



2 November 2023

The latest news and updates from NHS England for those working in Primary Care.

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General practice

Shingles Vaccination Programme Technical Guidance published

[NHS England published a letter on 1 November confirming the 2023/24 national vaccinations and immunisations catch-up campaign will focus on measles, mumps, and rubella \(MMR\)](#). The campaign will run from November 2023 to March 2024 in two stages:

- **November 2023 to March 2024** – practices to undertake local call and recall for eligible individuals aged 12 months up to and including 5 years.
- **January 2024 to March 2024** – practices to support requests for vaccination from eligible individuals aged 6 years up to and including 25 years.

Details of practice activities to support the campaign are outlined in the letter.

Flu and COVID-19 vaccination programme - Checklist

A [handy checklist](#) is now available for GP practices and community pharmacies, covering a range of things that could be done, if not already, to help improve the uptake of flu and COVID-19 vaccinations this season, including quick links to available posters, digital screens, social media

assets and much more.

Giving patients online access to new GP health record entries by 31 October

All GP practices are now contractually required to give all patients online access to their new health record entries. More than two thirds of practices provide online prospective record access by default, with confirmed data available next week. We have arranged a final slot for EMIS practices to bulk enable patients towards the end of November. Please [register](#) by 15 November. TPP practices can still self-enable access.

New Medical Certificate of Cause of Death for statutory medical examiner system

Ministers previously announced that the [statutory medical examiner system](#) will commence from April 2024. The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) and the Department of Health and Social Care are developing a digital Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD) for England and Wales. Anyone involved completing or handling MCCDs in any capacity, can take part in the research and be involved in shaping the design of the future digital MCCD. As many people as possible are needed to take part to build an effective and inclusive digital service.

The research sessions will be convenient to staff and NHSBSA will make sure they fit around colleagues' availability. To participate, please [complete the survey and provide your contact details](#). Please email UserResearch.DCR@nhsbsa.nhs.uk for more information.

Modern General Practice webinar series now available

As part of the Delivery Plan for Recovering Access to Primary Care, two new webinars are being run for general practice to explain what modern general practice is and how to find support to make this change in your practice or PCN.

- ['What is a Modern General Practice model?'](#) on either 15 November 2023 or 23 January 2024
- ['Navigating through Modern General Practice: 'how to' and the GP Improvement Programme'](#) on 5 December 2023 or 6 March 2024

[Visit FutureNHS for more information and guides](#)

Primary care

Mental Health Practitioner animation

A new [animation](#) has been launched describing the mental health practitioner role which can be employed through the [Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme](#) (ARRS). NHS Confed's animation explains the unique features of this role which sees professionals with mental health expertise working within primary care, acting as a bridge between primary care and mental health services. The animation is a useful resource for Primary Care Networks and mental health providers.

New guidance: Musculoskeletal (MSK) orthopaedic approach to referral optimisation

Developed with the involvement of key stakeholders including the British Orthopaedic Association, the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy and the Arthritis Musculoskeletal Alliance (ARMA), this guidance explains how specialist advice can be used to ensure people with MSK conditions are seen at the right time, in the right place. [Read the guidance.](#)

Proactive Care Framework for Heart Failure

UCLPartners published a [Proactive Care Framework for Heart Failure](#) which has been developed to support the circa 600,000 people in the UK living with diagnosed heart failure. Diagnosis and treatment optimisation is often delayed in people with heart failure and it can feel challenging to manage in routine general practice.

The Framework supports primary care teams to embed proactive management of patients into routine clinical practice and we invite you to join one of our upcoming webinars about the latest Framework. [Register for the workshop here.](#)

Community pharmacy

Independent Expert Members for the UK Pharmacy Professional Leadership Advisory Board

Applications are open until 13 November 2023 for Independent Expert Members to join the [UK Pharmacy Professional Leadership Advisory Board](#). Chaired by Sir Hugh Taylor, the Board was established by the four UK Chief Pharmaceutical Officers to strengthen collaboration in pharmacy professional leadership. Leaders from diverse backgrounds with expertise in a range of fields are encouraged to apply.

Get involved

Social Prescribing Link Worker (SPLW) Survey 2023

[The NHS England Social Prescribing team have published this year's SPLW survey.](#) It seeks input from SPLWs on their experiences over the past year, covering areas such as employment, training, equipment, and their role. Survey responses will shape national support, policies, guidance, and quality improvement. The survey is open until 10 November 2023.

Sharing trainee/early career colleague stories for Disability History Month

The theme for this year's Disability History Month (16 November - 16 December 2023) is on disability, children, and youth. Submissions of stories like Grace's who, as a junior doctor, found the NHS to be a disability-positive place for a career, are encouraged. Individuals with case studies or best practices to share, especially GP trainees, MDT colleagues, adult nurses, clinical apprentices, or dental trainees who are disabled and willing to share their experiences, are

invited to contact england.nationaleдитеam@nhs.net by the end of October.

Training and development

National care navigation training

[Practice and PCN managers can nominate one member of staff to complete virtual care navigation training at foundation or advanced level](#). This training is fully funded by NHS England until March 2024. Please email carenavigationtraining@england.nhs.uk with any questions. [Care navigation training FAQs are also available](#).

Funding for nursing associates

Trainee nursing associate (TNA) places are available to staff in general practice and primary care networks. Financial support includes £8,000 employer grant per TNA and Apprenticeship levy funding up to £15,000. Send expressions of interest to england.nationalnursingteam@nhs.net.

Upcoming webinars and events

Various dates. [NHS Pension Scheme webinar series](#)

October 2023 – February 2024. [Understanding and awareness of Ramadan and how it can affect people with a serious mental illness](#)

October – March 24. [Patient participation: online learning programme](#)

3 November, 1pm - 2pm. [GPN National Update - Monthly Webinar \(MS Teams joining link\)](#)

7 November, 12.30pm – 2pm. [Learning from venous thromboembolism claims in primary care](#)

9 November, 1-2pm. [General Practice Improvement Programme – PCN engagement webinar](#)

9 November, 8-9pm. [A call for action for CVD prevention](#)

9 November, 1pm - 2pm. [Launch event of UCLPartners' Proactive Care Framework for Heart Failure](#)

15 November 2023 / 23 January 2024, 12.30pm - 2pm. [What is a Modern General Practice model? webinar](#)

20 November, 12pm - 1.30pm. [Applying the NHS England Inclusion Health and Digital Inclusion Frameworks in practice](#)

5 December 2023 / 6 March 2024, 12.30pm - 2pm. [Navigating through Modern General Practice 'how to' and the GP Improvement Programme](#)

Catch up

Missed a recent national webinar? You can view slides and recordings below:

- [General Practice webinars](#)
- [Primary Care Network webinars](#)
- [Recovering Access to Primary Care webinars](#)

Download patient-facing materials

- [The general practice team](#) - introducing the different roles
- [NHS staff respect](#) - encouraging kindness to staff
- [General practice access routes](#)
- [Supporting general practice referrals to the NHS Community Pharmacist Consultation Service](#)

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