

Report for Patient Experience Group on 5 April 2023

Latest Evidence
<p>Tackling inequality and disadvantage: Key actions policy makers, commissioners and provider organisations can take when developing an approach with a digital component, February 2023</p> <p>This resource, launched by members of the VCSE Health and Wellbeing Alliance, highlights how groups of people who experience the greatest barriers to accessing health and care are often the most likely to experience digital exclusion.</p> <p>Source: National Voices</p>
<p>Guide to adopting remote consultations in adult musculoskeletal physiotherapy services</p> <p>This guide supports adult MSK physiotherapy services – delivered by providers across primary community and/or secondary care – to implement evidence informed remote consultations.</p> <p>Source: NHS</p>
<p>What caused the UK’s elective care backlog, and how can we tackle it?</p> <p>The latest statistics on elective (non-emergency) care in England are making headlines for all the wrong reasons – the waiting list is over seven million, and over 400,000 have waited more than a year. Why is this? And what can be done about it? See here.</p> <p>Source: The Kings Fund</p>
<p>Interim report explores impact of staff wellbeing on patient safety</p> <p>HSIB have published a third interim report for this investigation which focuses on staff wellbeing across the urgent and emergency care systems and the impact that this has on patient safety.</p> <p>Source: Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch</p>
<p>‘I Just Want to be Me’: End of life care for trans and gender diverse communities</p> <p>Hospice UK believes that everyone should receive high quality end of life care, no matter who they are. As part of this, we are committed to understanding the barriers faced by trans and gender diverse people when accessing end of life, hospice, and palliative care. See report here.</p> <p>Source: Hospice UK</p>
<p>Racism is the root cause of ethnic inequalities in health</p> <p>Racism is the cause of health inequity, from birth through to adulthood and into later life, according to a report by the Race Equality Foundation, see findings here.</p> <p>Source: Race Equality Foundation</p>

Medical Workforce Race Equality Standard – a commitment to collaborate; The first five

The Medical Workforce Race Equality Standard (MWRES): the first five sets out practical actions based on data and evidence to tackle existing inequalities in the medical workforce. See report [here](#).

Source: NHS

“The crisis in the NHS is largely a crisis in older people’s preventive care, and if we’re to avoid another catastrophic winter in nine months’ time we need to act now to fix it” warns Age UK

A new in-depth report from the Charity Age UK, ‘Fixing the Foundations’, reveals how our under-funded and overstretched NHS and social care system is struggling and sometimes failing to cope with the needs of older people. Longstanding problems, predating the pandemic but exacerbated by it too, are piling pressure on families and carers and leaving the NHS in constant crisis mode, contributing massively to ambulances being stacked up outside hospital emergency departments at the moment, and long waits for people of all ages to access urgent care. See [article](#) and [report](#).

Source: Age UK

Health and social care in England: tackling the myths

The health and care system is under intense pressure, with rising waiting times, persistent workforce shortages and patients struggling to access the care they need. As a result, patient and public satisfaction with services has dropped significantly, prompting debate and discussion about the future of health and care services. In the context of what can feel like a heated political and media discussion, we have taken five myths that sometimes feature in this debate and debunked them. See publication [here](#).

Source: The King’s Fund

Supporting digital inclusion in health care

Digital technologies can improve health and care services for staff and patients, but there is no guarantee that everyone will be able to take advantage of these improvements. To find out more about people’s experience of using digital services and what can be improved, the King’s Fund spoke to people with lived experience and service providers to understand the issues and what might help improve digital inclusion. See findings [here](#).

Source: The King’s Fund

Supporting people with a learning disability and autistic people to live happier, healthier, longer lives: bitesize guide for local systems

This [guide](#) draws together a number of resources and provides a one stop shop for professionals who put in place services and approaches to support children, young people and adults who have a learning disability or who are autistic to lead healthier, happier, longer lives.

