

# Current awareness for Nursing

## Recent guidelines and reports, articles and websites

### September 2021

Items relating specifically to Covid-19 start on page 7.

## Guidelines

### [Antibiotic awareness: toolkit for healthcare professionals in England.](#)

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/european-antibiotic-awareness-day-resources-toolkit-for-healthcare-professionals-in-england/>

[Guidance to help the NHS, local authorities and others support European Antibiotic Awareness Day (EAAD) and the Antibiotic Guardian campaign, to encourage responsible use of antibiotics. Date: 18 November 2021.]

*Freely available online*

### [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Training: A good practice guide.](#)

NHS Employers; 2021.

<https://www.nhsemployers.org/publications/equality-diversity-and-inclusion-training>

[This guidance includes information on: who should receive the training; training objectives; training content outline; a definition of health inequalities; and legislative requirements and policies. It also covers equality standards in the NHS; understanding bias and strategies for embedding equality, diversity and inclusion. The guide is aimed at equality, diversity and inclusion leads, HR and learning and development professionals, and trade union representatives.]

*Freely available online*

### [Hospital discharge and community support: policy and operating model.](#)

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

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hospital-discharge-service-policy-and-operating-model/>

[Sets out how health and care systems should support the safe and timely discharge of people who no longer need to stay in hospital. Updated 19 October 2021: Incorporated details of the national discharge funding settlement for quarters 3 and 4 of 2021 to 2022 (1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022).]

*Freely available online*

### [Perioperative Care for People Living with Frailty Undergoing Elective and Emergency Surgery.](#)

Centre for Perioperative Care & British Geriatrics Society; 2021.

<https://www.cpoc.org.uk/guidelines-resources-guidelines/perioperative-care-people-living-frailty>

[The scope of this guideline covers all aspects of perioperative care relevant to adults living with frailty undergoing elective and emergency surgery. It is written for healthcare professionals involved in delivering care throughout the pathway, as well as for patients and their carers, managers and commissioners.]

*Freely available online*

### **[Physical activity: promotion within primary and secondary care.](#)**

Public Health England (PHE); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/physical-activity-promotion-within-primary-and-secondary-care>

[Report and learning from the evidence base and local practice of physical activity promotion in the NHS. The report provides practitioners, commissioners and policy makers with the factors that influence successful integration and implementation of physical activity promotion in primary and secondary care. It focuses on understanding how to integrate physical activity promotion into preventative and treatment care and support for people living with one or more long-term conditions.]

*Freely available online*

## **Reports**

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

### **[Adult inpatient survey 2020.](#)**

Care Quality Commission (CQC); 2021.

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/publications/surveys/adult-inpatient-survey-2020>

[Survey (over 73,000 responses) showed generally positive experiences of care, with no differences between Covid-19 and non-Covid-19 patients; findings were however less positive for areas of care including emotional support, information sharing and hospital discharge.]

*Freely available online*

### **[Digital Clinical Safety Strategy.](#)**

NHSX; 2021.

<https://www.nhsx.nhs.uk/key-tools-and-info/digital-clinical-safety-strategy/>

[The Digital Clinical Safety Strategy will attempt to upskill digital leaders and provide a safer service when using digital technology, including through better use of data and training. Developed jointly NHSX, NHS Digital and NHS England and Improvement, the strategy expands on the 2019 NHS Patient Safety Strategy.]

*Freely available online*

### **[Good for you, good for us, good for everybody: a plan to reduce overprescribing to make patient care better and safer, support the NHS, and reduce carbon emissions.](#)**

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

<https://kingsfundmail.org.uk/21A8-7JO6A-73T2IX-4KK4YO-1/c.aspx>

[This report contains the findings and recommendations of the national overprescribing review led by Dr Keith Ridge, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer for England. It sets out a series of practical and cultural changes to ensure patients are receiving the most appropriate treatment for their needs while ensuring clinicians' time is well spent and taxpayer money is spent wisely. This includes better use of technology, how to review prescriptions more effectively, and how to offer alternatives.]

*Freely available online*

### **[Palliative care interventions in advanced dementia.](#)**

Walsh SC. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2021;9:CD011513.

