

# Current awareness for Nursing

## Recent guidelines and reports, articles and websites

### August 2021

Items relating specifically to Covid-19 start on page 9.

## Guidelines

### [Antimicrobial prescribing: delafloxacin for community-acquired pneumonia.](#)

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE); 2021.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/advice/es37/chapter/Product-overview>

[Delafloxacin may be an option for community-acquired pneumonia in adults for exceptional cases when other antibacterial agents that are usually recommended for this are not suitable. Take account of local antimicrobial resistance and seek specialist microbiological advice.]

*Available with free registration*

### [Clostridioides difficile infection: antimicrobial prescribing.](#)

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE); 2021.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng199>

[This guideline sets out an antimicrobial prescribing strategy for managing Clostridioides difficile infection in adults, young people and children aged 72 hours and over in community and hospital settings. It aims to optimise antibiotic use and reduce antibiotic resistance. The recommendations do not cover diagnosis.]

*Freely available online*

### [Hospital discharge service: action cards.](#)

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hospital-discharge-service-action-cards/>

[The action cards summarise the responsibilities of health and care staff in the hospital discharge process (updated 14 July 2021: The staff action cards have been updated to add single coordinator, case manager and transfer of care hub to the list of roles)]

*Freely available online*

## Reports

*The following report(s) may be of interest:*

### [Enteral tube feeding for people with severe dementia.](#)

Davies N. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2021;8:CD013503.

[BACKGROUND: The balance of benefits and harms associated with enteral tube feeding for people with severe dementia is not clear. An increasing number of guidelines highlight the lack of evidenced benefit and potential risks of enteral tube feeding. In some areas of the world, the use of enteral tube feeding is decreasing, and in other areas it is increasing.]

**[Informant Questionnaire on Cognitive Decline in the Elderly \(IQCODE\) for the detection of dementia within a secondary care setting.](#)**

Burton JK. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2021;7:CD010772.

[The IQCODE is a questionnaire instrument, completed by a suitable 'informant' who knows the patient well, designed to assess change in functional performance secondary to cognitive change. In secondary care there are 2 specific instances where patients may be assessed for the presence of dementia: the general acute hospital setting, where opportunistic screening may be undertaken, or in specialist memory services where individuals have been referred due to perceived cognitive problems.]

**[Informant Questionnaire on Cognitive Decline in the Elderly \(IQCODE\) for the early detection of dementia across a variety of healthcare settings.](#)**

Burton JK. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2021;7:CD011333.

[BACKGROUND: The Informant Questionnaire for Cognitive Decline in the Elderly (IQCODE) is a structured interview based on informant responses that is used to assess for possible dementia. IQCODE has been used for retrospective or contemporaneous assessment of cognitive decline. There is considerable interest in tests that may identify those at future risk of developing dementia.]

**[Mini-Mental State Examination \(MMSE\) for the early detection of dementia in people with mild cognitive impairment \(MCI\).](#)**

Arevalo-Rodriguez I. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2021;7:CD010783.

[BACKGROUND: In 2010, more than 35 million people worldwide were estimated to be living with dementia. Some people with mild cognitive impairment (MCI) will progress to dementia but others remain stable or recover full function. The Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) is the best-known and the most often used short screening tool for providing an overall measure of cognitive impairment in clinical, research and community settings.]

**[Most children with life-limiting conditions still die in hospital, not home or hospice.](#)**

NIHR Evidence; 2021.

<https://evidence.nihr.ac.uk/alert/most-children-life-limiting-conditions-die-in-hospital-not-home-hospice/>

[The study confirms that most children with life-limiting conditions die in hospital. This means that hospitals need palliative care services, and currently not all have them. The research therefore raises questions about whether children's and families' needs are being met, and whether services are sufficiently flexible.]

*Freely available online*

**[Shared decision making: shared reality or insider jargon?](#)**

Patients Association; 2021.

