NHS Diabetes
Supporting, Improving, Caring

North West Regional Update

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Welcome!

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Welcome to our Regional Update which delivers a blend of relevant national and regional news and information from both NHS Diabetes and the diabetes community.

We are always keen to hear about your regional stories. To submit suggestions email the editor. The newsletter is issued every two months with our national newsletter, the Diabetes Briefing, issued in the corresponding months. Sign-up to the Diabetes Briefing

For all the latest news and resources about diabetes please bookmark the NHS Diabetes website and check it regularly for new content.

Kind regards,

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New publications

NHS Diabetes has released three new publications in the last month:

- New guidance has been published by NHS Diabetes and the Royal College of Midwives. Titled ‘Lead Midwife in Diabetes: Standards, Role and Competencies’, it outlines previously unavailable standards for the role and practice of midwives undertaking a midwifery lead in the care of women with diabetes who are pregnant, or women who develop diabetes during pregnancy.

The final instalment of the commissioning guide series, 'Commissioning for Diabetes and Eye Services', has just been finished.

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- NHS Diabetes has also printed an updated version of its team leaflet, which summarises the team's role, our achievements and provides contact details for the Regional Programme Managers. Download it in our About Us section

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Insulin course hits 20,000 mark

The number of registrations for the Safe Use of Insulin course has reached the 20,000 mark.

The NHS Diabetes free e-learning module has seen 16,888 healthcare professionals sign up since launching in June.

The NHS Diabetes free e-learning module has seen 20,631 healthcare professionals sign up since launching in June, with more than 12,000 having passed it.

Healthcare professionals can still register for the online training course on the safer use of insulin despite the fact the December 16 deadline has now passed.

The deadline was set as a call to action by a Rapid Response Report carried out by the National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA) on the safer administration of insulin.

Our course was launched on the back of the report, which highlighted a number of safety incidents related to the use of insulin.

The NPSA report requires all health professionals who care for people with diabetes to undertake training on safer use of insulin such as the NHS Diabetes online training course.

The online training course is aimed at all health professionals who treat patients with diabetes and who may have to administer insulin. It has been designed so that it easy to complete and should take no more than an hour and half to do.

The course now has a full reporting structure in place which provides learner statistics and evaluation data for staff who have registered for training in their organisations.

The reports can be exported in CSV format for data manipulation or imported into another system. The insulin course is free of charge on the NHS Diabetes website.

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National diabetes inpatient audit 2010

The second National Diabetes Inpatient Audit (NaDIA) was carried out in the first two weeks of November 2010 – with more than 170 hospitals in England taking part.

Participants carried out the bedside survey on one day during the two week window.

The national results will be launched by Dr Gerry Rayman, NHS Diabetes National Clinical Lead for Inpatient Diabetes, on the morning of April 1 at the Diabetes UK Annual Professional Conference.

On Monday April 4 all individual reports will be available on the Yorkshire and Humber Public Health Observatory website.

Also, from that date audit leads will be able to request a complete CSV file of all their results to enable them to conduct more in-depth local analysis.

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New diabetes NICE guidance and plans for the NHS – Have your say

Views are being sought on new diabetes guidance from NICE and documents from the Department of Health which look at the future of the health service.

Consultations have been launched to collect views on these proposals and NHS Diabetes is keen to ensure the opinions of the diabetes community are represented.

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The consultations include:

- An Information Revolution: a consultation on proposals
- Liberating the NHS: Greater choice and control. A consultation on proposals
- NICE quality standards for diabetes type 1 and 2
- Type 2 diabetes - preventing pre-diabetes in adults: consultation on the draft guidance

There is a large amount of information to look through so do not feel obliged to comment on everything, we just wanted to make you aware of these developments in case you want to make a specific comment about a certain aspect or indeed do want to comment fully.

Dr Rowan Hillson MBE, National Clinical Director, is interested in hearing the views of the diabetes community so feel free to copy her into any submissions you make.

Email Dr Hillson

Read a summary of the documents

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New DiabetesE commissioner and specialist diabetes provider questionnaires now available

Two new questionnaires have been developed for this year's DiabetesE.

The online self assessment tool is designed to measure and benchmark the quality of diabetes services and drive continuous quality improvement in care.

Earlier this year, the new questionnaires were developed and piloted, for specialist diabetes providers and service commissioners. DiabetesE enables providers and commissioners to:

- Quickly and easily conduct a baseline review of diabetes services
- Instantly benchmark the quality of services against others
- Identify service strengths and priority areas for improvement
- Access current evidence and best practice to identify ways in which improvements can be made
- Develop improvement plans reflecting the goals and aspirations of national policy and guidance
- Continually re-assess, benchmark and review progress in improving diabetes services

New functionality has been introduced, including giving all users the ability to answer 'Yes', 'No', 'Not Applicable', or 'Don't Know' to all questions.

In addition, following the pilots, new functionality has been introduced, including giving all users the ability to answer 'Yes', 'No', 'Not Applicable', or 'Don't Know' to all questions. Supporting evidence to quality assure answers can now be added and a comparison function has also been included. Results can now also be downloaded into a CSV file.

DiabetesE is one of a suite of complementary information tools which operate under the auspices of the National Diabetes Information Service.

Register to use DiabetesE and obtain a user name and password

DiabetesE tutorials are available on the Innove website

For more information contact the DiabetesE helpdesk by calling 0844 879 7132 or send them an email

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Leading Change in Central Lancashire

Central Lancashire PCT is in the process of adopting a new model of diabetes service delivery thanks to support from the NHS Diabetes Leading Change programme.

The clinically-led and patient-driven process has helped the trust to build new commissioned pathways to improve quality and productivity in the following areas: diagnosis and continuing care, footcare, pregnancy, care of older people and children and young people.

The full programme will be completed early in 2011. It began with an analysis of the population, covering the Health Needs Analysis, health inequalities and patient consultation.

A review of the training-needs of all staff delivering diabetes care was also undertaken.

These steps helped to set the priorities. Key stakeholders attended a working event where, using the intervention maps from the NHS Diabetes Commissioning Guides, they identified gaps in the service and looked at streamlining the system.

They also worked through the contracting framework. This led to the delivery of a service specification from which the providers intend to develop a business case in response.

The project was led by Trudi Akroyd, the regional lead for NHS Diabetes in the North West.

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