



Registered Charity No. 292157

# E-Bulletin from National Association for Patient Participation Issue Number 83: March 2014

## 1. Latest N.A.P.P. News

### a. New National N.A.P.P. Framework for 'Healthy' PPGs in partnership with NHS England

In partnership with NHS England, N.A.P.P. is working to develop a new national framework to assist PPGs and Practices in developing and maintaining strong, 'healthy' PPGs. This new N.A.P.P. resource builds on the concept of the PPG MOT which sets out the key characteristics that we know from experience lie at the heart of effective successful PPGs. Read more about the project [here](#)

### b. Annual Conference 'Quality in General Practice 7<sup>th</sup> June 2014 in Leeds

Don't miss the opportunity to take advantage of the 25% 'early bird' discount on delegate fees and priority booking for PPG and CCG members, registered and paid by 31st March, Download the draft programme and registration from the home page at [www.napp.org.uk](http://www.napp.org.uk).

### c. PPG Awareness Week: June 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>

Help to raise public awareness of PPGs and inspire others to start one or to get involved locally. Plan ahead for the campaign with the [Resource Pack](#) - templates for posters, hints on press releases and ideas from successful events and activities which worked well last year. Focusing on the theme of 'Quality in General Practice', we need to highlight what PPGs do and how they can influence the quality provided in primary care.

### d. Corkill Award 2013 - PPG of the Year: deadline 20<sup>th</sup> April

Tell us about your successful group. Details in the Members' area of the N.A.P.P. website [www.napp.org.uk](http://www.napp.org.uk) Please remember that

- Only online entries will be considered.
- Scanned or hand-written forms cannot be accepted.

## 2. Bite-size guides to support patient and public participation in NHS commissioning

NHS England has developed four '[Bite-size](#)' guides covering the principles of participation in commissioning, governance, planning and budgeting. This is the first batch of a suite of bite-size resources. More will follow throughout the year. If you would like to suggest a topic for a new bite-sized guide, or if you have any comments you would like to share, please email the participation mailbox at [England.nhs.participation@nhs.net](mailto:England.nhs.participation@nhs.net) NHS England will prioritise the development of new bite-size guides according need.

## 3. King's Fund report: Innovations to meet growing demands on primary care

As England's population both expands and ages, so the demands on primary care will grow. Through four case studies in different areas of England, this report describes examples of innovative models already being used to meet the growing demands placed on local services by a growing and ageing population. It also highlights how the existing system is imperfectly understood, particularly regarding contracts

The [report](#) argues that commissioning also needs to change to reflect new models of provision, and points to the problems caused by existing funding approaches. Existing contracts may be inadequate for commissioning what the report calls "family care networks".

#### 4. Arthritis Watch England survey launched

Arthritis Watch, a new project, launched on 10<sup>th</sup> March, is an online survey which aims to gather evidence from people across England of arthritis services in their localities, (i.e. their local Clinical Commissioning Group areas). This will be collated to build up a national picture of the state of arthritis services, including shortfalls in provision and examples of good practice. The survey will remain anonymous no details will be disclosed to any third party and will remain available throughout the year. Individual responses can be added to, allowing people to respond when they spot changes in services. To find out more, and to access the online survey go to <http://www.arthritiscare.org.uk/Campaigns/get-involved-in-local-healthcare/arthritis-watch-england>

#### 5. Prescribing issues rated as one of the top risks in general practice

In clinical risk self assessments (CRSAs) conducted by the Medical Protection Society (MPS) at more than 150 practices across the UK and Ireland in 2013, prescribing was again identified as be one of the top five risks in general practice. [Data](#) from assessments conducted in 2013 revealed that 95.4% of practices visited had risks relating to the prescribing system. Common specific examples include uncollected scripts, repeat prescribing systems, and administrative staff changing medications on the computer.

In the report, MPS makes a number of recommendations about appropriate protocols which practices should adopt, including making a note on patients' records when they have not collected their prescription.

#### 6. Improving general practice 'Call to Action' report and patient involvement

In August 2013, NHS England published a national consultation entitled "Improving General Practice – A Call to Action", to help shape the future of general practice services in England. The consultation was primarily aimed at frontline clinicians in primary, secondary and community care, Clinical Commissioning Groups, and professional associations. However, some patients and members [\[Read more\]](#) about the areas of particular note from the consultation responses:

#### 7. NHS prescription charge rises by 20 pence from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 in England

In England, around 90% of prescription items are dispensed free. The charge will increase by 20 pence from £7.85 to £8.05 for each quantity of a drug or appliance. It is also intended that the single charge will increase by 20 pence to £8.25 in the following year. However, for the next two years the cost of a prescription prepayment certificate (PPC) will remain at £29.10 for a 3 month certificate. The cost of the annual certificate will remain at £104. PPCs offer savings for those needing 4 or more items in 3 months or 13 or more items in one year. More details, including information on exemptions and dental charges [here](#) .

#### 8. Get your N.A.P.P. member password now!

The Members' pages of the N.A.P.P. website contain **key resources available only to affiliated PPGs and CCGs**. For your PPG's unique login details for use by all the members of your PPG, (but not to be divulged to others), **visit the website, click on Members and use the screen instructions**. The response will come from [server@serifwebresources.com](mailto:server@serifwebresources.com)

#### 9. Reminders:

**Please forward this bulletin to fellow members as promptly as possible.**

**We do not send hard copies of e-bulletins.**

**This and all previous-bulletins are at <http://www.napp.org.uk/ebulletins.html>**

**N.A.P.P.'s 'Patient Matters' Newsletters are at <http://www.napp.org.uk/newsletter.html>**

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*March 2014*