Market Intelligence e-Newsletter

Issue 7: July 2008

**General**

**High Quality Care for All – Lord Darzi’s Next Stage Review**
Lord Darzi launched his Next Stage review final report on the 30th of June. The report gives patients more say through care plans for those with long term conditions and other initiatives such as provide the right to chose care providers such as GPs. Patients will be able to check on the quality of the services provided such as infection control measures. There are plans to make healthcare more personalized. The NHS becomes a commissioner of healthcare and this may be provided by all sorts of organizations, public, private and the voluntary sector. Primary Care will see a shift from treating illness to managing health with greater multi-disciplinary team working and tailored patient support.

Emphasis is also placed on health prevention where there will also be a number of public health initiatives such as the “Reduce Your Risk” campaign to raise awareness of free vascular checks for the over 40. Service providers are made accountable to the patients and the public and there will be more investment in clinical leadership programmes. A new workforce strategy includes the introduction of a new body, NHS Medical Education England that will ensure workforce provision for doctors and dentists. Nurses will have increased funding opportunities for education initiatives. The responsibility for leading and transforming the health services lies at a local level.

Summary document [here](#).

**Tough action against underperforming hospitals and trusts**
The DH has produced the vision document “Developing the NHS Performance Regime” which aims to tackle underperforming PCTs and Trusts.

**Implementing the White Paper Trust, Assurance and Safety: enhancing confidence in healthcare professional regulators - final report and DH response to recommendations**
The working group chaired by the Chief Executive of the King’s Fund, Niall Dickson, examined aspects of the paper concerned with enhancing public confidence in the regulators of healthcare professionals, taking forward the recommendations in the White Paper, Trust, Assurance and Safety.

**MOD asks healthcare watchdog to carry out first ever independent assessment of military healthcare**
In a joint statement today the Ministry of Defence and the Healthcare Commission outlined plans for the first ever independent expert assessment of the standards of medical care offered to Service personnel at military facilities.

**HEFCE achieves top rating for organisational excellence**
The European Foundation for Quality Management has awarded HEFCE the top score of five stars in its ‘Recognised for Excellence’ award.

**NIHR School for Social Care Research - call**
The Government develops a new National Institute for Health Research School for Social Care Research. This is in advance of the Green Paper on the future shape of care and support services. It will receive £3 million funding a year, for five years. This initiative follows on from the successful establishment of the NIHR School for Primary Care Research in 2006. There is a current call from the research community to join the new School for Social Care Research. The creation of the School is to improve the evidence for social care practice in a variety of contexts and will draw on a wide range of academic disciplines and methods. Professor Sally Davies, Director of Research and Development at the Department of Health said: “The new NIHR School for Social Care Research will give researchers the time and funding to ask the important questions and improve our understanding of what works, what doesn't work and why. This new NIHR School will provide considerable benefit to the health and well-being of the population through the new knowledge gained.”

**Registered Professionals - Education and Training**

**MMC 2008 Gold Guide Published 30th of June**

**Nursing quality to be measured for compassion of care**
Some of the indicators that could be used in a groundbreaking move to measure the quality of nursing care in the NHS include treating patients with compassion, reducing the number of falls on wards and good hand-washing.

- Matron numbers doubled to 5,000
- 2008 Recruitment of the Clinical Lectureships (CLs)
2008 Recruitment of the Dental Academic Clinical Fellowships (ACFs)

Non-Registered Professionals - Education and Training
Supporting workforce development
Skills for Health are emphasising the need to develop a skilled and flexible workforce across the UK Health sector. They have developed the National Demonstrator Sites (NDS) to test their workforce development tools and competences. This is to support healthcare organisations redesign roles and teams to underpin new services and improve services for patients and services users using a flexible competence-based approach. Training opportunities and awareness workshops are also available. Some examples of how this work has been taken forward include the up skilling of Healthcare Assistants to associate practitioner level using competences to inform a tailored training approach by Northwest London Trust. Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust is using a number of streams including the Advanced Level practitioner stream.

Apprenticeships – FACT Sheet; Expanding Apprenticeships London;
Apprenticeships provide training opportunities for bands 1-4 on a programme of structured training and work experience. The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) commissioned Ipsos MORI and Cambridge Policy Consultants (CPC) to conduct research into how the Apprenticeship programme in London can be expanded to meet the recommendations of Prosperity for all in the global economy – world class skills (published by HM Treasury in December 2006). This year saw a forty per cent increase in apprenticeships, with 1,400 entries from just over 1,000 last year.

