)

Wright, Christine et al, Health expectations; Jun 2017; 20(3): 419-433

There is growing interest in real-time feedback (RTF), which involves collecting and summarizing information about patient experience at the point of care with the aim of informing service improvement. More patients might engage with RTF if the opportunity were consistently highlighted to them.

[NICE to launch new evidence tool for medtech developers](#)

30th May 2017

NICE

NICE's Scientific Advice service is launching an online tool to help developers of medical devices and diagnostics understand and generate the evidence needed to show their products are clinically and cost effective. This will help companies prepare for a dialogue with health technology assessment organisations and payers and potentially speed up time to market.

[Understanding the implementation and adoption of an information technology intervention to support medicine optimisation in primary care: Qualitative study using strong structuration theory](#)

Jeffries M et al, BMJ Open; May 2017; 7(5)

Successful implementation of information technology interventions for medicine optimisation will depend on a combination of the infrastructure within primary care, social structures embedded in the technology and the conventions, norms and dispositions of those utilising it.

[New Funding for Innovation Projects in Inclusion Health](#)

17th May 2017

Queen's Nursing Institute

The QNI invites nurses working in primary and community care in England, Wales and Northern Ireland to apply for funding of up to £5000, to develop projects which improve healthcare for people who have poor health outcomes because they are more likely to be marginalised by wider society.

Leadership

[Leading across the health care system: lessons from experience](#)

11th May 2017

King's Fund

This paper sets out five factors that offer helpful ways of framing the challenges facing those leading new systems of care.

Healthy commissioning: how the Social Value Act is being used by clinical commissioning groups

Butler, J.; Redding, D.

Social Enterprise UK & National Voices, May 2017

Finds that only 13% of CCGs can clearly show that an active commitment to social value in procurement & commissioning decisions, & warns an improved commitment to social value is key to achieving the aims of the Five Year Forward View.

Skill Mix & Workforce Planning

Safe and Effective Staffing: the Real Picture

Helm, C.; Bungeoth, L.

Royal College of Nursing, May 2017

Suggests the rest of the UK follow Wales by enshrining safe staffing levels in law following analysis which finds care providers increasingly hire hiring fewer registered nursing staff, with 80% of NHS nursing directors reporting concerns their hospital relies staff goodwill to keep running.

NHS Pressures

British Medical Association

May 2017

Briefing warns the NHS in England is unlikely to recover from the winter pressures as trends suggest a state of 'year-round crisis'. NHS performance data shows that bed occupancy, delayed transfers of care and A&E waiting times are increasing and key targets are consistently being missed.

Telehealth

Digital Health and Care Congress 2017 Embedding technology in health and social care

7th June 2017

King's Fund

Two day congress in London (11th-12th July) with policy updates and case studies in best practice from around the country.

DigiHealth UK: Harnessing Technology and Innovation

31st March 2017

Open Forum events

Conference (17th October, Manchester) will explore the major work programmes set out in the NHS technology plans to provide delegates with the key information and knowledge necessary to improve health outcomes, simplify patient access and reduce cost through digital services.

The effect of Dr Google on doctor–patient encounters in primary care: a quantitative, observational, cross-sectional study

16 May 2017

BJGP Open

This paper looks at the effect of searching online health information on the behaviour of the patients as well as how the GP handles this information. It concludes that the use of the internet by patients is not seen as a threat by GPs and leads to a better mutual understanding of symptoms and diagnosis.

Comparing young people's experience of technology-delivered v. face-to-face mindfulness and relaxation: two-armed qualitative focus group study.

Tunney C. British Journal of Psychiatry 2017;210(4):284 - 289.

Aimed to explore children's experience of mindfulness delivered both face-to-face and through a computer game to highlight any differences or similarities. These results indicate that mindfulness delivered via technology can offer a rich experience.

Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users

Telehealth Interventions to Support Self-Management of Long-Term Conditions: A Systematic Metareview of Diabetes, Heart Failure, Asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, and Cancer

Peter Hanlon et al, J Med Internet Res 2017 (May 17); 19(5):e172

While telehealth-mediated self-management was not consistently superior to usual care, none of the reviews reported any negative effects, suggesting that telehealth is a safe option for delivery of self-management support, particularly in conditions such as heart failure and type 2 diabetes, where the evidence base is more developed.

Text Messaging and Mobile Phone Apps as Interventions to Improve Adherence in Adolescents With Chronic Health Conditions: A Systematic Review

Sherif M Badawy et al, JMIR Mhealth Uhealth 2017 (May 15); 5(5):e66

The use of text messaging and mobile phone app interventions to improve medication adherence among adolescents with CHCs has shown promising feasibility and acceptability, and there is modest evidence to support the efficacy of these interventions.

Effects of eHealth Literacy on General Practitioner Consultations: A Mediation Analysis

Peter Johannes Schulz et al, J Med Internet Res 2017 (May 16); 19(5):e166

The indirect paths from health literacy via information seeking and empowerment to GP consultations can be interpreted as a dynamic process and an expression of the ability to find, process, and understand relevant information when that is necessary.

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