



Future-proofing General Practice – 22nd March 2019

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

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Innovation

[Digital Health Rewired Programme](#)

Digital Health

12th March 2019

Conference and exhibition at Olympia, London, 26th March on joining up and integrating health and care through the transformational use of technology and new ways of working.

[Unique point of care blood test speeds up clinical decision-making, improves quality of care and reduces costs](#)

AHSN network

March 2019

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.

An initiative to improve the effectiveness of wound healing within GP Practices

Young, Trudie et al;

Wounds UK Jan 2019; 15 (1):27-33

This quality improvement project identified that wound care delivered within GP Practices may result in low healing rates which can be markedly improved through development and introduction of a wound clinic. The approach was successful within the two wound clinics established within the project with healing rates around 70% in both clinics.

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Leadership

[Rethinking priorities: experience of an educational initiative to change attitudes, behaviours and clinical practice in end-of life care.](#)

Edwards, Annette; Barros D'Sa, Viv; Hicks, Fiona BMJ supportive & palliative care; Mar 2019; vol. 9 (no. 1); p. 54-59

The results suggest that an educational initiative based on clinicians identifying their own learning needs and using an action learning approach to explore issues with other colleagues, with the addition of some targeted sessions, can result in positive change in knowledge, behaviour and clinical practice.

[Contact the library for a copy of this article](#)

[Primary care networks explained \(blog\)](#)

Beccy Baird, King's Fund March 2019

A key part of the NHS long-term plan, primary care networks will bring general practices together to work at scale. But how will they be formed, funded and held accountable? And what difference will they make?

[Introduction to primary care networks](#)

PSCN

March 2019

The Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee has published a briefing on primary care networks (PCNs) aimed at community pharmacy teams

Skill Mix & Workforce Planning

Factors affecting the changing role of GP clinicians in community hospitals: a qualitative interview study in England

David Seamark et al;

Br J Gen Pract 25 February 2019

Multiple factors have driven changes in the role of GP community hospital clinicians. The NHS needs to develop a focused strategy if GPs are to remain engaged with community hospital work.

[Contact the library for a copy of this article](#)

Best practice in workforce planning.

NHS Improvement; 2019.

A collection of case studies. Effective workforce planning is vital to ensure appropriate levels and skills of staff are available to deliver safe, high quality care to patients and service users.

Interprofessional education model for geriatric falls risk assessment and prevention.

Brown D.

BMJ Open Quality 2018;7(4)

This paper aims to describe the development, administration and outcome measures of an education programme to teach principles of interprofessional care for older adults in the context of falls prevention. Statistical and qualitative satisfaction results were positive/strongly positive.

Mobilising evidence to improve nursing practice: A qualitative study of leadership roles and processes in four countries.

Harvey, Gill et al; International Journal of Nursing Studies; Feb 2019; vol. 90; p. 21-30

There is a need to maintain a balance between the mechanisms of managing and monitoring performance and facilitating critical questioning and reflection in and on practice. This requires a careful blending of managerial and facilitative leadership.

[Contact the library for a copy of this article](#)

Substituting specialist care for patients with severe mental illness with primary healthcare. Experiences in a mixed methods study.

Beckers, Thijs et al; Journal of Psychiatric & Mental Health Nursing; Feb 2019; vol. 26 (no. 1/2); p. 1-10

Professionals in community mental healthcare teams should consider a referral to primary mental healthcare in stable patients. Professionals in primary healthcare should keep the patient's personal recovery in mind.

How do pharmacists in English general practices identify their impact? An exploratory qualitative study of measurement problems

Karampatakis G.D. et al; BMC health services research; Jan 2019; vol. 19 (no. 1); p. 34

Measures that will effectively capture pharmacists' impact in general practice should be developed, along with a set of codes reflecting the whole spectrum of pharmacists' activities. Our study also points out the significance of a transparent, robust national evaluation, including exploring the needs/expectations of practice staff and patients regarding pharmacists' presence in general practice.

Assessing the effectiveness of advanced nurse practitioners undertaking home visits in an out of hours urgent primary care service in England

Collins D. Journal of nursing management; Mar 2019; vol. 27 (no. 2); p. 450-458

Advanced nurse practitioners can provide equivalent clinical outcomes to GPs when undertaking urgent home visits. Managers can be assured that ANPs are practising at a level that makes them effective and safe to undertake this role.

Available online with an NHS OpenAthens log in

Closing the gap Key areas for action on the health and care workforce

Jake Beech et al; The Health Foundation March 2019

This report sets out a series of policy actions that should be at the heart of the workforce implementation plan. Recommendations include developing new models of general practice with expanded teams drawing on the skills of other professionals such as physiotherapists and pharmacists.

Telehealth

Using digital technology to design and deliver better mental health services: perspectives from Australia and the USA

NHS Confederation

February 2019

The purpose of this project is to explore what we might learn from colleagues in the USA and Australia engaged in work relating to making better use of digital technology in the mental health sector.

The Impact of Superfast Broadband, Tailored Booklets for Households, and Discussions With General Practitioners on Personal Electronic Health Readiness: Cluster Factorial Quasi-Randomized Control Trial

Abbott-Garner P.; Richardson J.; Jones R.B., Journal of medical Internet research; Mar 2019;21(3): e11386

People in Cornwall became more ready to adopt eHealth services, increasing both their personal ability to use eHealth and their methods of access. The implementation of Superfast may have contributed to this; we are certain that our other 2 interventions did not. This increased eHealth readiness did not cause a larger digital divide.

The impact of telehealth and telepharmacy technology on public health service pressure and patient outcomes

Now Healthcare

March 2019

This report quantifies the impact of digital technology on patient outcomes, medicine adherence and the reduction of pressure on public health services and private employers.

GPs' attitudes towards digital technologies for depression: an online survey in primary care

Josefien JF Breedvelt et al;

Br J Gen Pract 2019; 69 (680): e164-e170

Some GPs use e-mental health for depression in their services, and report it is likely that its use will increase. There is a gap in training and awareness of effective interventions. GPs consider guided e-mental health interventions to be most effective in primary care.

GPs online: turning expectations into reality with the new NHS app

Paul Beaney et al;

Br J Gen Pract 11 February 2019

The NHS app may offer a better version of GPOS and also provide a platform for the latest digital health services. However market developments need to be observed since without proper investment and vision, the danger is that expectations and reality may never meet.

Special Report: Remote monitoring and self-care

Digital Health

15th March 2019

Airedale NHS Foundation Trust uses technology to support remote monitoring and self-care, 500 care homes across England have signed up to its digital support service, which allows 24/7 access to clinical advice and support for residents via a secure two-way video link. It has also developed services for prisons and for people in the last year of life, as well as monitoring people with long term conditions at home, preventing hospital admissions and GP appointments.

Role of professional networks on social media in addressing clinical questions at general practice: a cross-sectional study of general practitioners in Australia and New Zealand

Albarqouni L. et al; BMC family practice; Mar 2019; vol. 20 (no. 1); p. 43

GPs who were members of a GP social media group asked clinical questions that can be organised into a limited number of question types and topics. This may help guide the development of GP learning programs.

Evidence standards framework for digital health technologies

NICE March 2019

NICE has published an updated set of standards to help health technology developers understand what evidence is required to introduce their products in the NHS.

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