

Reshaping Clinical Care in General Practice – 6th January 2017

[Covering [dementia](#), [long term conditions](#), [older people](#), [integrated care](#), [safeguarding](#)]

Dementia

The Many Faces of Dementia: is an online course beneficial for GPs?

Nathan Davies and Jenny Hopwood, British Journal of General Practice January 2017 67:27;

doi:10.3399/bjgp17X688645

This free online course provides a greater understanding of the presentation, symptoms, challenges, and current research in dementia. The focus of the course is on four rarer causes of dementia.

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Improving the mix of institutional and community care for older people with dementia: An application of the balance of care approach in eight European countries

Tucker, S et al, Aging & Mental Health; Dec 2016; 20(12):1327-1338

This is believed to be the first transnational application of the Balance of Care approach (BoC), offering important evidence on appropriateness of current provision, and the opportunity to learn from different countries' experience.

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Patient safety in community dementia services: what can we learn from the experiences of caregivers and healthcare professionals?

Behrman, Sophie et al, Age and ageing; Dec 2016

This study aims to explore how patient safety in community dementia services is understood by caregivers, and healthcare professionals.

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Health care utilisation among older persons with intellectual disability and dementia: a registry study.

Axmon, A et al G Journal of intellectual disability research: JIDR; Dec 2016;60(12):1165-1177

Persons with ID and dementia are less likely to receive planned health care than persons with dementia in the general population, yet have higher levels of unplanned health care utilisation.

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Integrated Care

Integrating Mental Health into Primary Care.

Collins, Amy M.

American Journal of Nursing: JIDR; Dec 2016;116(12): 1538-7488

7th in a series of articles profiling nurses who act as key players in transforming health care, identified by the American Academy of Nursing as 'edge runners'. Explores how new ways of thinking can be applied to the challenge of integrating mental and primary care.

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Priorities for the NHS and social care in 2017

1st January 2017

Source: The King's Fund

Identifies five key priorities for 2017, within a projected context of another challenging year for the health and care system, where demand for care may increase faster than the supply of resources.

Long-Term Conditions

[including Cancer, Diabetes, and general management]

[NICE recommends first-of-its kind asthma treatment mepolizumab](#)

1st December 2016

Source: NICE

Nice has approved the use of Mepolizumab, a new asthma medication designed to target eosinophils immune cells, known to be responsible for symptoms in thousands of asthma patients.

[Lower recommended dose for etoricoxib](#)

18th December 2016

Source: MIMS

Evidence from two randomised double-blind Phase III trials, shows a 60mg daily dose of etoricoxib is effective for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis.

[One group of drugs used to treat Crohn's disease is unlikely to prevent relapse](#)

21st December 2016

Source: NIHR Signal

5-aminosalicylic acids (5-ASAs) do not prevent relapses of Crohn's disease when compared to placebo at one year, according to a study. This confirms NICE guidance and strengthens the case for using immunosuppressants, not 5-ASAs, for prevention of flare-ups of post-treatment Crohn's.

[Liver cancer treatment to stay within the Cancer Drugs Fund, but not recommended for routine NHS use](#)

30th December 2016

Source: NICE

New draft guidance from NICE states that Sorafenib (also known as Nexavar), used for treating advanced hepatocellular carcinoma, is not cost-effective. However given unmet needs of patients with this condition, Sorafenib should continue to be recommended for use within the CDF.

Outcomes and inequalities in diabetes from 2004/2005 to 2011/2012: English longitudinal study

Fleetcroft, Robert.

British Journal of General Practice: Jan 2017;67(654): 0960-1643

Whole-population longitudinal study of 32 482 neighbourhoods in England between 2004/2005 and 2011/2012 finds diabetes mortality declined faster, but emergency hospitalisation grew faster in more deprived neighbourhoods. Possible factors include overuse of glycaemic control medication.

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[Annual Asthma Survey 2016](#)

5th January 2017

Source: Asthma UK

Two thirds of people are still not receiving the basic care needed to manage their asthma, with wide regional variations in the UK. 70% of hospitalized asthma cases are not given a GP or nurse's follow-up, although this is key to preventing many patients being readmitted to hospital.

Older people

[The effect of pharmacist-led interventions in optimising prescribing in older adults in primary care: A systematic review \(SAGE Open Medv.4; 2016 PMC4910534\)](#)

Pharmacist-led interventions may improve prescribing appropriateness in community-dwelling older adults. The quality of evidence is low.

[Integrated care for older people with frailty: innovative approaches in practice](#)

14th December 2016

Source: Royal College of General Practitioners

GPs and geriatricians are collaborating to design and lead innovative schemes to improve the provision of integrated care for older people with frailty.

Safeguarding

[Unlocking The Power Of Local: Reflections On The New Place Leadership](#)

13th December 2016

Source: New Local Government Network

Collection of essays explore the interconnected nature of local leadership, and how emerging patterns and strategies can support a better outcome for local people

[Flu antivirals now prescribable at NHS expense](#)

21st December 2016

Source: MIMS

The CMO has announced antivirals for the treatment and prophylaxis of influenza may be prescribed at NHS expense for patients in at-risk groups or who risk severe illness or complications if untreated. All prescriptions for influenza antivirals issued in primary care should be endorsed with 'SLS'.

[Children warn of smoking risks in hard-hitting campaign](#)

30th December 2016

Source: PHE

PHE has released a new short film featuring primary school children creating their own heartfelt messages about the dangers of smoking. The emotive film focuses on the damage smoking does to the heart and circulatory system, aiming to reduce smoking and associated risks of CVD.

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