

Current awareness for Nursing

Recent guidelines and reports, articles and awards

November 2018

Guidelines

The following new guidance has recently been published:

[Influenza: treatment and prophylaxis using anti-viral agents.](#)

Public Health England (PHE);2018.

Guidance on how to manage influenza (flu) using anti-viral agents. Updated October 2018.

Freely available online

[Pressure ulcers: safeguarding adults protocol.](#)

Department of Health and Social Care;2018.

This guidance assists practitioners and managers across health and care organisations to provide caring, speedy and appropriate responses to individuals at risk of developing pressure ulcers. Updated November 2018.

Freely available online

[Pyelonephritis \(acute\): antimicrobial prescribing.](#)

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE);2018.

This guideline sets out an antimicrobial prescribing strategy for acute pyelonephritis (upper urinary tract infection) in children, young people and adults who do not have a catheter. It aims to optimise antibiotic use and reduce antibiotic resistance.

Freely available online

[Urinary tract infection \(lower\): antimicrobial prescribing.](#)

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE);2018.

This guideline sets out an antimicrobial prescribing strategy for lower urinary tract infection (also called cystitis) in children, young people and adults who do not have a catheter. It aims to optimise antibiotic use and reduce antibiotic resistance.

Freely available online

[Urinary tract infection \(recurrent\): antimicrobial prescribing.](#)

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE);2018.

This guideline sets out an antimicrobial prescribing strategy for preventing recurrent urinary tract infections in children, young people and adults who do not have a catheter. It aims to optimise antibiotic use and reduce antibiotic resistance.

Freely available online

Reports

The following report(s) may be of interest:

[Clinicians moving into senior leadership: barriers and enablers](#)

Department of Health and Social Care; 2018.

This report sets out the findings of a review carried out by the Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management (FMLM) into how we can increase the numbers of clinical professionals of all disciplines taking up the most senior leadership roles in the NHS.

Freely available online

[English surveillance programme for antimicrobial utilisation and resistance \(ESPAUR\) report](#)

Public Health England (PHE); 2018.

The ESPAUR report includes national data on antibiotic prescribing and resistance, antimicrobial stewardship implementation, education and engagement activities.

Freely available online

[Fund our future nurses: Cost effective options to support nursing students and grow the nursing workforce in England.](#)

Royal College of Nursing (RCN); 2018.

This report provides costed alternatives for higher education funding in England to encourage more people to study nursing.

Freely available online

[Improving Hospital Discharges.](#)

NHS Providers; 2018.

How the British Red Cross worked with Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust to help patients get home following an inpatient hospital stay.

Freely available online

[Infection and Infection Control](#)

Berkshire Healthcare Library; 2018.

Here is a special bulletin from the Berkshire Healthcare Library highlighting recent articles related to infection and infection control in MA Healthcare journals.

Freely available online

[Managing malnutrition to improve lives and save money.](#)

British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (BAPEN); 2018.

This report explains why malnutrition costs so much and highlights the importance of identifying and appropriately managing malnutrition, as well as the cost savings that can be achieved by better management of this issue.

Freely available online

[Negative pressure dressings are no better than standard dressings for open fractures.](#)

NIHR Dissemination Centre; 2018.

NIHR Signal. Negative pressure wound dressings are neither more nor less effective than standard wound dressings for severe open fractures of the lower leg. Any difference between groups was neither clinically important nor statistically significant. The results of this NIHR-funded trial suggest that this more expensive option offers no significant gains for patients.

Freely available online

[Non-urgent attendances to emergency departments are more common among younger adults.](#)

NIHR Dissemination Centre; 2018.

NIHR Signal. Adults aged 16 to 44 years are more likely to attend emergency departments for non-urgent presentations than older adults. These patients could be managed in more appropriate services. Understanding the underlying reasons for unnecessary emergency services use – such as difficulties accessing primary care or uncertainty around where best to seek care – may help future service reconfiguration.

Freely available online

[Patient Risk and Safety](#)

Berkshire Healthcare Library; 2018.

Here is a special bulletin from the Berkshire Healthcare Library highlighting recent articles related to patient risk and safety in MA Healthcare journals.

Freely available online

[Prevention is better than cure: our vision to help you live well for longer](#)

Department of Health and Social Care; 2018.