[BACKGROUND: Usual care of people with advanced dementia is not underpinned universally by a palliative approach. Palliative care has focused traditionally on care of people with cancer, but for more than a decade, there have been calls worldwide to extend palliative care services to include all people with life-limiting illnesses in need of specialist care, including people with dementia.

OBJECTIVES: To assess the effect of palliative care interventions in advanced dementia.] *Freely available online*

### **[Prophylactic antibiotics for preventing gram-positive infections associated with long-term central venous catheters in adults and children receiving treatment for cancer.](#)**

van den Bosch C. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2021;10:CD003295.

[OBJECTIVES: To assess the effects of administering antibiotics prior to the insertion of long-term CVCs or as a flush/lock solution, or both during long-term CVC access to prevent gram-positive CVC-related infections in adults and children receiving treatment for cancer.] *Freely available online*

### **[Return on investment of overseas nurse recruitment: lessons for the NHS: Briefing.](#)**

Nuffield Trust; 2021.

<https://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/research/overseas-nurse-recruitment-and-the-nhs>

[There are some 342,300 nurses working in NHS hospital and community health services, and 23,900 working in general practice. Yet vacancies are widespread: there were 39,000 full-time equivalent nurse vacancies by mid-2021, representing a 10% vacancy rate. The equivalent figure for doctors is 7%. This new research, commissioned by NHS England and NHS Improvement, explores the business case for overseas nurse recruitment, quantifying the various costs and how long recruits stay in post.]

*Freely available online*

### **[Routine provision of feedback from patient-reported outcome measurements to healthcare providers and patients in clinical practice.](#)**

Gibbons C. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2021;10:CD011589.

[BACKGROUND: Patient-reported outcomes measures (PROMs) assess a patient's subjective appraisal of health outcomes from their own perspective. Despite hypothesised benefits that feedback on PROMs can support decision-making in clinical practice and improve outcomes, there is uncertainty surrounding the effectiveness of PROMs feedback.

OBJECTIVES: To assess the effects of PROMs feedback to patients, or healthcare workers, or both on patient-reported health outcomes and processes of care.] *Freely available online*

### **[The importance of board-level support to achieve nursing oversupply : A case study from Hull University Teaching Hospitals.](#)**

NHS Employers; 2021.

<https://www.nhsemployers.org/case-studies/importance-board-level-support-achieve-nursing-oversupply>

[This case study looks at how HUTH achieved an oversupply of nurses and how it attracts young people to new types of roles.]

*Freely available online*

### **[Whistleblowing disclosures report 2021: healthcare professional regulators.](#)**

Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC); 2021.

<https://www.nmc.org.uk/news/news-and-updates/2020-2021-healthcare-professional-regulators-whistleblowing-report/>

[The report highlights the collaborative efforts of eight regulators (General Chiropractic Council, General Dental Council, General Medical Council, General Optical Council, General Osteopathic Council, General Pharmaceutical Council, The Health and Care Professions Council and the Nursing and Midwifery Council) to address serious issues that health and care professionals have raised in UK workplaces. Around a third of NMC disclosures made during this year were related to the pandemic.]

*Freely available online*

## **Articles**

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

### **[Comorbid Dysphagia and Malnutrition in Elderly Hospitalized Patients.](#)**

Bomze L. *The Laryngoscope* 2021;131(11):2441-2447.

[Conclusions: One-quarter of elderly patients admitted to our tertiary care center had dysphagia. Dysphagia, especially when linked with malnutrition, has poorer outcomes and increased healthcare costs. Our data suggests a possible disconnect between malnutrition diagnosis and dysphagia identification. This is an important area of intervention that has the potential to improve the treatment and outcomes of these patients.]

*Please contact the library for a copy of this article*

[\*\*Effects of a nurse–occupational therapist meeting on function and motivation in hospitalized elderly patients: A pilot randomized control trial.\*\*](#)

Kondo K. *British Journal of Occupational Therapy* 2021;84(10):620-627.

[This pilot randomized controlled trial assessed the effectiveness of a nurse–occupational therapist meeting on improving motor and social-cognitive functions, as well as motivation, in a subacute hospital setting.]

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[\*\*Effectiveness of empathy education for undergraduate nursing students.\*\*](#)

Twycross A. *Evidence-Based Nursing* 2021;24(4):119.

