



Future-proofing Primary Care – 29th May 2020

[Covering COVID-19, [innovation](#), [leadership](#), [skill mix & workforce planning](#), [telehealth](#)]

Supporting the CPD Zone - the 'Go To' place for CPD in General Practice across Thames Valley and Wessex <http://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/library/cpd-zone/>

COVID-19 training/resources/research

[Minimum bridging competencies for general practice nurses transitioning to community nursing: for use during Covid-19 pandemic](#)

Queen's Nursing Institute

19 May 2020

These competencies aim to support nurses who are taking up new roles at short notice during the Covid-19 pandemic.

[Coronavirus \(Covid-19\): providing home care](#)

DoH

22 May 2020

This document brings together guidance for social care staff, registered providers, local authorities and commissioners who support and deliver care to people in their own homes in England. It covers: personal protective equipment; shielding and care groups; hospital discharge and testing; government support for social care; and information collection and governance.

[Coronavirus \(Covid-19\): verifying death in times of emergency](#)

Department for Health and Social Care

5th May 2020

This guidance is for all deaths outside hospital where verification of death may be completed by health professionals – such as medical practitioners, registered nurses and paramedics – who have been trained to do so in line with their employer's policies.

[Remote total triage in general practice](#)

NHS Network

7th May 2020

As part of Health Education England (HEE) e-learning programme for COVID-19 a remote total triage in general practice resource has been developed by the Digital First Primary Care Team at NHSE/I and HEE to support all GP practices in England with the rapid implementation of a 'total triage' model.

[COVID-19: a danger and an opportunity for the future of general practice](#)

Martin Marshall et al, *British Journal of General Practice*, 11 May 2020; [bjgp20X709937](#).

The COVID-19 crisis has the potential to change general practice dramatically and permanently. Some of the changes will be for the better and will speed up the implementation of reforms, which the RCGP and others have been advocating for years.

[Dedicated app for social care workers launched.](#)

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).

6th May 2020.

A new dedicated app for the adult social care workforce in England has been launched to support staff through the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Prioritising workload during the pandemic: It has been said that general practice has been transformed more dramatically in the past few weeks than in the

previous decade, but the rapid pace of change may leave some nurses in doubt about what they should -- and should not -- be doing

IRVINE, HELENE; TAYLOR, JULIA Practice Nurse; May 2020; vol. 50 (no. 5); p. 7-12

The article informs about the response to the challenges of COVID-19 and has the potential to impact on how care will be delivered in primary care in the future. Topics discussed include recruitment, training and support processes within primary care need to be improved to attract nurses into general practice; and the capabilities of nurses, and the level of practice that nurses work to in primary care will help in making it an attractive career option.

Available with an NHS OpenAthens log in for eligible users

Preventive measures and management of COVID-19 in pregnancy.

Omer, Sumaira; Ali, Salamat; Babar, Zaheer ud Din *Drugs & Therapy Perspectives*; Jun 2020; vol. 36 (no. 6); p. 246-249

The article discusses guidelines on how to manage the health of pregnant women and children during the covid-19 pandemic, including information on the key features, transmission, symptoms and diagnosis of covid-19, precautionary care during pregnancy, and pharmaceutical and neonatal care.

Community Pharmacists: On the frontline of health service against COVID-19 in LMICs

Hedima E.W.; Adeyemi M.S.; Ikunaiye N.Y. *Research in social & administrative pharmacy* Apr 2020

Highlights additional roles and activities relating to the public health response that can be undertaken by community pharmacists that could help to reduce pressure on general practice and other areas of the health service.

Telehealth and coronavirus: reducing the impact of the pandemic

Health Europa

17th April 2020

Two reports have highlighted the effectiveness of [telehealth services](#) for implementing a self-managed quarantine method for controlling the source of COVID-19 infections, and for mental health support in the areas of depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic-stress-disorder ([PTSD](#)).

Managing diabetes with telehealth during COVID-19 pandemic

Health Europa

22nd April 2020

Two new case studies have highlighted the benefits of managing diabetes with telehealth, specifically new-onset [type 1 diabetes](#), during the [COVID-19](#) pandemic.

Transmission risk of SARS-CoV-2 to healthcare workers - observational results of a primary care hospital contact tracing

Vera C. et al

Swiss Medical Weekly; Apr 2020; vol. 150 (no. 19)

We found a low risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission in a primary care setting. These findings are compatible with previous reports of the highest transmission probability in household settings with prolonged close contacts. The current protective measures for healthcare workers, including strict adherence to basic standard hygiene and facemasks, offer considerable protection during short periods of contact with symptomatic COVID-19 cases by diminishing the risk of direct and indirect transmission.

COVID-19 rapid evidence summary: Long-term use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) for people with or at risk of COVID-19.

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)

2020.

