

Horizon Scanning: 111 / GP Out of Hours / CCG's / NHS England



The NHS
non-emergency
number

Week Commencing:	21 st January 2019
Produced By:	Dawn Fourniss

Date	Location	Subject	Link
21JAN19	National	<p>Hancock hints indemnity scheme could be paid for with GP core funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health secretary Matt Hancock has hinted the state-backed indemnity scheme - due to start in April - could be funded using GP core funding Speaking to Pulse, Mr Hancock said his priority was stopping the cost of indemnity from spiraling ever higher, but when questioned on funding he said the 'costs have to fall somewhere' NHS England is looking at where the money for the long-awaited scheme will come from, as part of the next GP contract negotiations, he explained Asked whether the state-backed indemnity scheme will come out of GP core funding, Mr Hancock told Pulse: 'Clearly the costs of indemnity have been rising sharply' 'Those costs have to fall somewhere. And our goal is to stop the rise in those costs and I very much hope that we can support GPs in making sure that system works far better in the future,' he said 	http://www.pulsetoday.co.uk/partners/personal-finances/hancock-hints-indemnity-scheme-could-be-paid-for-with-gp-core-funding/20038112.article



On behalf of the seven Sussex CCGs:

NHS Brighton and Hove, NHS Coastal West Sussex, NHS Crawley, NHS Eastbourne Hailsham & Seaford, NHS Hastings and Rother, NHS High Weald Lewes Havens, NHS Horsham & Mid Sussex



22JAN19	Brighton and Hove	<p>Flu rate in Brighton and Hove up 135 per cent – in just one week</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The NHS in Brighton and Hove said the winter flu outbreak is ‘taking hold’ as flu cases rose by 135 per cent last week ▪ The city’s clinical commissioning group (CCG) said the GP consultation rate in the city for flu-like illnesses increased from 9.9 per 100,000 to 23.5 in just one week, adding more pressure on local health services ▪ Flu rates are up in Brighton and Hove Flu symptoms include fever, stuffy nose dry cough, sore throat, aching muscles and joints and extreme tiredness, which can often last several days ▪ Katy Jackson, director of Urgent Care and Systems Resilience for Central Sussex and East Surrey Commissioning Alliance-South, said: “We are now seeing this winter’s flu season take hold in the city and we advising those who already have flu-like symptoms to rest, drink plenty of water and take paracetamol where needed. “The best form of protection against flu for those who have not yet got it is to get the vaccine - it still isn’t too late to get the flu vaccine, to protect yourself and vulnerable people around you” 	<p>https://www.brightonandhoveindependent.co.uk/news/health/flu-rate-in-brighton-and-hove-up-135-per-cent-in-just-one-week-1-8777714</p>
22JAN19	National	<p>The rise of primary care networks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community networks centred on groups of general practices are one of the major tenets of the NHS’s long term plan. ▪ Small networks of neighbouring general practices working together in multidisciplinary teams, typically serving around 30,000 to 50,000 people ▪ They are designed to be small enough to retain the personal care and continuity provided by individual practices but large enough to offer a wider range of services by pooling some staff and resources ▪ They aim to foster better collaboration among practices, pharmacists, district nurses, physiotherapists, social care, the voluntary sector, and others. They are not statutory bodies, and they differ from GP federations, which are usually larger provider groups that cover populations of around 200,000 ▪ GP leaders describe primary care networks as “delivery units” that support general practice and in which services are embedded. “The principle is to build it around a population where people know one another, and the clinicians working within that area can develop relationships across that area and support one another” 	<p>https://www.bmj.com/content/364/bmj.l304</p>
22JAN19	Northampton	<p>New smartphone waiting times app helps patients locate NHS services in Northamptonshire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ People in Northamptonshire can now access real-time information about waiting times at the county’s NHS urgent care facilities – thanks to the launch of a new smartphone app ▪ The app, called WaitLess, enables those in need of urgent but non-life-threatening care to quickly see how long the wait is at both Kettering and Northampton General Hospitals and Corby Urgent Care Centre 	<p>https://www.aboutmyarea.co.uk/Northamptonshire/Towcester/NN12/News/Local-News/320699-New-smartphone-waiting-</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It will even factor in journey times using live traffic and travel information to help them choose the most appropriate treatment location for their condition or injury ▪ Developed by Transforming Systems, WaitLess aims to reduce the pressure on the county's urgent and emergency care services by spreading demand and helping patients to make an informed choice about where to go for treatment 	times-app-helps-patients-locate-NHS-services-in-Northamptonshire
23JAN19	Horsham and Mid Sussex	<p>NHS officials respond to 'shocking shortage' of GPs across Horsham and Mid Sussex</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Health chiefs have responded to 'shocking' figures which show that Horsham and Mid Sussex are among the worst areas in the country for GP access ▪ Members of the Horsham and Mid Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group say that they are working closely with local GP practices to develop new ways of working to meet growing demand ▪ Analysis by the BBC has shown that Horsham and Mid Sussex have 2,997 patients per GP, second only to Swale in Kent which has 3,342 ▪ The Royal College of GPs called the news 'shocking' and said shortages of GPs could put care at risk ▪ But a spokesman for the Horsham and Mid Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group said: "NHS Horsham and Mid Sussex CCG is working closely with local GP Practices and regional workforce planning teams to develop new ways of working to meet growing demand for primary care and address our GP recruitment challenges 	https://www.wscountytimes.co.uk/news/nhs-officials-respond-to-shocking-shortage-of-gps-across-horsham-and-mid-sussex-1-8779898
24JAN19	National	<p>NHS England launches public roll-out of NHS App</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The all singing and dancing NHS App is now being rolled out publicly across England following a private beta phase with more than 3,000 patients ▪ NHS England has begun the public roll-out of the long-awaited NHS App, which aims to provide a digital front door to NHS services ▪ The app, which is now available on Apple and Google Play stores, can now be downloaded and used by patients across England. This follows an invite-only beta stage, which began in September 2018 with around 3,000 patients ▪ It currently only covers an app version, but a browser version of the app will be available in "coming months", according to NHS England ▪ The app aims to give patients access to a range of NHS services, including being able to book appointments, view their medical records, order repeat prescriptions, select their data-sharing preferences, organ donation preferences, end-of-life care preferences and access NHS 111 online's symptom checker and triage service ▪ The beta testing, which took place between September and December, resulted in a few changes to the app, including the online registration process, how GP appointment information is presented to the patient and changes to the information patients are given before accessing their records 	https://www.computerweekly.com/news/252456302/NHS-England-launches-public-roll-out-of-NHS-App