[Nurse educators should employ methods such as immersive simulation to help their students enhance their ability to empathise with patients and carers.]

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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.]

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[\*\*Exploring the challenges of patient flow in acute hospital settings: a Delphi study.\*\*](#)

Lawal M. *Evidence-Based Nursing* 2021;24(4):143.

[A better understanding of the current admission modelling techniques is needed.

Strategies to address the challenges of efficient patient flow requires a coordinated approach.]

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[\*\*Fidelity and the impact of patient safety huddles on teamwork and safety culture: an evaluation of the Huddle Up for Safer Healthcare \(HUSH\) project.\*\*](#)

Lamming L. *BMC Health Services Research* 2021;21(1):1038.

[The Huddle Up for Safer Healthcare (HUSH) project attempted to scale up the implementation of patient safety huddles (PSHs) in five hospitals - 92 wards - across three UK NHS Trusts. This paper aims to assess their fidelity, time to embed, and impact on teamwork and safety culture.]

Freely available online

[\*\*Healthcare workers are at risk of acute or post-traumatic stress and psychological distress during emerging virus outbreaks.\*\*](#)

Haghgoshayie E. *Evidence-Based Nursing* 2021;24(4):136.

[Adequate personal protective equipment, clear communication, education and access to psychological support need to be provided in order to improve the well-being of staff during virus outbreaks.

Primary research is required specifically on the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on healthcare professionals' well-being, and which interventions offer the greatest level of support.]

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[\*\*Implementing automated prognostic models to inform palliative care: more than just the algorithm. \[Editorial\]\*\*](#)

Bange EM. *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2021;30(10):775-778.

[...Given the implementation challenges that accompany an intervention using prognostic triggers, hybrid effectiveness trials that test both clinical effectiveness and implementation outcomes offer one strategy to advance the integration of automated prognostic models.26 Implementation outcomes are typically based on a framework which provides a systematic way to develop, manage and evaluate interventions...]

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[\*\*Improving communication on medical ward rounds with patients who speak limited English with implementation of medical communication charts.\*\*](#)

D'Souza AN. *BMJ Open Quality* 2021;10(3):DOI: 10.1136/bmj-oq-2021-001389.

[Local Problem: King's College Hospital (KCH), London, is situated in Southwark in which 11% of households have no

members that speak English as a first language, 4.1% of London's population report they do not speak English well. Conclusion: Using communication charts in patients with limited English can improve bidirectional communication on medical ward rounds.]

#### **[Improving documentation of prescriptions for as-required medications in hospital inpatients.](#)**

Ross SL. *BMJ Open Quality* 2021;10(3):DOI: 10.1136/bmjopen-2020-001277.

[This study aimed to improve documentation accuracy of as-required prescriptions on hospital inpatients' drug Kardexes. A poster intervention introduced to the ward was successful in reducing the ward's rates of maximum dose documentation errors but had no impact on abbreviations. Our work shows that passive dissemination of posters has some capacity to enact change in prescribing behaviour...] *Freely available online*

#### **[Improving transparent team communication with the 'Glass Door' decal communication tool: a mixed methods analysis of family and staff perspectives.](#)**

Zavalkoff S. *BMJ Open Quality* 2021;10(3):DOI: 10.1136/bmjopen-2021-001507.

[Conclusions: The Glass Door (GD) decal communication tool, visible on the patient's door, improved intensive care unit (ICU) healthcare professionals (HCPs) perceived knowledge of their patient's plan. The GD improved the shared mental model, facilitated teaching and information transfer and fostered family engagement. Challenges included knowing the rules for use and consistent application. Concerns initially raised by HCPs about confidentiality were denied by families.] *Freely available online*

#### **[Interventions to Reduce Hospital Length of Stay in High-risk Populations: A Systematic Review.](#)**

Siddique SM. *JAMA Network Open* 2021;4(9):e2125846 .

[This systematic review found inconsistent results across all high-risk populations on the effectiveness associated with interventions, such as discharge planning, that are often widely used by health systems. This systematic review highlights important evidence gaps, such as the lack of existing systematic reviews focused on patients with socioeconomic risk factors, and the need for further research.]

*Freely available online*

#### **[mHOMR: the acceptability of an automated mortality prediction model for timely identification of patients for palliative care.](#)**

Saunders S. *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2021;30(10):837-840.