Pre-registration education and funding for paramedics: guidance for SHAs, PCTs and ambulance services
As described in the ambulance review; ‘Taking healthcare to the patient’, the education and training for paramedics is paramount to achieving a modernised ambulance workforce. The aim is to equip ambulance clinicians with a greater range of competences and underpinning knowledge whilst maintaining the vocational nature of their training. It will also aid integration with the wider NHS, making it easier for staff to move to and from ambulance roles within their careers. The guidance outlines the broad education model, and provides advice on commissioning and funding for the education programmes.

More than 2.25 million adults achieve first qualifications in basic skills
The 2010 Skills for Life target has been achieved two years early.

Positive response to Independent Qualifications Regulator proposals - Government response to feedback on consultation published
There is a consultation on reforms to improve confidence in the standards of qualifications and tests by the Department of Innovations, Universities and Skills (DIUS). The consultation document, Confidence in Standards, set out detailed proposals on setting up a new independent regulator, the Office of the Qualifications and Examinations Regulator - Ofqual - and the evolution of the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority into a new development agency.

Map showing geographical distribution and development stage of voluntary and community sector learning and training consortia/networks – LSC Map 2008;
Map showing geographical distribution and development stage of voluntary and community sector learning and training consortia/networks – LSC Map April 2008;

The National Education and Competence Framework for assistant critical care practitioners
This document describes:
- The role of an Assistant Critical Care Practitioner (level 4 on the NHS Career Framework)
- How the role should function within the critical care team
- The benefits of introducing the role in clinical practice
- A National Framework of Education and Competence to support the development of the role

Primary Care
32 PCTs to spearhead surge in talking therapies
Each of the 32 PCTs will receive a share of the £33 million first instalment of new money to help create a workforce that can offer supervised therapy hence cutting down on waiting times for this kind of therapy. It is seen as a measure that will help curb depression and anxiety disorders. 3,600 extra therapists will be trained in the next three years and offer treatment for 900,000 people.

Our NHS, our future: the contribution of healthcare scientists
This report provides examples of the contributions that healthcare scientists make to high quality care. This is linked to the Next Stage Review and deals with developing services in the primary care setting.

Pathology Benchmarking: toolkit development project
The Pathology Benchmarking toolkit allows users to examine requesting patterns for a range of laboratory tests for general practice use. This generates reports, with a range of information, including testing patterns by GP practice, PCT or SHA for specific tests. It will assist GPs and practice staff to assess whether tests are being used to provide greatest clinical benefit.

Update on community hospitals
As part of the community hospitals and services programme the DH is building of a £23 million primary and community care hub in Stockport. This will provide primary care for 26,000 registered patients, a health and well-being centre and fast track diagnostic and treatment services.
Non-medical prescribing case studies
This document highlights a number of ways in which non-medical prescribers are supporting service delivery, including helping GP practices to achieve high performance against the Quality and Outcomes Framework.

PCT board development framework - specification
The development of a board at PCT level is a key priority of the DH's world class commissioning programme. This specification may be used by PCTs at a local level to procure a board development programme.

Healthcare watchdog review finds progress in standards of services for people with learning disabilities at Sutton and Merton Primary Care Trust
The Healthcare Commission said today (Thursday) that Sutton and Merton Primary Care Trust has made good progress on improving the standard of services it provides for people with learning disabilities.

Public Health
"Creating a Healthier NHS": NHS pilots well being assessments for staff
Rotherham PCT launched this pilot for 300 of its staff to test a new approach delivered by vielfe to support the health and well-being programmes. A further nine sites will be launched by 8th July. This follows the basis that healthy employees are less likely to be absent, be more fulfilled at work and more productive. The pilot starts with an on-line health and well-being assessment to help identify health issues in the pilot workforce. The programme will also introduce a Healthy Eating programme and will be followed by a Strength and Resilience programme to help staff identify and manage pressure in the workplace and everyday life. At the end of the first year, staff will be able to reassess themselves.

A profile of the nation's health
Health Profiles are key health indicators that capture the health of the population to a local level across England. These were published by the DH and the Association of Public Health Observatories. This year’s data includes information on child health inequalities. The health gap between the most affluent and most deprived is still quite wide. The DH has produced a document entitled, “Health Inequalities: Progress and Next Steps report” setting out clear and achievable measures for the NHS and Local Authorities to implement.