The document sets out the government's vision for: stopping health problems from arising in the first place; and supporting people to manage their health problems when they do arise. The goal is to improve healthy life expectancy by at least 5 extra years, by 2035, and to close the gap between the richest and poorest. A collection of case studies has been published, showing examples of good practice in preventing health problems from happening.

Freely available online

Articles

The following journal articles are available from the Library and Knowledge Service electronically or in print. Please follow links to access full text online, contact me to order copies, or call into the library.

[Adult pressure area care: preventing pressure ulcers.](#)

Mitchell A. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(18):1050-1052.

Pressure ulcers (PUs) are caused by tissue damage when the blood supply to an area of skin is diminished as a result of pressure. Although most pressure ulcers are preventable, all patients are at risk. Nurses have a central role in prevention and management of pressure areas. They should be able to assess patients' risk of developing PUs using evidence-based practice, recognised risk assessment tools and by completing a holistic assessment.

Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users

[Advances in optimizing the prescription of antibiotics in outpatient settings.](#)

King LM. *BMJ* 2018;363:k3047.

Available with an NHS OpenAthens password

[Adverse drug reactions.](#)

Ferner RE. *BMJ* 2018;363:k4051.

No medicine is entirely safe, so the therapeutic benefit needs to be balanced against the risk of an adverse drug reaction. The pharmacovigilance environment has changed in the past two decades, with biological therapies, complex multidrug regimens, genetic testing, "big data," and new regulation for drug safety. In this clinical update we describe some principles that guide prevention, recognition, and response to adverse drug reactions.

[An initiative to improve the safeguarding of vulnerable adults.](#)

Glasper A. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(18):1076-1077.

The author discusses a recent guidance report from the Royal College of Nursing, designed to enhance the safeguarding of adults at risk of abuse.

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[Bespoke dressings for discerning practitioners. \[Editorial\]](#)

Jeffery S. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(20): S4-S4.

The article discusses the creation of prefabricated dressings for wounds. Topics include the role of predictions about the lifespan of dressings in decisions about when they should be changed, the relation of dressings to the application of ointments or medications to wounds, and the use of negative-pressure wound therapy (NPWT) devices.

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[Can CRBSIs be eliminated? \[Editorial\]](#)

Oliver G. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(19):S3-S3.

The article discusses the prevention of catheter-related bloodstream infection (CRBSI) in patients who receive an

intravenous (IV) device. Topics include the diagnosis and reporting of CRBSI as a hospital-acquired infection (HAI), the use of care bundles to prevent CRBSI in British nursing practice, and reasons for lack of compliance with CRBSI prevention practices in patient care.

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[Care Quality Commission spotlights effective quality improvement initiatives.](#)

Glasper A. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(20):1202-1203.

The author discusses a recent report showing how trusts rated as outstanding by the regulator have embedded a culture of change that involves all staff.

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[Communication breakdown in healthcare settings.](#)

Tingle J. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(20):1204-1205.

The author discusses a report by NHS Improvement, the patient safety initiative group, on spoken communication and patient safety in the NHS.

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[Errors and discrepancies in the administration of intravenous infusions: a mixed methods multihospital observational study.](#)

Lyons I. *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2018;27(11):892-901.

Conclusion: Errors and discrepancies are relatively common in everyday infusion administrations but most have low potential for patient harm. Better understanding of performance variability to strategically manage risk may be a more helpful tactic than striving to eliminate all deviations.

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[Evaluation of a device to improve non-coring needle insertion into implanted intravenous ports.](#)

Barton A. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(19):S20-S24.

Implanted intravenous ports (IPs) are increasingly used in health care. The experience of having IPs accessed can vary a great deal for patients. Successful IP access depends on the experience and skill of the health professional and wrongly positioned attempts are not only painful for the patient but can also cause damage to the outer casing of the IP. The more skin punctures made over the port, the higher the risk of infection in the subcutaneous tissue.

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[Exploring the impact of Brexit.](#)

Foster S. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(18):1085-1085.

The author presents a risk assessment of the potential effects of leaving the European Union on nursing and the NHS more widely.

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[From staff nurse to nurse consultant: continuing professional development part 6: mentoring and being mentored.](#)

Fowler J. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(18):1082-1082.

