



## Future-proofing General Practice – 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018

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

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### Innovation

#### **SMASH! The Salford medication safety dashboard**

*Williams R.; Keers R.; Gude W.T. et al, Journal of innovation in health informatics; Oct 2018; vol. 25 (3):183-193*

We have developed and successfully rolled out of a complex, pharmacist-led dashboard intervention in Salford, UK. System usage statistics indicate broad and sustained uptake of the intervention. The use of systems that provide regularly updated audit information may be an important contributor towards medication safety in primary care.

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#### **Artificial Intelligence to help save lives at five new technology centres**

*Department Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy*

*6<sup>th</sup> November 2018*

Patients are set to benefit from radical advances in medical technology using artificial intelligence to diagnose diseases at an earlier stage. Based in Leeds, Oxford, Coventry, Glasgow and London – but each with partners across many parts of the UK, centres will develop more intelligent analysis of medical imaging, leading to better clinical decisions for patients, and freeing more staff time for direct patient care in the NHS.

#### **Unique point of care blood test speeds up clinical decision-making, improves quality of care and reduces costs**

*Oxford Academic Health Science Network*

*6<sup>th</sup> November 2018*

The Oxford AHSN study found the device speeded up antibiotic prescribing decisions in three-quarters of cases involving common childhood illnesses such as fever and abdominal pain. It also improved the quality of care by enabling potentially life-threatening conditions such as sepsis to be identified earlier.

#### **Flow Coaching Academies: A new approach to spreading innovation**

*Health Foundation*

*30<sup>th</sup> October 2018*

Discharge to Assess was a highly successful intervention developed at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. But rather than attempting to spread the intervention itself, Tom Downes is leading work to spread the capacity and skills behind it, so that other health care settings can drive similar improvements.

#### **Association of Medical Scribes in Primary Care With Physician Workflow and Patient Experience**

*Mishra P.; Grant R.W.; Kiang J.C. JAMA internal medicine; Nov 2018; vol. 178 (no. 11); p. 1467-1472*

Widespread adoption of electronic health records (EHRs) in medical care has resulted in increased physician documentation workload and decreased interaction with patients. This study found that medical scribes were associated with decreased physician EHR documentation burden, improved work efficiency, and improved visit interactions. Our results support the use of medical scribes as one strategy for improving physician workflow and visit quality in primary care.

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## **GPs' opinions of discharge summaries generated by advanced nurse practitioners in emergency care settings**

*Duignan M. et al; Emergency nurse; Nov 2018; vol. 26 (no.4); p. 19-27*

There is a need to refine discharge summaries to create an enhanced structured discharge summary template that can be used by all disciplines.

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## **Leadership**

### **Ten tips for advancing a culture of improvement in primary care**

*Kiran T.; BMJ Quality and Safety; 2018*

Describes experiences over 7 years transforming the care delivered in a large primary care practice. Offers 10 tips to healthcare leaders seeking to advance a culture of improvement. Our organisation has developed a cadre of QI leaders, tracks a range of performance measures and has demonstrated sustained improvements in important areas of patient care. Success has required deep engagement with both patients and clinicians, a long-term vision, and requisite patience.

## **Skill Mix & Workforce Planning**

### **An evaluation of the clinical skills and experience within an orthopaedic**

#### **Integrated Clinical Assessment and Treatment Service**

*Feist-Wilson S.; Heron N. BJGP Open; Jan 2018; vol. 1 (no. 4)*

High levels of training and experience were reported by responders, suggesting ICATS provides a high-level MSK service. Inclusion of MSK ultrasound and paediatric patients into this service could be beneficial but not without undertaking further training. With appropriate funding and support the ICATS service has the potential to expand the clinical services it offers to general practice, helping to reduce work pressures in primary care at this time of crisis for UK general practice.

### **The health care workforce in England: make or break?**

*King's Fund*

*15<sup>th</sup> November 2018*

In advance of the publication of the NHS long-term plan, this briefing highlights the scale of workforce challenges now facing the health service and the threat this poses to the delivery and quality of care over the next 10 years

### **Allied health professions case studies: improving practice and delivering solutions.**

*NHS Improvement;*

*2018.*

A collection of case studies demonstrating the transformative potential of the allied health professions (AHP) workforce across the health and care system.

## **Strategies to improve general practitioner well-being: Findings from a focus group study**

*Hall L.H. et al; Family Practice; 2018; vol. 35 (no. 4); p. 511-516*

Feasible strategies included: compulsory daily coffee breaks, increasing self- and organizational awareness of the risks of burnout and mentoring or buddy systems. System level organizational changes are vital, however, to improve the wellbeing of all primary care physicians. Increasing resources seemed to be the ideal solution, to allow for more administrative staff and GPs.

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## **UK physician associate primary care placements: staff and student experiences and perceptions.**

*Hoggins, Rhiannon; Scott-Smith, Wesley; Okorie, Michael Int.J of medical education; Oct 2018; vol. 9 ; p. 286-292*

Practice staff demonstrated an overall lack of knowledge of the curriculum and physician associates in general leading to a risk of unrealistic expectations. Further studies on these themes with a larger sample size across relevant training institutions in the United Kingdom is required to explore this further.

## **Nurse practitioner consultations in primary health care: Patient, carer, and nurse practitioner qualitative interpretations of communication processes**

*Barratt, Julian; Thomas, Nicola Primary Health Care Research and Development; Oct 2018*

Findings identify a need for policy makers to address a perceived ambiguity of the nature of the nurse practitioner role amongst patients and carers. The benefits of nurse practitioners using personable, everyday lifeworld styles of communication for optimising interactions, sharing clinical reasoning and conveying a sense of having time for patients and carers in consultations are also identified.

