ONLINE LINKS  (Recent News & publications from various websites and newsletter sources)

~ No decision about me, without me
The King’s Fund has published ‘Making shared decision-making a reality: No decision about me, without me’, and explores what this actually means in practice, and what skills and resources are required to implement it. It also outlines what action is needed to make this vision a reality, and outlines the importance of communication skills and sets out how clinicians might approach consultations to arrive at shared decisions. It also suggests that tools that help patients in making decisions are just as important as guidelines for clinicians. [http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/nhs_decisionmaking.html](http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/nhs_decisionmaking.html)

~ Hepatitis C in the UK: 2011
Estimates suggest that around 216,000 people are chronically infected with hepatitis C in the UK. Much of the prevalent infection is in marginalised populations, with injecting drug users at most risk of infection. Improvements in national surveillance are ongoing, in all UK countries. This Health Protection Agency report documents the progress of action plans and programmes in place across the UK to help tackle the infection. [http://www.hpa.org.uk/NewsCentre/NationalPressReleases/2011PressReleases/110728HepCmayleadtotransplantneeds/](http://www.hpa.org.uk/NewsCentre/NationalPressReleases/2011PressReleases/110728HepCmayleadtotransplantneeds/)

~ New Quality standards for dermatology
Have been developed by various interested bodies including British Association of Dermatologists and the British Dermatological Nursing Group, for use in any service that provides care for people with skin conditions. They bring together best practice and existing guidance, to meet the needs of commissioners of services in a changing NHS. The 8 standards each has a series of recommendations, with rationales and to support these, a list of implications for commissioners and at least one key performance indicator. [http://www.bad.org.uk/Portals/_Bad/Quality%20Standards/Dermatology%20Standards%20FINAL%20-%20July%202011.pdf](http://www.bad.org.uk/Portals/_Bad/Quality%20Standards/Dermatology%20Standards%20FINAL%20-%20July%202011.pdf)

~ COPD: NICE quality standard
This NICE quality standard on chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) features 13 statements that aim to define high quality care for people with COPD. This includes a statement that people with one or more indicative recorded symptoms of COPD should have the diagnosis confirmed by post-bronchodilator spirometry. [http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/news/QualityStandardComplementsGovernmentStrategyRespiratoryDisease.jsp](http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/news/QualityStandardComplementsGovernmentStrategyRespiratoryDisease.jsp)
~ Baby heart defect test 'could save lives'
A quick and cheap test could save the lives of babies born with congenital heart defects, doctors say. A study of 20,055 newborns, published in The Lancet, showed testing oxygen in the blood was more successful than other checks available. [http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-14401119](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-14401119)

~ Dignity and nutrition inspection programme
CQC has published the last batch of reports from the Dignity and nutrition inspection programme. This programme focused on 100 NHS trusts, and focuses on whether people are treated with dignity and respect and get food and drink that meets their needs. [http://www.cqc.org.uk/newsandevents/newsstories.cfm?cit_id=37390&FAArea1=customWidgets.content_view_1&usecache=false](http://www.cqc.org.uk/newsandevents/newsstories.cfm?cit_id=37390&FAArea1=customWidgets.content_view_1&usecache=false)

~ Implementing HPV triage and test of cure
The DoH has published 'NHS Cervical Screening Programme: Implementing HPV triage for women with mild or borderline cervical screening test results and HPV test of cure - Advice to the NHS', which aims to give practical, evidence based advice on implementing HPV triage and test of cure across the NHS Cervical Screening Programme. It is suggested that SHAAs work in close collaboration with their PCTs, primary care services, pathology services and screening services to develop plans to deliver HPV triage and test of cure. [http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_128765.pdf](http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_128765.pdf)

~ Driving up organ donations
More than 10,000 people in the UK currently need an organ transplant. Of these, 1000 each year will die as there are not enough organs available. Though 90% of people in the UK say they support organ donation only 29% register to donate their organs. To encourage more people sign up to the organ donation scheme, from 1 August, people will have to answer organ donation questions on their driving licence application through the DVLA website. The new page requires people to answer the question about joining the register before they can continue with their application. [http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Aboutus/Features/DH_128851 BBC](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Aboutus/Features/DH_128851 BBC)

~ Agency warns of dangers for obese patients

~ Exercise protects women's ageing bones

~ Prodigy Service - 'know how' about the common conditions
PRODIGY is a service provided by SCHIN (Sowerby Centre for Health Informatics at Newcastle). It aims to be a reliable source of evidence-based information and practical 'know how' about the common conditions managed in primary care. It is built on CKS (Clinical Knowledge Summaries) content. SCHIN used to create the content for CKS and host the website on behalf of the NHS. Since SCHIN’s contract recently came to an end, the CKS content on NHS evidence has not been updated. It was in response this that SCHIN launched PRODIGY (the brand name “CKS” is still owned by the NHS). [www.prodigy.clarity.co.uk](http://www.prodigy.clarity.co.uk)

~ Eyes on Evidence
The July 2011 issue of Eyes on Evidence is available on the NHS Evidence website. It includes articles on:
- Research suggesting an individualised approach to chronic kidney disease
- NHS Evidence resources: NHS Diabetes Commissioning Resource
ACCIDENT & EMERGENCY


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