The author explores CPD for the clinically based nurse, looking at the qualities that make a good mentor and the times in a nursing career when mentoring is particularly helpful.

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[Hospital-level care coordination strategies associated with better patient experience.](#)

Figuerola JF. *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2018;27(10):844-851.

Conclusions: Hospitals with greater reported use of care coordination and transition strategies have better patient experience than hospitals with fewer reported strategies. Strategies that most directly involve patients have the strongest association with better experience.

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[How nurses restore and maintain mobility in hospitalised older people: An integrative literature review.](#)

Constantin S. *International Journal of Older People Nursing* 2018;13(3):e12200 .

The findings of this review reveal that little is known about how frequently nurses are mobilising, that many nurses perceive mobilising older patients to be physiotherapy's responsibility and that education about mobilisation can improve nurses' willingness to mobilise people.

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[Impact of clinical placements on graduates' choice of first staff-nurse post.](#)

Wareing M. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(20):1180-1185.

Quality clinical placements for pre-registration nursing students are particularly important at a time when there is a recruitment crisis within nursing. A study was conducted to identify what impact clinical placements have on pre-registration adult nursing students' choice of clinical specialty as a newly qualified nurse (NQN). Data were collected from students on their final day of a BSc (Hons) programme at two campus sites at a university in the east of England.

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[Impact of medication reconciliation for improving transitions of care.](#)

Redmond P. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2018;8:CD010791.

Medication discrepancies arising at care transitions have been reported as prevalent and are linked with adverse drug events. Medication reconciliation is a process to prevent medication errors at transitions. Despite reconciliation being recognised as a key aspect of patient safety, there remains a lack of consensus and evidence about the most effective methods of implementing reconciliation and calls have been made to strengthen the evidence base prior to widespread adoption.

[Inpatient disposition in overcrowded hospitals: is it safe and effective to use reverse triage and readmission screening tools for appropriate discharge? An observational prospective study of an Italian II level hospital.](#)

Caramello V. *International Journal of Clinical Practice* 2018;:-.

Reverse triage proved to be a safe and conservative tool, with high specificity alone and with readmission screening tools. RT correctly identifies patients that will be discharged earlier.

Contact the library for a copy of this article

[Neuromuscular electrostimulation on lower limb wounds.](#)

Jones NJ. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(20):S16-S21.

The geko™ is a disposable neuromuscular electrostimulation (NMES) device intended to increase blood circulation and promote wound healing in a range of lower limb conditions. The purpose of this case series was to evaluate the therapeutic effect of the geko device on wound healing outcomes over an 8-week period. Thirty patients with non-healing wounds (\geq 12-week duration) of leg or diabetic foot ulceration aetiology were recruited from a local outpatient wound clinic in the South Wales area.

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[Optimising nutritional intake in people with dementia on hospital wards.](#)

Mendes A. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(20):1206-1206. It is important that nurses are aware of potential problems individuals with dementia may face in unfamiliar environments and adopt strategies to ensure their patients get enough to eat and drink.

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[Patient safety and never events.](#)

Tingle J. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(19):1134-1135.

The article discusses the concept of a Never Event in relation to patient safety efforts in England's National Health Service (NHS). Topics include findings of the British government Care Quality Commission (CQC), the relation of patient safety to the culture of the NHS, and the impacts of errors in written medical communication.

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[Perceptions of rounding checklists in the intensive care unit: a qualitative study.](#)

Hallam BD. *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2018;27(10):836-843.

Conclusion: Our results provide potential insights about why ICU rounding checklists frequently fail to improve outcomes and offer a framework for effective checklist implementation through greater feedback and accountability.

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[Prevention of medication errors at hospital admission: a single-centre experience in elderly admitted to internal medicine.](#)

Mazhar F. *International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy* 2018;;doi: 10.1007/s11096-018-0737-2.

In elderly patients, medication histories are often recorded inaccurately by physicians at the time of hospital admission, this creates the potential for medication errors starting at admission. In older adults, best possible medication histories are also useful in detecting drug related pathology or drug-drug interactions.

Contact the library for a copy of this article

[Speaking up about care concerns in the ICU: patient and family experiences, attitudes and perceived barriers.](#)

Bell SK. *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2018;27(11):928-936.

