



## Future-proofing Primary Care – 27th March 2020

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

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### Innovation

#### [King's College London launches Covid-19 symptom reporting app](#)

Digital Health

25<sup>th</sup> March 2020

King's College London has launched an app enabling people to report symptoms of Covid-19 so that the progression of the disease can be tracked in real time.

#### [NHSX working on coronavirus contact tracking app](#)

Digital Health

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

The app, which would operate on an opt-in basis, would alert people to new cases in their area as well as allowing people to input their own symptoms.

#### [Innovating for improved healthcare: Policy and practice for a thriving NHS](#)

RAND Corporation

2020

The report expands on key findings as they relate to the current landscape for innovating in healthcare, key developments and capacity-building priorities.

### **The viral prescription pad - a mixed methods study to determine the need for and utility of an educational tool for antimicrobial stewardship in primary health care.**

Lee, Christine et al.

*BMC Family Practice*; Feb 2020; vol. 21 (no. 1); p. 1-12

In this Canadian study, viral prescription pads were regarded by family physicians and patients as useful tools in facilitating discussion on the appropriate use of antimicrobials. PHC providers should exercise caution in opting out of providing written forms of information, as many respondents to the general public survey indicated their preference in receiving both verbal and written information.

### Leadership

#### [The impacts of GP federations in England on practices and on health and social care interfaces: four case studies](#)

Health Services Delivery Research;

2020.

This study developed a typology of GP federations and found the approach of the central authority was influential in shaping process and outcomes, but there are questions about federation sustainability. The most productive central authority approach was 'indulgent', with 'authoritative' and 'neglectful' approaches being less so.

## **Coronavirus: learning for the health and care workforce**

HEE

March 2020

This e-learning programme from Health Education England e-Learning for Healthcare has been created in response to the Coronavirus global pandemic. It is aimed at the entire UK health and care workforce, including those working in the NHS, the independent sector and social care.

## **Video consultations: a guide for practice**

Trisha Greenhalgh, March 2020

The spread of the coronavirus creates an unprecedented situation. Many GP practices are considering introducing video consultations as a matter of urgency to reduce risk of contagion. This preliminary document covers five questions: when are video consultations appropriate in primary care; how can a GP practice get set up for video consultations; how can a clinician conduct a high-quality video consultation in primary care; how should patients prepare for, and participate in, video consultations; and what is the research evidence for the quality and safety of video consultations?

## **Skill Mix & Workforce Planning**

### **Tavistock Neighbourhood Nursing Network: collaboration across settings**

Beniston, Joanne.

*British Journal of Community Nursing,*

March 2020, 25 (3):122-125

The modern matron role in Tavistock has been developed to extend beyond the community hospital to oversee the provision of high-quality care across community nursing services by promoting a collaborative approach to learning and development, via the establishment of a Neighbourhood Nursing Network (NNN).

*Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users*

### **Nurse-led care is preferred over GP-led care of gout and improves gout outcomes: results of Nottingham Gout Treatment Trial follow-up study.**

Fuller, Amy et al.

*Rheumatology; Mar 2020; vol. 59 (no. 3); p. 575-579*

The results of this study favour nurse-led care, involving individualized patient education and engagement and a treat-to-target strategy, in terms of patient acceptability, long-term adherence, and flares. Further research is required to evaluate the feasibility of implementing such a model of care in clinical practice.

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### **We do not seem to engage with dentists': a qualitative study of primary healthcare staff and patients in the North East of England on the role of pharmacists in oral healthcare.**

Sturrock, Andrew et al.

*BMJ open; Feb 2020; vol. 10 (no. 2); p. e032261*

The lack of integration between oral and general healthcare services potentially impacts negatively on patient care, requiring further interprofessional oral health education. The developing role of the pharmacist in general practice represents an opportunity to integrate oral health advice and/or interventions into the management of patients in this setting.

## **Barriers and enablers to collaborative working between GPs and pharmacists: a qualitative interview study.**

Duncan, Polly et al.

*British Journal of General Practice*; Mar 2020; vol. 70 (no. 692)

Good working relationship between the GP and pharmacist, where each profession understood the other's skills and expertise, was key. The importance of face-to-face meetings and feedback should be considered in future studies of interdisciplinary interventions, and by GP practices that employ pharmacists and other allied health professionals.

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## **Musculoskeletal (MSK) practitioners in primary care: an evaluation of a MSK core capabilities framework and review process.**

Locke, Rachel et al.

*Education for Primary Care*; Jan 2020; vol. 31 (no. 1); p. 32-35

This evaluation highlights key enablers for reviewing capabilities of MSK practitioners: a curriculum; educational supervision; and accreditation. Learning also applies more widely to other emerging role opportunities.

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

## **Advancing the workforce to meet the Primary Health Care Agenda: pharmacy's contribution to universal health coverage.**

Duggan, Catherine.

*International Journal of Pharmacy Practice*; Apr 2020; vol. 28 (no. 2); p. 118-120

The significant role of the pharmacy workforce in the delivery of primary health care (PHC) and strengthening of universal health care coverage is discussed. Explores the endorsement of the Declaration of Astana of the WHO by the International Pharmaceutical Federation, link between quality PHC and better health outcomes, and contribution of pharmacists to disease management and prevention initiatives.

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## **Telehealth**

## **Big data in digital healthcare: lessons learnt and recommendations for general practice.**

Agrawal, Raag, Prabakaran, Sudhakaran,

*Heredity*, 05 Mar 2020, 124:525-534

By drawing upon global approaches, we propose recommendations for guidelines and regulations of data use in healthcare centering on the creation of a unique global patient ID that can integrate data from a variety of healthcare providers.

## **Do Mobile Device Apps Designed to Support Medication Adherence Demonstrate Efficacy? A Systematic Review of Randomised Controlled Trials, With Meta-Analysis.**

Armitage LC.

*BMJ Open* 2020;10(1):e032045.

App-based medication adherence interventions may have a positive effect on patient adherence. Larger scale studies are required to further evaluate this effect, including long-term sustainability, and intervention and participant characteristics that are associated with efficacy and app usage.

## **Bringing health care to the patient: An overview of the use of telemedicine in OECD countries**

*OECD Health Working paper no. 116*

*17<sup>th</sup> January 2020*

Telemedicine is being used across OECD countries to deliver health care in a wide range of specialties, for numerous conditions and through varied means. A growing body of evidence suggests that care delivered via telemedicine can be both safe and effective, in some cases with better outcomes than conventional face-to-face care.

## **Assessing the utility of a differential diagnostic generator in UK general practice: a feasibility study**

*Cheraghi-Sohi S. et al*

*Diagnosis; 2020*

In its current form, this small exploratory study suggests that Isabel is a tool that is unlikely to be utilised on a routine basis in primary care, but may have potential utility for diagnostic support in (1) education/training and (2) rare and diagnostically complex cases.

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## **Digital champions for health: a blueprint for success.**

*NHS Digital.*

*2020.*

This report details the findings of a project that was set up to explore the value of a standardized, national Digital Champions for Health model. Being digitally confident and capable – having good digital skills – can support people to manage their health and wellbeing and support others they care for or are connected to do the same. Digital Champions offer a scalable and sustainable way to tackle these challenges.

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