~ Factors which increase or decrease research utilisation by nurses.

The purpose of this study was to understand the factors that influence the implementation of research by nurses in the acute sector. Nurses were chosen as study participants because they tend to be the largest group of professionals employed in healthcare organisations. The authors found that nurses with higher workloads had the lowest research utilisation scores and where there was more organisational support, the levels of research utilisation were increased.

http://www.implementationscience.com/content/pdf/1748-5908-3-31.pdf

~ Extra funding to help promote breastfeeding

An extra £2 million will be invested to help more women in England breastfeeding, Public Health Minister Dawn Primarolo announced today. The extra funding, announced during World Breastfeeding Week (1-7 August), will help improve the UK's breastfeeding rate that is among the lowest in Europe, and in particular help mums in deprived areas.

http://www.whitehallpages.net/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=123608&mode=thread&order=0&thold=0

~ Information accreditation scheme to be piloted

A total of 40 organisations have been selected to test the Department of Health's information accreditation scheme that will award quality marks to bodies producing health and social care information. Making up the 40 organisations chosen to test the scheme are 24 charities, 10 public sector bodies including a PCT and 6 hospitals, and 6 organisations from the commercial sector.

http://www.ehiprimarycare.com/news/4000/dh Chooses 40 Bodies for Information Accreditation
~ The Food, Nutrition and Hydration in Health and Social Care e-learning programme
The Food, Nutrition and Hydration in Health and Social Care e-learning programme is now available and was released on 31 July. The programme can be accessed via [www.corelearningunit.nhs.uk](http://www.corelearningunit.nhs.uk) for NHS trusts. The programme is also available to Social Care via [http://care.corelearningunit.nhs.uk](http://care.corelearningunit.nhs.uk), although, funding is awaited for access by Social Care organisations.

~ Hand hygiene alone will not reduce hospital infections, warns RCN
Strong leadership, appropriate staffing levels and better management of staff workloads should be just as important as hand hygiene and environmental cleanliness in the battle to reduce healthcare associated infections (HCAs), such as MRSA and C difficile. That is the key finding of an independent report by King’s College, London, commissioned by the Royal College of Nursing (RCN).

~ Chlamydia drug over-the-counter
The first antibiotic to be available from pharmacists without a prescription has been approved for chlamydia. For the first time an antibiotic for chlamydia is to be made available from pharmacists, without a prescription. People aged over 16 will be able to buy Clamelle after testing positive for the infection, or having sex with someone who tests positive. [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/7542744.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/7542744.stm)

~ Cancer data e-atlas
A new interactive web-based resource, called 'Cancer e-Atlas', has been developed by the National Cancer Intelligence Network to improve access to cancer statistics across England. It aims to provide health care professionals, commissioners, health service managers and the public with information on incidence, mortality and survival for the common types of cancers in men and women. [http://www.ncin.org.uk/eatlas/](http://www.ncin.org.uk/eatlas/)

~ RCN welcomes learning disabilities investment
The RCN has welcomed the £96 million in funding pledged this week by the Government to provide people with learning disabilities with better healthcare, community support and employment prospects. [http://www.rcn.org.uk/newsevents/news/article/uk/rcn_welcomes_learning_disabilities_investmen](http://www.rcn.org.uk/newsevents/news/article/uk/rcn_welcomes_learning_disabilities_investmen)

~ RCN seeks member views on Rule 12
Following an interesting debate at Congress in April 2008 where those present voted to set in place arrangements to ‘amend Rule 12’, the RCN is seeking the views of RCN members. RCN Council are keen to stress this is not a consultation on a particular change to Rule 12 at this stage. If Council decide to consider making a change to Rule 12 there would have to be a ballot of RCN members before any change could take place. [http://www.rcn.org.uk/newsevents/news/article/uk/rcn_seeks_member_views_on_rule_12](http://www.rcn.org.uk/newsevents/news/article/uk/rcn_seeks_member_views_on_rule_12)
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