Health secretary’s goal to tackle health inequalities
The Government's commitment to tackling health inequalities and helping the most deprived communities was set out by Health Secretary Alan Johnson together with details of £34 million to fund programmes to support local communities.

Bidding begins for healthy towns
Every town in England has the opportunity to bid for up to £5 million to make their inhabitants more healthy and active.

Massive sport reform to spearhead 2012 legacy plans - free swimming plan for over 60s at the forefront
A new £140 million fund to boost sport and fitness through free swimming for the over 60s was announced by the Government as part of a drive to get two million people more active by the London 2012 Olympics.

Europe’s biggest employer - The NHS - pledges to cut its carbon footprint
The NHS is responsible for over 18 million tonnes of carbon dioxide per year. This makes it the largest public sector contributor to climate change, (3% of England’s total CO₂ emissions). The Carbon Reduction Strategy for consultation aims to reduce these carbon dioxide emissions by 60% by 2050 and offers a number of ways by which this may be achieved.

New research collaborations for health announced
£64 million will be used to conduct research on the improvement of care in a variety of conditions including; heart disease, stroke, diabetes and obesity. The research is organised into 7 partnerships between NHS organisations and leading universities.

£10 million per year for Public Health Research
The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) is evaluating a number of public health initiatives. This new research programme is for three years and will help the Government to continue to improve public health and reduce health inequalities.

Improving health: changing behaviour - NHS health trainer handbook
This handbook by the British Psychological Society Health Psychology team is for health trainers involved in facilitating behaviour change.

£255 million boost for Carers
This new ten year programme by the DH aims to give carers short breaks, more help with employment and support for them to stay healthy.

Allied Health Professionals
Modernising Scientific Careers (MSC)
Scientists represent about 5% of the workforce and they are involved in 80% of clinical decisions. They make up to more than fifty different professions and some roles have medical consultant equivalence. MSC will develop a framework that will accommodate the different scientific disciplines. It will include training for technical support staff leading to registration as
Healthcare Scientists. This will ensure that scientists have the accredited expertise and a career pathway that will also recognize their specialised academic career structure.

**International Reports and News**

**The Return on Investment Calculator: A New Tool for States**

In view of the current economic slowdown the Centre for Health Care Strategies in the US has developed the ROI calculator as an attempt to improve health care outcomes while controlling costs. This will help understand the costs and payoffs of quality improvement interventions. The Return on Investment (ROI) Forecasting Calculator for Quality Initiatives, was developed with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The calculator was piloted in 8 states and was used to develop their own quality improvement initiatives and assist to effectively manage the care of high risk, high cost service improvement interventions. The user-friendly, Web-based tool can estimate the financial implications of proposed interventions. The calculator is free, available at [www.chcsroi.org](http://www.chcsroi.org).

**Research**

- **What matters to staff in the NHS**
  A seminal piece of research revealing what really matters to NHS staff has been published today by the Department of Health.
- **Research on eliminating age discrimination in social services and mental health services**
- **Research Excellence Framework moves to pilot phase**
  The bibliometric techniques that will underpin the new method for assessing research after 2008 are the subject of a pilot exercise.

**Other Reports**

- **Shifting the Balance of Care to Local Settings. The Seesaw Report, King’s Fund. June 2008, Download in full (725kb)**
- **NHS inpatient and outpatient waiting times figures**
- **Putting People First - working to make it happen: adult social care workforce strategy - interim statement**
- **NHS Referral To Treatment (RTT) times data April 2008**
- **Statistical Press Notice: National Patient Choice Survey latest results**
- **Statistical press notice: Elective Admission Events - Quarterly update**
- **Watchdogs publish verdict on NHS reforms so far**
- **Cancelled operations - Quarterly update**
- **Statistical press notice: Cancer Waiting Times - quarterly update**
- **Commissioning to make a bigger difference - A guide for NHS and social care commissioners on promoting service innovation**
- **PCT survey - provision of IVF in England 2007**
- **The Patient Information Advisory Group (PIAG) Annual Report 2006-07**
- **18-Week Patient Experience Survey and National Patient Choice Survey**
- **Mental Capacity Act 2005: Deprivation of liberty safeguards - Code of Practice to supplement the main Mental Capacity Act 2005 Code of Practice**
- **Extending Professional Regulation Working Group Interim Report: Protecting the public by ensuring that workforce standards are met**

This follows the recommendations from the White paper ‘Trust, Assurance, Safety’. This interim report outlines progress of the Extending Professional Regulation Working Group.