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## **Improving access and continuity in general practice: practical and policy lessons**

*Nuffield Trust*

*November 2018*

This report sets out the evidence on continuity of care, its impact on clinical outcomes and wider health services, its importance to patients and GPs, and the relationship between improved access initiatives and continuity of care within general practice.

## **Efficacy and cost-effectiveness of nurse-led care involving education and engagement of patients and a treat-to-target urate-lowering strategy versus usual care for gout: a randomised controlled trial**

*Doherty M.et al; The Lancet; Oct 2018; vol. 392 (no. 10156); p. 1403-1412*

Nurse-led gout care is efficacious and cost-effective compared with usual care. Findings illustrate the benefits of educating and engaging patients in gout management and reaffirm the importance of a treat-to-target urate-lowering treatment strategy to improve patient-centred outcomes.

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## **Working with informal caregivers: advice for nurses.**

*Barber, Christopher British Journal of Nursing; Oct 2018; vol. 27 (no. 19); p. 1104-1105*

Advice is offered for nurses on cooperating with informal caregivers. Topics include the demographics of informal caregivers in Great Britain, the role of community nursing teams in supporting informal caregivers, and the work of community mental health and learning disability teams in helping informal caregivers.

[Available online with an NHS OpenAthens log in](#)

## **An audit of the utilization of physiotherapy assistants in the musculoskeletal outpatients setting within a primary care physiotherapy service**

*Sarigiannis P.; Cropper S. Musculoskeletal care; Sep 2018; vol. 16 (no. 3); p. 405-408*

Using defined pathways in the treatment of musculoskeletal conditions of the peripheral joints provides the framework to standardize delegation of clinical tasks from qualified physiotherapists to physiotherapy assistants.

[Available online with an NHS OpenAthens log in](#)

## **Directing Improvements in Primary Care Patient Experience through Analysis of Service Quality**

*Hudson Smith M.; Smith D. Health services research; Dec 2018; vol. 53 (no. 6); p. 4647-4666*

To improve patient experience in primary health care, efforts should focus on practice responsiveness and interactions with the physician. Other areas have little influence over patient experience. This suggests a gap in patients' perspectives on health care, which has policy implications for patient education.

## **Qualitative impact assessment of an educational workshop on primary care practitioner attitudes to NICE HIV testing guidelines**

*Allison R.L. BJGP Open; Apr 2018; vol. 2 (no. 1)*

Implementation of national HIV guidelines will require multiple educational sessions, especially to implement testing guidelines for indicator conditions in areas of low HIV prevalence. Healthcare assistants (HCAs) may need specific training to ensure that they are skilled in offering HIV testing within new patient checks.

## **Patients' attendance patterns to different healthcare settings and perceptions of stakeholders regarding screening for chronic, non-communicable diseases in high street dental practices and community pharmacy: A cross-sectional study**

*Yonel Z. et al; BMJ Open; Nov 2018; vol. 8 (no. 11)*

This study has established that allied healthcare professionals may have access to different cohorts of the population to GPs. If GPs and pharmacists have access to patients who are not using healthcare services elsewhere, they may be ideally placed to risk assess, and where appropriate offer preventative advice and test for NCDs.

## **Telehealth**

### **Hundreds access online sleep help**

*Oxford Academic Health Science Network*

*6<sup>th</sup> November 2018*

Hundreds of people have already signed up for an online support programme to improve sleep since its launch last month. Sleepio is available free to all over-18s in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Milton Keynes.

### **Dr. Bot will see you now.**

*Heaven, Douglas, MIT Technology Review; Nov 2018; vol. 121 (6): 22-27*

The article discusses the use of AI chatbots in medicine. Particular focus is given to AI applications (apps) designed to relieve doctors of needless paperwork and office visits including Babylon Health, Your.MD and Dr.AI. Particular focus is given to the National Health Service in Great Britain and their use of medical apps and technology including GP at Hand, a digital doctor's practice.

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## **500,000 patients to benefit from new NHS partnerships and technologies**

*Digital Health London*

*23<sup>rd</sup> October 2018*

The second wave of the Test Beds programme will take place in 7 locations across the country. Projects being tested include: the use of artificial intelligence and machine learning to deliver a more accurate and efficient breast cancer screening, a new digital platform to help people to manage diabetes and the combination of 3 new digital technologies to help reduce A&E admissions for patients with chronic long-term heart failure.

## **The Download: New challenger in the GP tech goldrush**

*HSJ*

*29<sup>th</sup> October 2018*

Livi is based in Sweden and has footholds in other parts of Europe. The company already has a partnership with a GP federation in the north west and is now available to patients of a 40-GP practice federation in Surrey.

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## **Tele-Rehabilitation after Stroke: An Updated Systematic Review of the Literature.**

Sarfo FS. *Journal of Stroke and Cerebrovascular Diseases* 2018;27(9):2306-2318 .

This updated systematic review provides evidence to suggest that tele-rehabilitation interventions have either better or equal salutary effects on motor, higher cortical, and mood disorders compared with conventional face-to-face therapy.

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## **Is self-guided internet-based cognitive behavioural therapy (iCBT) harmful? An individual participant data meta-analysis.**

Karyotaki, Eirini et al; *Psychological Medicine*; Nov 2018; vol. 48 (no. 15); p. 2456-2466

Self-guided iCBT has a lower rate of negative outcomes on symptoms than control conditions and could be a first step treatment approach for adult depression as well as an alternative to watchful waiting in general practice.

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