Conclusion: Speaking up may be challenging for ICU patients/families. Patient/family education about how to speak up and assurance that raising concerns will not create 'trouble' may help promote open discussions about care concerns and possible errors in the ICU.

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[Support surfaces for treating pressure ulcers.](#)

McInnes E. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2018;10:CD009490.

Pressure ulcers are treated by reducing pressure on the areas of damaged skin. Special support surfaces (including beds, mattresses and cushions) designed to redistribute pressure, are widely used as treatments. The relative effects of different support surfaces are unclear. This is an update of an existing review.

[The use of debridement in the healing of diabetic foot ulcers.](#)

Moore E. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(20):S12-S14.

The article discusses debridement in the context of treating diabetic foot ulcers (DFUs). Topics include leg and foot amputations in patients with diabetes, the pathogenesis of DFUs in relation to neuropathies, and the role of debridement in comparison to other techniques for promoting wound healing.

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[Use of dermal gel pads in preventing and managing pressure ulcers in ICU: an audit.](#)

Swan J. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(20):S42-S47.

Most of the pressure ulcers that developed in the intensive care unit of an acute trust were medical-device related. While use of a dermal pad was recommended as part of its pressure ulcer prevention strategy, staff were concerned that it tended to tear or split while in use. An alternative gel pad (Dermisplus® Prevent, Frontier Medical), that was cost-effective and appeared to be more robust, was identified. Following audit, the ICU incorporated the new gel pad into its PU prevention strategy.

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[Working with informal caregivers: advice for nurses.](#)

Barber C. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(19):1104-1105.

The article offers advice for nurses on cooperating with informal caregivers. Topics include the demographics of informal caregivers in Great Britain, the role of community nursing teams in supporting informal caregivers, and the work of community mental health and learning disability teams in helping informal caregivers. Advice for various hospital personnel is provided. Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users

[Wound exudate.](#)

Chambers T. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(20):S28-S32.

The article offers information on the wound exudate zone at the conference Wound Expo 2018 in Coventry, England. The sessions were led by tissue viability consultant Tina Chambers. Topics addressed included the nature of exudate and its role in healing, the assessment of exudate in relation to colour, and the viscosity of exudate. Exudate volume measurement is mentioned. Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users

Events

You may be interested in this (these) forthcoming event(s):

[Developing the role of the Nursing Associate: Fourth National Conference, 28 January 2019, London](#)

This conference will focus on understanding the elements of this new role and how the role will be delivered in practice. It will be chaired by FoNS CEO Theresa Shaw and includes sessions by Prof Lisa Bayliss-Pratt Chief Nurse Health Education England and trainee nursing associates, ensuring a variety of perspectives. Discounts available.

[International Forum on Quality and Safety in Healthcare 2019.](#)

The IHI/BMJ International Forum on Quality and Safety in Healthcare is one of the world's largest conferences for healthcare professionals committed to improving patient care and safety.

Glasgow SEC Centre

From: 27th March, 2019 9:00am Until: 29th March, 2019 5:00pm <https://internationalforum.bmj.com/glasgow/>

[Leadership in nursing education: facing challenges, creating opportunities.](#)

RCN Education Forum National Conference & Exhibition 2019. The theme of this year's conference will explore how leaders exist at all levels, from the board to the ward, and will explore how good leadership can inspire, motivate and engage staff in delivering results against a background of enormous change in the NHS and challenges of recruitment and retention in the nursing profession.

Mercure Bristol Grand Hotel, Bristol

From: 12th March, 2019 8:15am Until: 13th March, 2019 4:45pm <https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/events/education-2019>

[Developing the role of the Nursing Associate: Fourth National Conference, 28 January 2019, London](#)

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[Shared Decision Making: Person-Centred Care and the Values Agenda, 25-26 March 2019, London](#)

A 2-day conference jointly organised by the European Society for Person Centred Healthcare (ESPCH), London, UK, the Collaborating Centre for Values-based Practice in Health and Social Care (VBP) at St. Catherine's College, Oxford, UK, and the European Institute for Person Centred Health and Social Care, University of West London, UK.