- **Strategic Health Authorities’ visions for better healthcare**
- **Implementing the National Stroke Strategy - an imaging guide**
- **Healthcare Commission announces plans for the 2008/09 assessment of NHS trusts**
- **Healthcare watchdog publishes latest heart surgery survival rates**

**Consultations**

- **DIUS Single Equality Scheme, DIUS, closing date, 4th of August**
- **Higher Education at Work – High Skills, High Value, DIUS, 7th of July**
- **The General Medical Council (Constitution) Order 2008 - a paper for consultation, DH, closing date 11th of July**
- **Consultation on a statutory scheme to control the prices of branded NHS medicines, DH, closing date 15th of July**
- **Consultation on business case approval guidance for primary care trusts with existing LIFTs, DH, closing date 31st of July**
- **Call for evidence: Analysis on Demand for STEM skills, DIUS, closing date 1st of September**
- **Consultation on the future of tobacco control, this is part of the Cancer Reform Strategy 2007, closing date, 8th of September**
- **The impact of personally initiated X-ray computed tomography scanning for the health assessment of asymptomatic individuals: Recommendations made by the Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment (COMARE), closing date, 9th of September**
- **Proposed new arrangements under Part IX of the Drug Tariff for the provision of stoma and urology appliances - and related services - in primary care - consultation document (June 2008), closing date 9th of September**
- **Time to Train, DIUS, 10th of September**
- **Transforming the quality of dementia care: consultation on a National Dementia Strategy, DH, closing date, 11th of September**
- **Transforming the quality of dementia care: consultation on a National Dementia Strategy, closing date 11th of September**
- The NHS Resilience and Business Continuity Management Guidance 2008: interim strategic national guidance for NHS organisations, DH, closing date 30th of September
- Towards a strategy to support volunteering in health and social care: consultation, DH, closing date, 30th September
- A consultation on the NHS Constitution, DH, closing date 17th of October

Awards

- Nominations are invited for the third round of the HEFCE Clinical Senior Lectureship Awards
- NIHR Clinician Scientist Award Round 8

Events, Education and Training Conferences and Courses

- LGC Transforming Service Delivery to Meet Customer Needs, 8th of July, HSJ, London
- Implementing Our NHS, Our Future, 8th of July, HSJ, London
- Delivering World Class Commissioning, 10th of July, HSJ, London
- MMC Discussion Events, 10 July, The Queens, City Square, and Leeds, LS1 1PJ and 31 July ICC, Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2EA
  For all doctors, professional bodies and anyone with an interest in medical recruitment, education and training. mmc.enquiries@dh.gsi.gov.uk
- Creating an effective team to provide one-to-one care, 10th of September, King's Fund
- Mental Health Forum, 10th of September, HSJ, London
- Sustainable Healthcare Buildings, 11th of September, HSJ, London
- Service Transformation and Innovation, HSJ, 11th September, Manchester. This conference will explore the implications of the Darzi pathway and investigate tools and strategies for service transformation.
- Further information on Measuring What Matters - an event for Allied Health Professionals (pdf 65kb) (opens new window)
  Measuring What Matters - an event for Allied Health Professionals, 11th of July, DH, Central London.
- Transforming maternity and new born care, 11th September, HSJ, London
- Announcing the 2nd Annual NIHR Trainees’ Conference, 10-11 September 2008. Please click here to register for this event.
- Building Effective Partnerships, Pre-conference seminar, 15th of September, HSJ, Birmingham, Building Effective Partnerships 2008, 16th of September
- Integrating health and social care services for long-term conditions: Managing long-term conditions seminar series, 17th of September, King’s Fund,
- Becoming a Lean Champion September 2008, 23rd of September, HSJ, London
- Outcome Measurement, 24th of September, HSJ, London
- Fundamentals of Commissioning, 8th of October, HSJ, London
- NHS Marketing Forum 2008, 14th of October, HSJ, London
- Delivering effective end-of-life care: developing partnership working, 15th of October, King’s Fund, London
- End of Life Care Nursing, 23rd of October, tbc, HSJ.
- Healthcare PAs and EAs 2008, 3rd of December, HSJ, Birmingham.
- NICE 2008 (opens new window) Wednesday 3rd - 4th December, Manchester Central
- RCGPs annual conference, Thursday 2nd – 4th October, Bournemouth International Centre
- RCGPs annual conference (opens new window)