<https://www.patients-association.org.uk/Blog/making-shared-decision-making-everyday-practice>

[This report says shared decision-making, when patients and doctors work together to decide treatment options, provides benefits to patients and the health service. But patients, and the professionals treating them, face many barriers in making it work in practice. The report makes recommendations on how to make shared decision-making a reality.]

*Freely available online*

**[Sustaining and Improving International Recruitment.](#)**

NHS Employers; 2021.

<https://www.nhsemployers.org/case-studies/sustaining-and-improving-international-recruitment>

[A case study looking at Wye Valley NHS Trust's efforts to improve its international recruitment.]

*Freely available online*

## Articles

*The following article(s) may be of interest:*

**[An integrative review of simulation, senior practicum and readiness for practice.](#)**

Ragsdale M. *Nurse Education in Practice* 2021;55:103087.

[Readiness for practice (RFP) is essential as new nurses will practice in a nursing shortage climate, with high acuity patients and complex technology. Nurse educators are challenged to foster readiness for practice. The aim of this integrative review was to explore the impact of simulation and senior practicum on graduating senior nursing students' readiness for practice.]

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#### **[Application of comprehensive unit-based safety program model in the inter-hospital transfer of patients with critical diseases: a retrospective controlled study.](#)**

Gu Y. *BMC Health Services Research* 2021;21(1):690.

[The implementation of CUSP model for the intrahospital transfer of critically ill patients can significantly shorten the in-hospital transfer time, improve the attitude of medical staff towards safety, reduce the occurrence rate of adverse events, and improve the satisfaction of patients' relatives to the transfer process.]

#### **[Changing practice to using pre-filled syringes for flushing IV cannulas.](#)**

Lee P T. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(14):S14-s22.

[In the UK, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency classifies 'pre-filled syringes' for flushing Intravenous (IV) cannulas and IV access devices as 'borderline' devices and offers some advice on how control measures can help mitigate risks. The Medicines Act (1968) and Medical Device Regulations try to address the legal position of these devices and allow each employer to identify those groups of staff allowed to use them.]

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#### **[Comparison of the impact of two national health and social care integration programmes on emergency hospital admissions.](#)**

Morciano M. *BMC Health Services Research* 2021;21(1):687.

[Policy-makers expect that integration of health and social care will improve user and carer experience and reduce avoidable hospital use. [We] evaluate the impact on emergency hospital admissions of two large nationally-initiated service integration programmes in England: the Pioneer (November 2013 to March 2018) and Vanguard (January 2015 to March 2018) programmes. The latter had far greater financial and expert support from central agencies.]

#### **[Considering claims against the NHS.](#)**

Tingle J. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(15):936-937.

[A good window on the activities of any organisation is its annual report and accounts. These show the challenges and opportunities facing the organisation. Valuable real-time information on the industry context that the organisation works in is provided, with trends analysis and so on. NHS Resolution (2021) has recently published its annual report and accounts for 2020/21. Some important trends are analysed on several matters including patient safety and clinical negligence in the NHS.]

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#### **[Development and psychometric properties of surveys to assess patient and family caregiver experience with care transitions.](#)**

Sorra J. *BMC Health Services Research* 2021;21(1):785.

[The purpose of this study was to develop and administer surveys that assess patient and family caregiver experiences with care transitions and examine the psychometric properties of the surveys. The surveys were designed to ask about 1) the transitional care services that matter most to patients and their caregivers and 2) care outcomes, including the overall quality of transitional care they received, patient self-reported health, and caregiver effort/stress.]

#### **[Development of the Feedback Quality Instrument: a guide for health professional educators in fostering learner-centred discussions.](#)**

Johnson CE. *BMC Medical Education* 2021;21(1):382.

[Face-to-face feedback plays an important role in health professionals' workplace learning. The literature describes guiding principles regarding effective feedback but it is not clear how to enact these. We aimed to create a Feedback Quality Instrument (FQI), underpinned by a social constructivist perspective, to assist educators in collaborating with learners to support learner-centred feedback interactions.]