Source: NHS

Why are delayed discharges from hospital increasing? Seeing the bigger picture

This [report](#) finds that in December 2022, more than 13,000 of a total of around 100,000 hospital beds in England were occupied by patients who were medically fit for discharge. This number has increased by 57% over the last 2 years, representing an additional 6,000 people waiting in hospital who do not need to be there. This reduces the availability of hospital beds for newly admitted patients, contributing to longer A&E and ambulance waiting times. Delays can also have a significant impact on patients: longer hospital stays increase the risk of hospital-acquired infections and patients may lose mobility and cognitive function.

Source: The Health Foundation

Public perceptions of the NHS: a winter of discontent

The NHS is under extreme strain and debate about the future of the health system is growing louder. As political parties look ahead to the next general election, understanding what the public thinks should help inform thinking on NHS funding and reform.

This [long read](#) examines public perceptions and expectations of the NHS. We present findings from the third wave of our programme of polling research with Ipsos that tracks the public's views on health and social care in the UK every 6 months.

Source: The Health Foundation

Healthwatch Annual Report 2021-22

NHS and social care services only make the best decisions if they listen to the people they care for. Read Healthwatch's [Annual Report](#) to Parliament to see how feedback has helped decision-makers prioritise what matters most.

Source: Healthwatch

Reducing waiting lists by repurposing a Nightingale hospital into a protected elective centre

How One Devon ICS has worked with local trusts to cut deliver extra capacity at a former Nightingale hospital, now converted into an elective centre. See [here](#).

Source: NHS Confederation

Survey of patients paints a mixed picture of experiences

The Patient's Association's latest survey of patients' experiences of healthcare shows that when patients are with a healthcare professional their experiences were generally positive. But it also shows many respondents struggled to access the healthcare they needed in the previous six months. See [here](#).

Source: Patient Association

The Royal Marsden develops wellbeing support app with Careology

The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust has collaborated with Careology to develop an app that delivers emotional wellbeing support to young people during cancer treatment. See article [here](#).

Source: Digital Health

Understanding delays in hospital discharge

Delayed discharges, where a patient is medically fit to leave hospital but is not discharged, are bad for patients and also impact on wider health services. This QualityWatch [blog](#) from Laura Schlepper, Emma Dodsworth and Sarah Scobie takes a closer look at why patients are delayed, and reveals that a growing proportion of delays are being faced by long-stay patients.

Source: Nuffield Trust

New analysis reveals Black women in England more likely to be diagnosed with late-stage cancer

The study, published in BMJ Open, has revealed that Black women from Caribbean and African backgrounds are more likely to be diagnosed with certain types of cancer at later stages (3 or 4), when treatment is less likely to be successful. See [here](#).

Source: Cancer Research UK

World-leading NHS virtual wards treat 100,000 patients in a year

More than 100,000 patients have been treated in NHS virtual wards in the last year, with 16,000 patients treated in January alone. See [here](#).

Source: NHS

Ethnicity and young people's health inequalities

In this [blog post](#), Rachael McKeown explores the evidence on the health inequalities experienced by young people from ethnic minority backgrounds. New AYPH reports (links in blog) present the latest available data and experiences of young people who took part in a youth panel.

Source: Association for Young People's Health

New online NHS course shows how working in partnership with people and communities will improve health outcomes

Engaging and working in partnership with the people and communities that we serve is a key part of the way the NHS can improve health outcomes.

A new [course](#), created by NHS England, gives anyone interested in how we can do this an introduction to some of the key principles and what they need to consider.

The course is designed so participants can work at their own pace for a few hours over a couple of weeks. It looks at why it's important to work with people and communities; how to create better health outcomes through working with people; how we can successfully involve marginalised communities; and some of the challenges to working with people and communities that health and care professionals can face and how they can be overcome. The course includes video case-studies from across the NHS and wider health and care system.

Source: The Academy of Fabulous Stuff

Virtual wards: the lessons so far and future priorities

The expansion of virtual wards – which help patients to manage their health and care at home – is considered an important component of NHS planning for next winter. Following discussions with members of BT’s clinical advisory board and drawing on wider evidence and the latest policy developments, Rachel Hutchings and Nigel Edwards [discuss](#) the priority areas where further development and action could help improve virtual wards’ effectiveness.

Source: Nuffield Trust

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