Education and Training Policy for Health

Issue 15: March 2009

This newsletter is produced on behalf of NESC by the Innovations, Development and Wider Workforce team and provides a series of links to a selection of relevant and interesting articles issued over the past month. Copyright lies with the originator and not with NESC. Please click through the title links to access the full article or further information.

General

HSE warning follows hospital fall
The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is reminding hospitals and other care providers to ensure the safety of their patients, especially from the dangers of open windows.

Ambulance Trusts offered new choice in emergency call handling
The Ambulance Service can now choose to train 999 operators to offer more advice to patients who don't need an ambulance, reducing the need for call-backs. They will give patients a wide range of options and advice in one phone call, from dispatching an ambulance to referral to a local service that may be more appropriate

Cabinet backs public sector apprenticeships
Ministers have thrown their weight behind apprenticeships setting out how more than 21,000 apprenticeship places in frontline public services will be delivered - including 5,000 more in the National Health Service and social care in areas such as customer service; dental nursing; health and social care; pharmacies; learning and development posts

New scheme launched to help people on sick leave back to work
The 'Fit for Work' Service Programme of Piloting, backed by £13million, will test out how sickness absentees can be helped to recover and supported to get back to work more quickly than would otherwise be the case. They will test a range of different ways of providing support, to identify what works best.

Cannabis can mess with your mind
The false perception still exists amongst some young people that cannabis is a safe drug despite the fact that it can produce both immediate and longer-term harms to mental and physical health.

Stroke: Act F.A.S.T. awareness campaign
The Stroke: Act F.A.S.T. awareness campaign aims to educate healthcare professionals and the public on the signs of stroke and that prompt emergency treatment can reduce the risk of death and disability. It encourages people to recognise the signs of stroke and feel confident to phone 999 for an ambulance on detecting any single one of them. Emergency action is as important for TIA (Transient Ischaemic Attack) or ‘mini-strokes’

Listening, responding, improving: a guide to better customer care
From the 1st April 2009, there will be a single approach to dealing with complaints. It will give organisations the flexibility they need to deal with complaints effectively. It will also encourage a culture that seeks and then uses people’s experiences to make services more effective, personal and safe.

Registered Professionals

Get well soon - without antibiotics
This campaign forms part of the Government's strategy to tackle the increasing problem antibiotic resistance which could make treatment for common bacterial infections such as pneumonia much more difficult in the future. Adverts aimed at patients and Clinicians are intended to reduce unnecessary requests for antibiotics.

First meeting of Revalidation Programme Board
The Board will give strategic leadership of the roll out of revalidation across the UK. Early tasks will be to agree a robust programme of project management and reporting arrangements for revalidation and to ensure an effective communications strategy so that the profession, the public and other key interest groups are able to engage with the work of the Board

GMC Council sets out priorities for 2009
The General Medical Council has published its Business Plan for 2009 which sets out ten key aims including: Continue to set and uphold appropriate professional standards for doctors, bring together all stages of medical education and training, and introduce licenses as the first crucial step towards revalidation.
More exchange opportunities for International doctors
The Medical Training Initiative (MTI) that provided 250 time-limited placements for doctors from developing countries last year will now be expanded in stages to provide up to 750 opportunities.

Breaking down barriers, driving up standards. The role of the ward sister and charge nurse

Non-Registered Professionals
Children's Workforce Network induction case studies
The importance of good induction programmes are to ensure that those working with children, young people and their families have the right skills and knowledge to improve outcomes for children and young people. The Children's Workforce Network (CWN) has developed a series of case studies provided from a range of organisations and local authorities showing examples of emerging good practice in induction.

The Science Diploma
The NHS is the UK's largest employer of scientists and allied health professionals who use and rely on science in carrying out their professional duties. The diploma provides a real opportunity for employers within the NHS to be involved in the development of the Science Diploma, ensuring that it helps equip students with appropriate underpinning knowledge and skills, which fully aligns to the career framework and skills escalator.

Primary Care
Individual budgets can benefit carers
"Putting People First, without putting carers second' report, examines the challenges local councils and health trusts face in making 'personalisation' a reality for carers alongside those they care for. It also highlights a range of solutions that are already in place to meet those challenges."

Marie Curie Chief Exec to Chair End of Life Board
Mr Hughes-Hallett, will chair of the Department of Health's End of Life Care Implementation Advisory Board, which is being set up to help improve the quality of care people receive at the end of their lives. The advisory board, which will be made up of stakeholders who were closely involved in the development of the end of life care strategy, will meet twice a year.

Project Records Experiences of Working with the GP Training
The RCGP has resumed its GP Curriculum Diary Project and is seeking submissions from general practice staff, programme directors, educational and clinical supervisors. The initiative first started in March 2008, with the aim of capturing snapshots of how the new GP curriculum was working 'on the ground' by collecting diary entries from GP trainers and trainees. Findings from 2008 and 2009 will be used to help researchers understand the experiences of working with the syllabus at this point in history, as well as offer key insights to the teams implementing and developing the curriculum at present. To participate in the 2009 project, simply visit www.rcgp-curriculum.org.uk and click on the "Diary Project" tab for more information.

Public Health
ACMD report into the prevention of hepatitis C among injecting drug users
The ACMD recognises the key importance of a combination of interventions for the primary prevention of hepatitis C and makes a total of 12 recommendations to help tackle the spread of hepatitis C.