There is no evidence to suggest that people taking NSAIDs for a long-term condition should be advised to stop treatment in the context of COVID-19. Gastrointestinal, respiratory, cardiovascular and renal adverse effects are listed among the possible adverse effects of NSAIDs in the BNF. COVID-19 may also lead to respiratory, cardiovascular and renal complications.

Update on COVID-19 pandemic.

BMJ Best Practice.

2020

New data on prevalence in adults and children. Risk factors - updated. Diagnostic factor (cutaneous manifestations) – updated. Updated guidance on use of thromboprophylaxis. Multinational registry analysis of chloroquine/hydroxychloroquine added. New NICE guidance on anakinra. Primary prevention - Updated to include trial results for Ad5-nCoV vaccine.

COVID-19: your wellbeing.

British Medical Association (BMA).

2020.

This BMA guidance aims to help doctors and medical students working under extraordinary and challenging circumstances to look after their own health and wellbeing.

COVID-19: refusing to treat where PPE is inadequate.

British Medical Association (BMA).

2020.

This BMA guidance sets out the process for doctors to follow to identify whether your PPE is adequate and what you can do if it is not. Updated 18 May.

COVID-19: ethical issues.

British Medical Association (BMA).

2020.

BMA guidance for doctors on ethical issues likely to arise when providing care and treatment during the COVID-19 outbreak, including resource, withdrawing treatment and maintaining essential services. Updated 12 May.

COVID-19: toolkit for GPs and GP practices.

British Medical Association (BMA).

2020.

Comprehensive BMA guidance for GPs, partners and practice managers to manage employment and contractual issues and service provision during the coronavirus pandemic. Updated 19 May.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic: Guidance for optometrists.

College of Optometrists.

2020.

The aim of this guidance is to help you to continue to run your practice, by adapting it to make it as safe as possible for you, your staff and your patients, and reduce the likelihood of contracting or spreading the virus. Updated 19 May.

Remote consultations during COVID-19 pandemic.

College of Optometrists.

2020.

These temporary guidelines have been written to help optometrists who are conducting remote telephone/video consultations with patients.

COVID-19 rapid guideline: chronic kidney disease.

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE).

2020.

The purpose of this guideline is to maximise the safety of adults with chronic kidney disease during the COVID-19 pandemic. It also aims to protect staff from infection and enable services to make the best use of NHS resources. This guideline focuses on what you need to stop or start doing during the pandemic.

COVID-19 rapid guideline: interstitial lung disease.

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE).

2020

The purpose of this guideline is to maximise the safety of adults with interstitial lung disease, including idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and pulmonary sarcoidosis, during the COVID-19 pandemic. It also aims to protect staff from infection and enable services to make the best use of NHS resources.

Working safely during the coronavirus outbreak.

Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

2020.

HSE have produced guidance to help work safely (be COVID-secure) and manage the risk associated for employers at this time. The guidance includes practical measures you can take, for example putting in place social distancing measures, staggering shifts, providing additional handwashing facilities and how to talk with workers to help them stay safe.

Staying active while staying home - resources for GP teams and patients

Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP).

2020.

Here are some online resources for all ages, preferences and abilities that the RCGP Physical Activity and Lifestyle project team recommend, together with our top tips to help keep yourselves, your team and your patients active at this challenging time.

Covid-19 Rx: Treatment Simulations

Abdulnour R.

New England Journal of Medicine 2020.

Treatment simulations for 5 scenarios involving CoVid-19 triaged by severity of illness. Once in the patient room, your task is to gather data, develop a differential diagnosis, order additional diagnostic tests, and treat the patient. Patient and disease factors and the choice and timing of treatments will impact the outcome of the illness. Each case may have different underlying diseases and outcomes if replayed. Feedback is provided.

Audio Interview: Finding Reliable Information about Covid-19

Rubin E.

New England Journal of Medicine 2020;10.1056.

In this audio interview conducted on May 13, 2020, the editors of NEJM discuss trustworthy sources of Covid-19 information and the role of medical journals.

Innovation

[A Highly Tailored Text and Voice Messaging Intervention to Improve Medication Adherence in Patients With Either or Both Hypertension and Type 2 Diabetes in a UK Primary Care Setting: Feasibility Randomized Controlled Trial of Clinical Effectiveness](#)

Kassavou, A et al, Journal of Medical Internet Research; May 2020; 22(5)

Our trial is the first that has been conducted in the United Kingdom and showed that among nonadherent patients with either or both hypertension and type 2 diabetes, a highly tailored digital intervention was effective at improving treatment adherence and feasible to obtain clinically meaningful outcomes.

[Digital transformation in the NHS.](#)

National Audit Office (NAO).

2020.

This report describes the current state of digital services in the NHS and examines the readiness of the NHS to deliver digital transformation.