[Resilience Based Clinical Supervision Workshop, 7 Feb 2019, Nottingham](#)

- Highly recommended workshop
- Key concepts of resilience based clinical supervision
- Hands-on experience

Websites

The following website(s) may be of interest:

[British Journal of Nursing Awards](#)

The BJN Awards recognise and celebrate the individuals going above and beyond in delivering their care. The nurse who goes above and beyond. The nurse who puts patient care at the heart of their role. The nurse who inspires you. The nurse who drives the profession. The nurse who deserves to be celebrated. Deadline: 10th December 2018.

Freely available online

[Call to Action: a series of practical resources to support health and social care staff to reduce delayed transfers of care.](#)

These guides from NHS England are aimed to help health and social care colleagues to take prompt practical actions and use every opportunity to prevent delayed transfers of care. Through using these guides, health and social care staff can address the evidence that staying in hospital for longer than required drives adverse outcomes for patients.

Freely available online

Patient Safety Awards

Individuals and organisations that are proving successful at initiatives that are driving the quality, clinical efficiency, effectiveness and safety agendas. Deadline: 5th February 2019.

Freely available online

RCN Fellowship & Honorary Fellowship

RCN members can nominate people for exceptional contributions to nursing or health care. Fellowships are for RCN members who are registered nurses in the UK. Honorary Fellowships are awarded to non-nurses or nurses registered outside the UK. Deadline: 1st February 2019.

Freely available online

Shared Decision Making e-learning programme

The Shared Decision Making e-learning programme is aimed at healthcare professionals, health improvement personnel and patient engagement representatives to inform and educate them on Shared Decision Making in order to embed it in day to day clinical practice. Two new courses Communicating Risk - Primary Care and Perioperative Medicine – have been added to the programme

Freely available online

Value in Healthcare Awards

The HSJ Value in Healthcare Awards seek to recognise and reward outstanding efficiency and improvement by the NHS. The Value in Healthcare Awards recognise excellent use of resources, but they also seek out examples of demonstrable improvement in outcomes, both within back office functions and clinical initiatives. Deadline: 11th January 2019.

Freely available online

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Would you like help to find information to support CPD and revalidation?
Or to receive personal alerts to articles and reports on topics of particular interest to you?

Ask us about **KnowledgeShare** to receive fortnightly emails highlighting relevant reports and articles

Newsletter for nurses and midwives



What we do and why we do it



We've created a [short animation](#) that explains what we do and why we do it. Do share it with anyone who you think might find it a useful watch!

Number of nurses and midwives rises

Our latest data shows the number of nurses and midwives registered to work in the UK increased by almost 4,000 in the past year.

The increase has been fuelled by a rise in UK trained nurses and midwives and those trained outside the EU.

Latest figures also show that the number of people on the register from the EU continues to decline.

You can view the recent data we've released [on our website](#).



Our register
Sept 2018

Getting ready to consult on standards for midwives

We're delighted to have produced the latest [draft standards of proficiency for midwives](#), which we'll consult on in early 2019.



These have been developed with input from a huge number of people and a lot of hard work. So far more than 500 people have been involved through focus groups, roundtables, webinars and more.

We'll be asking our Council to approve the draft and our plans for how we'll run the consultation. We expect it to run for 12 weeks.

Promoting equality, diversity and inclusion



Nurses and midwives are a very diverse group. So it's really important that we promote [equality, diversity and inclusion](#) in all areas of our work.

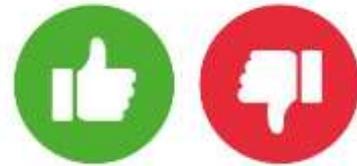
Here are just some of the actions we took this year:

- Launched a successful recruitment campaign to address under-representation of ethnic minorities and younger people on our Fitness to Practise panels.
- Delivered trans awareness training for our employees.
- Improved the diversity data that we hold about nurses, midwives and our panellists.

Read our latest [equality, diversity and inclusion report](#) to find out more about how we're continuing to make improvements. Or email equality@nmc-uk.org with your thoughts on what our priorities should be next year.

How do you rate our newsletters?

Please take two minutes to [let us know what you think about these newsletters.](#)



Whether you like them how they are, or think we need to make some changes, we'd love to hear your thoughts.

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