Teens hold the key to quitting
The survey, conducted on behalf of NHS Stop Smoking Services, concludes that teenagers are feeling increasingly responsible for their parents' health with two thirds (65 per cent) worried about their parents' smoking habit. 88 per cent of teenagers say they are concerned about the damage parents are doing to their health by smoking. With nearly 9 in 10 learning about health at school, almost half (43 per cent) claim they understand the risks of smoking better than their parents.

Vision for a 21st century children's health service
The Government today published its long term vision of a 21st Century children's health service aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of all children, including £340 million to support children with disabilities and their families.

More cash for contraception
Public Health Minister Dawn Primarolo and Young People's Minister Beverley Hughes have announced that an extra £20.5 million will help young people get better access to contraception and support and raise the awareness of the risks of unprotected sex.

Allied Health Professionals
Step up to the Allied Health Professional Leadership Challenges
The "Leadership Challenges" are "business games" based on fictional, but realistic scenarios in a variety of health and social care economies, to identify the existing qualities, and those to be developed in the leaders of the future. The vision is that teams of Health Professions Council-registered AHPs from diverse backgrounds will collaborate in competition with other teams, using their creativity to solve the challenges posed. The best performers in each of the ten SHA events will go forward to a high profile, national event on the 16 and 17 June 2009. The legacy of all these events is that they then become embedded in the SHA leadership and development cycle. It is hoped that, in time, they will become part of a multi-professional leadership challenge series. By supporting the development of leadership in AHPs, it is envisaged that services within health and social
care economies will be improved and transformed. This will benefit both users of those services and the organisations that commission and provide them.

**Repetitive strain injury (RSI) still blights British workers**
The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) is calling on the Government to encourage employers to do more to prevent and reduce repetitive strain injury (RSI) amongst British workers.

**Charting the Future**
Get involved - this project will stimulate debate within the profession and with our stakeholders about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. It will develop a shared understanding of how physiotherapy can contribute much more to the health and wellbeing of the UK population.

**International Reports and News**
- **World Health Organization: UK institutional strategy 2008–13**
- **Action Plan for the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases 2008-2013**
- **Drug resistance could set back malaria control success**
- **Other Reports**
  - **Practice-based commissioning budget guidance for 2009/10**
  - **Mental Capacity Act (Deprivation of Liberty: Monitoring and Reporting; and Assessments - Amendment) Regulations 2009 - response to the consultation**
  - **Citizens Advice Bureau mystery shopping of PCT helplines**
  - **Government's response to the Health Committee Report into Foundation trusts and Monitor**

**Consultations**
**Closing March**
- **The Future of the Healthcare Science Workforce**: closing 6th March
- **Creating a New Professional Regulator for Pharmacy**: closing 9th March
- **Ending Child Poverty: Making It Happen**: closing 11th March
- **General Dental Council (Constitution) Order 2009**: closing 27th March
- **Consultation on regulations to implement the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008**: closing 30 March
- **The use of 084 telephone numbers in the NHS**: closing 31st March

**Closing April**
- **Neonatal Questionnaire**: closing 16th April
- **Streamlining Health and Adult Social Care Assessments**: closing 17th April
- **Common Assessment Framework for Adults**: closing 17th April
- **The Health Professions Council (Constitution) Order 2009**: closing 17th April
- **Fairer Contributions Guidance: A Consultation on the Extension and Revision of the Statutory Guidance for Charging for Non-Residential Social Services in Relation to Personal Budgets**: closing 19th April
- **GMC Licence to Practise: Consultation on Draft Regulations and Supporting Guidance**: closing 21st April
- **Young People and Alcohol Guidance**: closing 23rd April

**Awards**
- **People's Award for Dignity in Care**: closing 6th March
- **Health and Social Care Awards 2009**: closing 6th March
- **Humanitarian Fund 2009**: closing 13th March
- **Public Health Awards**: closing 22nd April
- **NIHR Clinical Award Round 8**: closing 30th May

**Events, Education and Training Conferences and Courses**
**March**
- **2nd RCN Annual Prescribing and Medicines Conference**: 7th March, London
- **Locum GP “Survival Guide”**: 7th March, London
- **RCSLT Scientific Conference**: 17th – 18th March, London
- **Mental Health and Well-Being at the Workplace, 17th-18th March, Berlin**
- **Health and Sustainability Network Workshop**: 20th March, Sheffield
- **Broadening Your Horizons: Taking Time Out to Work and Train in Developing Countries**: 23rd March, London
- **The 2009 International Nursing Research Conference**: 24th – 27th March, Cardiff
- **Business Skills for GPs**: 25th March, London
• **Shaping PCT provider services: The Future of Primary and Community Services**, 31st March, London.

April

• **British Psychological Society Annual Conference**, 1st – 3rd April, Brighton
• **Managing Long Term Conditions**, 7th April, Harrogate
• **Clinicians, quality and data: analysing and sharing information to drive health care improvement**, 28th April, London
• **6th European Conference on Promoting Workplace Health**, 27th-28th April, Perugia, Italy
• **Law in relation to the practice of medicine**, 30th April, London

May

• **Spring General Meeting of the RCGP**, 15th May, London
• **‘Making the most of being a Salaried GP’ Seminars**, 27th May Oxford

June

• **5th Conference of the International Society for Equity in Health**, 9th-11th June, Crete
• **RCN Joint Educational Forums’ Second International Conference**, 11th – 13th June, Scotland

July

• **Innovation and Health Technology Assessment: Improving Health System Quality**, 26th -31st July, Italy

November

• **RCGP Annual National Primary Care Conference 2009** 5th- 7th November, Glasgow

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NHS Education South Central (NESC) is part of the South Central Strategic Health Authority