Freely available online

**[Education and training as key drivers for improving the quality of fluid balance charts: findings from a quality improvement project.](#)**

Madu A. *BMJ Open Quality* 2021;10(3):DOI: 10.1136/bmjopen-2020-001137.

[Conclusion: The problem of poor-quality fluid balance charts and its toll on patients' care is perennial. The practicability and sustainability of this project are buttressed by the fact that its implementation comes at no added cost. Even as hospitals transition to paperless documentations, education and training remain key to achieving success in improving the quality of fluid balance charts]

**[Effect of intravenous fluid treatment with a balanced solution vs 0.9% saline solution on mortality in critically ill patients: the baSICS randomized clinical trial.](#)**

*JAMA* 2021;;e2111684.

[Among critically ill patients requiring fluid challenges, use of a balanced solution compared with 0.9% saline solution did not significantly reduce 90-day mortality. The findings do not support the use of this balanced solution.]

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**[Evaluation of an intervention targeted with predictive analytics to prevent readmissions in an integrated health system: observational study.](#)**

Marafino BJ. *BMJ* 2021;374:n1747.

[In an integrated health system, the implementation of a comprehensive readmissions prevention intervention was associated with a reduction in 30 day readmission rates. Moreover, there was no association with 30 day post-discharge mortality, except among medium risk patients, where some evidence for benefit was found.]

**[Factors influencing physician responsiveness to nurse-initiated communication: a qualitative study.](#)**

Manojlovich M. *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2021;30(9):747-754.

[Conclusions: Physician responsiveness to communications from bedside nurses depends on a complex combination of factors related to the message itself and non-message related factors. How quickly physicians respond is a multifactorial phenomenon, and strategies to promote a timely response within the context of a given situation must be directed to both groups.]

**[Hand hygiene in health care: 20 years of ongoing advances and perspectives.](#)**

Lotfinejad N. *The Lancet Infectious Diseases* 2021;21(8):e209-e221.

[Article aims to review the progresses made in the past two decades, explain the remaining barriers to achieve optimal compliance, and propose a research agenda based on the remaining gaps that still need to be bridged.]

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**[‘Hello, my name is ...’: an exploratory case study of inter-professional student experiences in practice.](#)**

Ban S. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(13):802-810.

[The ‘Hello my name is ...’ campaign emphasises the importance of compassionate care and focuses on health professionals introducing themselves to patients. Research has found that using names is key to providing individuals with a sense of belonging and can be vital in ensuring patient safety. This study aimed to investigate the student experience of having ‘Hello my name is ...’ printed on student uniforms and implement this campaign in practice.]

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**[How do you know if you are communicating empathically?](#)**

Grainger A. *British Journal of Healthcare Assistants* 2021;15(7):340–344.

[This article focuses on empathic communication skills and is the next in this British Journal of Healthcare Assistants series on the giving of empathic care. The aim of the article is for readers to consider how to communicate empathically. In order to do this, it is necessary to begin with a revision of the fundamentals of communication.]

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**[NHS trusts must continue to tackle racism.](#)**

Foster S. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(15):941.

[Although the latest report on workforce equality shows positive changes, some improvements are marginal and the

issue must be kept high on the agenda.]

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### [\*\*Nurses are not heroes. \[Comment\]\*\*](#)

Tabudlo J B. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(14):838.

[Over the course of this pandemic, nurses across the globe have been celebrated and honoured as 'heroes' in mainstream and social media because of their selfless dedication to serve and protect their patients from the novel coronavirus. However, this characterisation is problematic as it distracts attention from the enduring social issues affecting the profession.]

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### [\*\*Nutritional support for children and young people: nasogastric tubes.\*\*](#)

Rosengarten L. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(13):S12-S18.

[The need to offer nutritional support to children and young people is commonplace for health professionals. This article explores the use and indication of nasogastric tubes (NGT) in children and young people, before explaining the process of inserting NGTs and the ongoing management of this method of nutritional support.]