[Discussion: This is the first qualitative study to demonstrate acceptability of using an automated mortality prediction tool to support care decisions in a hospital setting. Our findings are not surprising given that presumed acceptability rates, as evidenced by acceptance of a palliative care triggering mandate, among automated mortality prediction tools have been shown to be high...] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password*

#### **[One chance to get it right: improving clinical handovers for better symptom control at the end of life.](#)**

Goldraj G. *BMJ Open Quality* 2021;10(3):DOI: 10.1136/bmjopen-2021-001436.

[Conclusion: Handovers represent situations when miscommunication can occur, threatening the overall comfort and well-being for dying patients. Our study demonstrated that using education, PAR and involving relatives, healthcare professionals and researchers, it was possible to obtain the successful introduction of a clinical mnemonic tool (I-PASS) and training of involved staff in its use, leading to improved patient comfort and care, as perceived by family carers.] *Freely available online*

#### **[Parents' perspectives on conflict in paediatric healthcare: a scoping review.](#)**

Parsons E. *Archives of Disease in Childhood* 2021;106(10):981-986.

[Background: Conflict in paediatric healthcare is becoming increasingly prevalent, in particular relation to paediatric end of life. This is damaging to patients, families, professionals and healthcare resources... Conclusions: Parents identified important themes, in particular their perspective of what constitutes suffering and 'best interest'. In addition, parents highlight the importance of being recognised as an expert.] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password*

#### **[Preparation for the next major incident: are we ready? Comparing major trauma centres and other hospitals.](#)**

Mawhinney JA. *Emergency Medicine Journal* 2021;38(10):765-768.

[Confidence in using MIPs among specialty registrars in England remains low. Doctors at MTCs tended to be better prepared and more knowledgeable, but this effect was only marginally significant. We make several recommendations to improve education on major incidents.] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password*

#### [Prescribing practice: an overview of the principles.](#)

Mitchell A. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(17):1016–1022.

[Nurse prescribing has become a well-established aspect of advanced clinical practice working alongside key NHS principles and drivers to address the increasing complexities in patient care and the demands on the health service. Prescribing practice is governed by ethical and legal principles to ensure a holistic patient-centred approach. This article will provide an overview of prescribing practice.]

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#### [Protocol for DRAUP: a deimplementation programme to decrease routine chest radiographs after central venous catheter insertion.](#)

Ablordepey EA. *BMJ Open Quality* 2021;10(4):DOI: 10.1136/bmjopen-2020-001222.

[Introduction: Avoiding low value medical practices is an important focus in current healthcare utilisation. Despite advantages of point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) over chest X-ray including improved workflow and timeliness of results, POCUS-guided central venous catheter (CVC) position confirmation has slow rate of adoption. This demonstrates a gap that is ripe for the development of an intervention.] *Freely available online*

#### [Reducing work-related stress to minimise emotional labour and burn-out syndrome in nurses.](#)

Afriyie D. *Evidence-Based Nursing* 2021;24(4):141.

[Nurses should engage in stress-relieving therapies and maintain emotional resilience to decrease their chances of burn-out syndrome.

A longitudinal study on the influences of emotional labour and work-related stress on burn-out syndrome in nurses would ultimately enhance nursing science.]

*Available with an NHS OpenAthens password*

#### [SECURE: a multicentre survey of the safety of emergency care in UK emergency departments.](#)

Flowerdew L. *Emergency Medicine Journal* 2021;38(10):769-775.

[This study provides the first step towards assessing ED safety culture and describing risks in the UK. Identifying outlier sites provides opportunities to learn from excellence. Repeat application of the survey will enable monitoring of safety interventions on a local and national level.] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password*

#### [Supportive and palliative care services are beneficial for people affected by dementia.](#)

Egbuna FL. *Evidence-Based Nursing* 2021;24(4):129.

[Access to supportive services and palliative care can be beneficial for patients with dementia, and it is important that healthcare professionals have adequate knowledge on the palliative care needs of patients with dementia to maintain optimal care.

Future research could investigate the association between palliative care services and patient safety.]