[Cross-sectoral video consultations in cancer care: perspectives of cancer patients, oncologists and general practitioners](#)

Trabjerg T.B. et al.

Supportive care in cancer Apr 2020

Overall, multidisciplinary video consultations between cancer patient, general practitioner and oncologist were feasible in daily clinics. Initial barriers to address were technical issues and seamless planning. Patients reported high satisfaction, patient centredness and clarity of roles. General practitioners and oncologists were overall positive regarding role clarification and continuity, although less pronounced than patients.

Leadership

[Measuring attributes of team functioning in primary care settings: development of the TEAMS tool.](#)

Jones S M W et al.

Journal of interprofessional care; 2020; vol. 34 (no. 3); p. 407-413

This study examines attributes of a high-functioning primary care team by creating a survey measuring staff perceptions of team culture in primary care practices with innovative team-based workforce models. The final 14-item survey measuring joy in practice, personal growth and leadership and learning may be useful in clinical practice as a practical tool to gauge progress in developing a high-functioning team.

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Skill Mix & Workforce Planning

GP registrars teaching medical students- an untapped resource?

Jones M.; Rosenthal J.; Kirtchuk L.

Education for primary care Apr 2020 ; p. 1-7

Near peer teaching in general practice is relatively novel. There are strong educational benefits for learners & teachers clearly influenced by the social context of learning. Positive career roles are modelled by trainees.

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

Pharmacists in general practice: a qualitative process evaluation of the General Practice Pharmacist (GPP) study.

James, Oscar et al.

Family practice; May 2020

Pharmacists working within the general practice team have potential to improve prescribing quality. This process evaluation found that a pharmacist joining the general practice team was well accepted by the GP and practice staff and effective interprofessional relationships were described. Patients were less clear of the overall benefits. Important barriers (such as funding, infrastructure and workload) and facilitators (such as teamwork and integration) to the intervention were identified which will be incorporated into a pilot cluster randomized controlled trial.

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

Awareness campaigns of atrial fibrillation as an opportunity for early detection by pharmacists: an international cross-sectional study

da Costa F.A. et al.

Journal of Thrombosis and Thrombolysis; May 2020; vol. 49 (no. 4); p. 606-617

This study suggests pharmacists can contribute to greater outreach of awareness campaigns. Effective communication pathways for inter-professional collaboration were suggested enablers to gain full benefits of EDAF.

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

Pay, terms and conditions for primary care nursing teams.

Marsden, Paula

Practice Nursing; May 2020; vol. 31 (no. 5); p. 216-218

This paper discusses how the newly formed Primary Care Networks (PCNs) can aid in improving recruitment, as well as how to improve pay, terms and conditions for primary care nurses.

[Available with an NHS OpenAthens log in for eligible users](#)

A training program for primary health care nurses on timely diagnosis and management of dementia in general practice: An evaluation study.

Islam, M. Mofizul et al.

International Journal of Nursing Studies; May 2020; vol. 105

This study describes the evaluation outcome of a training program for Australian primary health care nurses by assessing change in current practice and future intention; and their knowledge, confidence, and perceived importance about dementia diagnosis and management. It concluded that Primary health care nurses can lead practice change and promote the timely diagnosis and management of dementia in general practice.

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

Oral health training for general practitioners and general practice teams.

Blaylock, Paul; Lish, Rachel; Smith, Malcolm.

Education for primary care; May 2020 ; p. 1-4

Training has been shown to be worthwhile, positively impacting upon the clinical practice of GPs and thereby improving patient care. Barriers to training were overcome through producing a promotional brochure and gaining the support of NHS medical leaders, who assisted with its distribution. A shift to training the trainer will improve the cost-effectiveness and sustainability of training. It is recommended that all GPs receive oral health training.

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The role of the general practitioner in managing age-related hearing loss: perspectives of general practitioners, patients and practice staff.

Bennett, Rebecca J et al.

BMC family practice; May 2020; vol. 21 (no. 1); p. 87

The role of the GP in managing age-related hearing loss is multifaceted and requires partnership that motivates and empowers patients to overcome their hearing concerns. Enlisting the help of Practice Nurses, Practice Managers and local audiologists could help GPs improve their hearing loss detection and intervention rates.

Secondary care specialist visits made by children and young people prescribed antidepressants in primary care: a descriptive study using the QResearch database

Jack R.H. et al.

BMC medicine; Apr 2020; vol. 18 (no. 1); p. 93

The results suggest many children and young people are being prescribed antidepressants without the recommended involvement of a relevant specialist. These findings may justify both greater training for GPs in child and adolescent mental health and greater access to specialist care and non-pharmacological treatments.

Being conductor of the orchestra: an exploration of district nursing leadership

Dickson C.

British Journal of Community Nursing 2020;25(5):214-221.