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### [\*\*Opportunity, support and understanding: the experience of four early trainee nursing associates.\*\*](#)

Dainty AD. *British Journal of Healthcare Assistants* 2021;15(6):284–291.

[Conclusion: This study adds to our understanding relating to the lived experience of some of the first TNAs taking up training for this role within healthcare, and highlights some of the factors that were most pertinent, according to the lived experience of the trainees themselves. The authors hope that the findings of this study will prove useful for those considering taking up training for the role, or indeed establishments considering implementing the role with their settings.]

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### [\*\*'Pinholes in my arms': the vicious cycle of vascular access.\*\*](#)

Kelly L J. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(14):S4-S13.

[Vascular access devices (VADs) are essential for delivery of intravenous therapies. There are notable gaps in the literature regarding a focus on patient experience and meaning-making related to living with a VAD, specifically a central venous access device (CVAD). This article explores how patients make sense of living with a CVAD.]

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### [\*\*Prevention and management of moisture-associated skin damage.\*\*](#)

Voegeli D. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(15):S40-S46.

[Disruption to the integrity of the skin can reduce patient wellbeing and quality of life. A major cause of skin breakdown is prolonged exposure to moisture, but this is often overlooked. When skin is wet, it becomes more susceptible to damage from friction and shearing forces, and skin flora can penetrate the disrupted barrier, causing further irritation and inflammation. If untreated, moisture-associated skin damage (MASD) can rapidly lead to excoriation and skin breakdown.]

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### [\*\*Realist evaluation of Schwartz rounds® for enhancing the delivery of compassionate healthcare: understanding how they work, for whom, and in what contexts.\*\*](#)

Maben J. *BMC Health Services Research* 2021;21(1):709.

[Where optimally implemented, Rounds provide staff with a safe, reflective and confidential space to talk and support one another, the consequences of which include increased empathy and compassion for colleagues and patients, and positive changes to practice.]

### [\*\*Reducing healthcare-associated infections by improving compliance to aseptic non-touch technique in intravenous line maintenance: a quality improvement approach.\*\*](#)

Shettigar S. *BMJ Open Quality* 2021;10(Suppl 1):DOI: 10.1136/bmj-2021-001394.

[CONCLUSIONS: Using a quality improvement model of improvement, aseptic non-technique (ANTT) in intravenous

line maintenance was implemented stepwise. Improving compliance with ANTT principles in intravenous line maintenance reduced healthcare-associated infections (HCAI). Scrub the hub requires longer sustained efforts to become part of the practice.]

### [Teaching acute hospital staff and students about patient flow.](#)

Wall O. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(13):812-819.

[Good patient flow in an acute hospital is concerned with ensuring patients experience minimal delays throughout the hospital journey, from the emergency department to the wards, outpatients and to a suitable discharge destination. Good flow requires effective processes, staff buy-in and staff education. This study aimed to explore ways in which this topic is currently taught in an Irish acute hospital group.]

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### [Team working part 3: leading a team.](#)

Fowler J. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(14):872.

[Take a few minutes to reflect on the team of people you work with: how many people are in your team? Does the team comprise only nurses or do you count allied health professionals, ward assistants, domestics and ancillary staff as team members? Is the nurse with the most experience the person in charge? Do different people have different responsibilities? Who is managerially responsible for the team? Who do people go to when they need clinical advice or support? Is the manager also the leader?]

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### [The aetiology of medical device-related pressure ulcers and how to prevent them.](#)

Gefen A. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(15):S24-S30.

[This article provides an introduction to the aetiology of medical device-related pressure ulcers (MDRPU), describes the vicious cycle that leads to these injuries and highlights bioengineering methodologies and findings that connect the aetiology to the clinical practice of preventing MDRPUs. Specifically, the vicious cycle of MDRPUs is triggered by the sustained tissue deformations induced by a skin-contacting device.]

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### [The content and effectiveness of self-management support interventions for people at risk of pressure ulcers: A systematic review.](#)

Engelen M. *International Journal of Nursing Studies* 2021;122:104014 .