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#### [The Accuracy of Four Frequently Used Frailty Instruments for the Prediction of Adverse Health Outcomes Among Older Adults at Two Dutch Emergency Departments: Findings of the AmsterGEM Study.](#)

van Dam CS. *Annals of Emergency Medicine* 2021;78(4):538-548.

[The frailty screening instruments assessed in this study showed poor to moderate prognostic accuracy, which brings into question their usability in the prediction of adverse health outcomes among older adults who present to the ED.] *Please contact the library for a copy of this article*

#### [Transitioning end-of-life care from hospital to the community: case report.](#)

Lino P. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(17):1010–1014.

[Palliative/end-of-life care is an integral part of the district nursing service. There is increasing demand for palliative care to be delivered in the community setting. Therefore, there is a need for excellent collaboration between staff in

primary and secondary care settings to achieve optimum care for patients. This article critically analyses the care delivered for a palliative patient in the hospital setting and his subsequent transition to the community setting.]

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### [Using lean management approach in improving clinical team leader handover process: nursing services.](#)

Obaid LM. *BMJ Open Quality* 2021;10(3):DOI: 10.1136/bmjopen-2021-001375.

[Conclusion: Lean management approach is effective in improving the duration of clinical handover by eliminating unnecessary steps towards a more efficient, sustainable and effective communication between clinical team leaders.] *Freely available online*

## **Covid-19**

### **Guidelines**

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

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

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

[In October, NICE added new recommendations on casirivimab and imdevimab. New data on the use of heparins (from the REMAP-CAP trial results) does not change the current recommendations.]

*Freely available online*

### **Reports**

#### [Antibiotics for the treatment of COVID-19.](#)

Popp M. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2021;10:CD015025.

[OBJECTIVES: To assess the efficacy and safety of antibiotics compared to each other, no treatment, standard of care alone, placebo, or any other active intervention with proven efficacy for treatment of COVID-19 outpatients and inpatients. ] *Freely available online*

#### [Assessing the impact of COVID-19 on the clinically extremely vulnerable population.](#)

The Health Foundation; 2021.

<https://www.health.org.uk/publications/reports/assessing-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-the-clinically-extremely-vulnerable-population>

[This briefing presents analysis from the Networked Data Lab on the impact the pandemic has had on the clinically extremely vulnerable population; assesses the mental health of people identified as clinically extremely vulnerable; examines the data on access to care for clinically extremely vulnerable; assess the limitations to the use of an algorithm-driven approach to identifying the clinically extremely vulnerable population which were exacerbated by poor availability of high-quality data.] *Freely available online*

#### [Face coverings and COVID-19: statement from an expert panel .](#)

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-and-covid-19-statement-from-an-expert-panel>

[An expert panel statement, informed by evidence and expertise, on the role of face coverings in mitigating COVID-19 transmission.]

*Freely available online*

### **Articles**

#### [COVID-19: reflections on its impact on nursing.](#)

Barrett D. *Evidence-Based Nursing* 2021;24(4):112-113.

[There will come a time when we speak of COVID-19 in the past tense; when it will be subject to retrospective analysis and debate, rather than being something we continue to live through. However, the pandemic's repercussions will be felt for years to come in society, in healthcare and in nursing. As a profession, there has never been a more important time to demonstrate resilience, to adapt to the changed context of care and to highlight

nurses' skills, knowledge and expertise.]  
*Freely available online*

**[Rehabilitation to enable recovery from COVID-19: a rapid systematic review.](#)**

Goodwin VA. *Physiotherapy* 2021;111:4-22.

[OBJECTIVES: To establish the evidence for rehabilitation interventions tested in populations of patients admitted to ICU and critical care with severe respiratory illness, and consider whether the evidence is generalizable to patients with COVID-19.]

*Freely available online*

**[Safety and efficacy of different prophylactic anticoagulation dosing regimens in critically and non-critically ill patients with COVID-19: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials.](#)**

Ortega-Paz L. *European Heart Journal - Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy* 2021;;pvab070.

[Review (7 RCTs; n=5,154) found escalated-dose prophylactic anticoagulation was associated with lower rates of VTE (2.5% vs. 4.7%; RR 0.55, 95% CI 0.41–0.74) but no benefit on other outcomes vs standard dose; and it increased risk of major bleeding (2.4% vs. 1.4%).]

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