District nurses (DNs) who work as advanced practitioners as part of teams, do not feel the burden of responsibility felt by team-leading DNs; DNs do not appear to recognise or value their ability to be creative problem solvers; Leadership development across all levels of healthcare is a policy imperative and this study suggests there is untapped potential in the district nursing workforce.

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What resources do NHS commissioning organisations use to support antimicrobial stewardship in primary care in England?

Allison R. et al

Antibiotics; Apr 2020; vol. 9 (no. 4)

Promotion of AMS resources to general practices is currently excellent, but as evaluation of uptake or effect is poor, this should be encouraged by resource providers and through quality improvement programmes. Trainers should be encouraged to promote and highlight the importance of action planning within their AMS training. AMS resources, such as leaflets and education, should be promoted across the whole health economy, including Out of Hours and care homes. Primary care practitioners should continue to be encouraged to display a signed Antibiotic Guardian poster as well as general AMS posters and videos in practice, as patients find them useful and noticeable.

Controlling antibiotic usage - A national analysis of General Practitioner/Family Doctor (GP/FD) practices links overall antibiotic levels to demography, geography, comorbidity factors with local discretionary prescribing choices

Stedman M. et al.

International journal of clinical practice; Apr 2020

Demographics, location, medical condition of the population, and prescribing selection are drivers of overall antibiotic prescribing. This analysis provides benchmarks for both non-modifiable and modifiable factors against which practices could evaluate their opportunities to reduce antibiotic prescribing.

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Prescribing and medical non-adherence after myocardial infarction: qualitative interviews with general practitioners in Germany.

Freier, Christian; Heintze, Christoph; Herrmann, Wolfram J. *BMC Family Practice*; May 2020; vol. 21 (no. 1); p. 1-11

General practitioners should be aware that discharge medication can be insufficient and thus, should always check hospital recommendations for accordance with guideline recommendations. General practitioners should assess patients' motivations through motivational interviewing, and talk with them about adherence and long-term treatment goals regularly.

Let Nature Be Thy Medicine: A Socioecological Exploration of Green Prescribing in the UK

Robinson J.M. et al. *International journal of environmental research and public health*; May 2020; vol. 17 (no. 10)

GPs and NBOs (nature based organisations) perceive and express some common and distinct constraints to green prescribing. Important foci for future should be to establish transdisciplinary collaborative pathways, efficient infrastructure management and a common vocabulary in green prescribing-with the overall aim of reducing inequalities and enhancing planetary health.

Understanding why primary care doctors leave direct patient care: a systematic review of qualitative research

Long L. et al.

BMJ open; May 2020; vol. 10 (no. 5)

Many GPs report that job satisfaction directly relates to the quality of the doctor-patient relationship. Combined with changing relationships with patients and interfaces with secondary care, and the gradual sense of loss of autonomy within the workplace, many GPs report a reduction in job satisfaction. Once job satisfaction has become negatively impacted, the combined pressure of increased patient demand and workload, together with other stress factors, has left many feeling unsupported and vulnerable to burn-out and ill health, and ultimately to the decision to leave general practice.

A descriptive analysis of an outbreak of measles and a multilevel mixed-effects analysis of factors associated with case isolation in healthcare settings, London (February-June 2016)

Rana S. et al.

Public Health; Jun 2020; vol. 183 ; p. 55-62

We recommend opportunistic immunisation of unvaccinated young adults by GPs and that occupational health departments ensure their staff are protected against measles. Raising measles awareness in healthcare settings via training or regular sharing of current measles surveillance activity from public health to the IPCT and GP may improve triage and isolation of cases on arrival to healthcare premises.

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Reducing expectations for antibiotics in primary care: A randomised experiment to test the response to fear-based messages about antimicrobial resistance

Roope L.S.J et al.

BMC Medicine; Apr 2020; vol. 18 (no. 1)

Fear could be effective in public campaigns to reduce inappropriate antibiotic use, but should be combined with messages empowering patients to self-manage symptoms effectively without antibiotics.

Telehealth

Technology-enabled shared care in general practice nursing.

Hatfield R.

Nursing Times 2020;116(5):32-36.

A project used in-person training sessions along with online resources and support to train general practice nurses to use different digital modes of care with patients. As well as increasing the nurses' confidence and ability to train their colleagues in how to use the technology, the programme benefitted patients by enabling shared care, leading to improved adherence to treatment and self-care.

Implementing a digital patient feedback system: an analysis using normalisation process theory.

Ong, Bie Nio. Et al.

BMC health services research; May 2020; vol. 20 (no. 1); p. 387

The potential of digital feedback was recognised but implementation should take local contexts, different patient groups and organisational leadership into account. Patient involvement in change and adaptation of the intervention was important in enhancing the embedding of digital methods in routine feedback. NPT allowed for a in-depth understanding of actions and interactions of both staff and patients.

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