[Self-management support interventions show potential. The extensiveness and intensity of the interventions seem to be predictive for the effectiveness, but specific content components cannot be recommended. This review revealed recommendations for future research and international consensus should be reached about patient-relevant outcomes.]

*Freely available online*

### [The expansion of the HCA role: introducing the 'doctors' assistant'.](#)

Palmer SJ. *British Journal of Healthcare Assistants* 2021;15(6):279–283.

[[No abstract available]]

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### [The influence of anaemia on pressure ulcer healing in elderly patients.](#)

Tuz M A. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(15):S32-S38.

[Anaemia is a common and multifactorial blood disorder in elderly individuals. This condition may be a significant barrier to pressure ulcers healing as it is associated with a decreased level of oxygen being supplied to body tissues. Some nutritional deficiencies such as iron, vitamin B12 and folate may also cause anaemia and have a negative impact on pressure ulcer healing.]

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### [The importance of person-centred care and how to achieve it.](#)

Stonehouse D. *British Journal of Healthcare Assistants* 2021;15(7):334–339.

[This article discusses the important concept of person-centred care and how this can be achieved. The four principles of person-centred care will then be presented. The role of the support worker and nursing associate will

be made clear in how the wishes and needs of patients can be gained. Self-awareness, emotional intelligence and communication will be discussed in relation to this. Finally, two potential barriers to the successful achievement of person-centred care will be identified.]

*Contact the library for a copy of this article*

#### [The never-ending story of Never Events in the NHS.](#)

Tingle J. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(13):826-827.

[The author discusses several recent publications on Never Events in the NHS. One major patient safety metric that helps us judge the safety of a hospital or other healthcare facility is the number of Never Events that occur. In the NHS patient safety vocabulary, the term 'Never Event' has an officially ascribed meaning and there is a policy framework that helps unpack the concept (NHS Improvement, 2018).]

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#### [The presence and potential impact of psychological safety in the healthcare setting: an evidence synthesis.](#)

Grailley KE. *BMC Health Services Research* 2021;21(1):773.

[Psychological safety is the shared belief that the team is safe for interpersonal risk taking. Its presence improves innovation and error prevention. This evidence synthesis highlights that whilst there is a positive and demonstrable presence of psychological safety within healthcare workers worldwide, there is room for improvement. The variability in methods used demonstrates scope to harmonise this.]

#### [Understanding safety culture.](#)

Foster S. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(13):831.

[One of the areas that I find most challenging now is when a statement is made about the 'culture' of a service. Whether this is from a regulator or colleagues, it's a label that sticks, and can be positive or negative. In 2018 the Care Quality Commission (CQC) chief inspector of hospitals, Professor Ted Baker, called for a change in culture within the NHS that he said would reduce the number of patients who experience avoidable harm.]

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#### [Utilisation of remote capillary blood testing in an outpatient clinic setting to improve shared decision making and patient and clinician experience: a validation and pilot study.](#)

Nwankwo L. *BMJ Open Quality* 2021;10(3):DOI: 10.1136/bmjoq-2020-001192.

[Conclusions: Remote capillary blood sampling can be used accurately for specific tests to monitor chronic disease, and when incorporated into an outpatient clinical pathway can improve shared decision making and patient experience. Further research is required to determine health economic impact and applicability within telemedicine-based outpatient care.]

#### [Wound care during lockdown: a case study.](#)

Lloyd Jones M. *British Journal of Healthcare Assistants* 2021;15(7):330–333.

[[No abstract available]]

*Contact the library for a copy of this article*

#### [Wound complications and bleeding with new oral anticoagulants in patients undergoing total joint arthroplasty: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials.](#)

Wang M. *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology* 2021;;doi: 10.1111/bcp.15005.

[Review (20 studies) found apixaban (AP) linked to lower incidence of total wound complications vs. LMWH (RR 0.81; 95% CI, 0.65-1.00) while dabigatran & rivaroxaban did not increase risk. AP also linked to reduction in risk of major/clinically relevant non-major bleeding events.]

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## Events

#### [Urgent and emergency care \(virtual conference\).](#)

[PAID EVENT. You will hear evidence-based examples from areas that are trying to re-imagine A&E departments and other services that provide and support urgent treatments, so patients get the right care in the right place. You will

hear from international speakers, national leaders and a host of experts on a range of questions.]

Online Event

From: 4th October, 2021 9:30am Until: 7th October, 2021 12:30pm <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/events/urgent-and-emergency-care-virtual-conference>

## Covid-19

### Guidelines

#### [Management of coexisting conditions in the context of COVID-19.](#)

BMJ Best Practice; 2021.

<https://bestpractice.bmj.com/topics/en-gb/3000190>

[Guidelines recommend measures to manage acute and chronic conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic: updated.]

*Available with an NHS OpenAthens password*

#### [COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing COVID-19.](#)

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE); 2021.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng191>

[This guideline covers the management of COVID-19 for children, young people and adults in all care settings. It brings together our existing recommendations on managing COVID-19 so that healthcare staff and those planning and delivering services can find and use them more easily. The guideline includes new recommendations on therapeutics, and we will update the guideline further as new evidence emerges.]

*Freely available online*

### Reports

#### [A rapid needs assessment of excluded people in England during the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.](#)

Doctors of the World UK; 2020.

<https://www.doctorsoftheworld.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/covid-full-rna-report.pdf>

[The aim of this rapid needs assessment was to identify and describe the needs of routinely excluded groups, arising from the COVID-19 pandemic in England, to raise awareness, inform advocacy and form recommendations for action. Groups included refugees, migrants, people affected by modern slavery, homeless, Roma and traveller communities, sex workers and people recently released from prison.]

*Freely available online*

### Articles

#### [Chronic hospital nurse understaffing meets COVID-19: an observational study.](#)

Lasater KB. *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2021;30(8):639-647.

[Conclusions: Hospital nurses were burned out and working in understaffed conditions in the weeks prior to the first wave of COVID-19 cases, posing risks to the public's health. Such risks could be addressed by safe nurse staffing policies currently under consideration.]

#### [Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on teaching and learning in health professional education: a mixed methods study protocol.](#)

Kumar A. *BMC Medical Education* 2021;21(1):439.

[Due to the complex nature of healthcare professionals' roles and responsibilities, the education of this workforce is multifaceted and challenging. It relies on various sources of learning from teachers, peers, patients and may focus on Work Integrated Learning (WIL). The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted many of these learning opportunities especially those in large groups or involving in person interaction with peers and patients.]

Freely available online

**[Long COVID, a comprehensive systematic scoping review.](#)**

Akbarialiabad H. *Infection* 2021;-(-):01666x.

[A comprehensive search of the literature to January 2021 identified 120 papers, but only one RCT. The results are presented in a narrative synthesis in separated sections (nomenclature, diagnosis, pathophysiology, risk factors, signs/symptoms, management).]

Freely available online

**[Risks of covid-19 hospital admission and death for people with learning disability: population based cohort study using the OpenSAFELY platform.](#)**

Williamson EJ. *BMJ* 2021;374:n1592.

[People with learning disability have markedly increased risks of hospital admission and death from covid-19, over and above the risks observed for non-covid causes of death. Prompt access to covid-19 testing and healthcare is warranted for this vulnerable group, and prioritisation for covid-19 vaccination and other targeted preventive measures should be considered.]

**[The impact of Brexit and COVID-19 on nursing in the UK. \[Comment\]](#)**

Carvalho F. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(13):822-823.

[Over the years, many experts have stated that nursing in the UK is in crisis and nurses are struggling owing to the increasing number of older and sicker patients, staff shortages and budget cuts that have affected working conditions (Beech et al, 2019). With the rise of the COVID-19 pandemic, unprecedented levels of pressure were placed on an already strained nursing workforce.]

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