24JAN19	Leeds	<p>People in Leeds asked for views on five new urgent treatment centres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The proposal by NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) would see the five centres offer urgent care - care for people who need medical help quickly on that day but who are not facing a severe or life-threatening illness or injury ▪ The CCG has been listening to local feedback, which suggests that people are not always clear who would be best placed to help them when they're not feeling well or have been injured. This is backed up by research undertaken nationally by NHS England ▪ Sue Robins, director of operational delivery for NHS Leeds CCG, said: "We know that the way urgent care services are currently designed to help you are not always easy to understand or navigate. This can lead to a number of issues such as people not accessing care when they need it or people attending our busy accident and emergency departments when they could have been seen and treated elsewhere. This could include anything from cuts, minor injuries, bites or stings through to mild fevers, vomiting and diarrhoea etc." ▪ Our proposal would see five urgent treatment centres established in the city – three of these in community settings and two alongside the city's A&E departments. People will be able to access the centres by either walking-in or, more conveniently, pre-booking an appointment through NHS 111 	<p>https://www.yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk/news/people-in-leeds-asked-for-views-on-five-new-urgent-treatment-centres-1-9552517</p>
24JAN19	National	<p>NHS regional footprints</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Towards the end of 2018, a map was published by NHS England (NHSE) and NHS Improvement (NHSI), which divided the country into 42 'regional footprints' responsible for delivering health and social care services ▪ Regional footprints are NHSE and NHSI regional offices. They align with Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships (STPs) and Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) to support integrated working, particularly around organisational control totals and long-term budgeting ▪ Within the footprints, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) are playing an increasingly strategic role in statutory decision-making for integrated care, while providers within ICSs focus on service redesign. This article looks at how the NHS integrated care delivery picture is changing, what this means for pharma and how pharma should navigate the integrated care landscape in 2019 ▪ Fourteen areas in England have been given the green light to become ICSs, which see one provider or a group of providers responsible for all the health and social care needs of a defined population in order to improve outcomes and reduce costs. ICSs have been tasked with re- designing services around patients' needs, both within hospitals and also across primary care, which encompasses all health and social care services that are not provided within hospitals. Key objectives include providing more joined-up care closer to patients' homes and reducing hospital admissions 	<p>http://www.pmlive.com/pharma_intelligence/NHS_regional_footprints_1274587</p>

24JAN19	National	<p>NHS App being rolled out across England</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The NHS App is now being rolled out across England, NHS England announced this morning, following private testing between September and December with over 3,000 patients from 30 GP practices ▪ Improvements were made to the app ahead of the national rollout, based on feedback from patients and practice staff, looking at the online registration process and the information patients see before they can access their GP medical records ▪ NHS England said individual GP practices needed to review some of their system settings before going live, allowing all functions of the app to become available. Until GP practices make these changes, patients will be able to use it to check symptoms using NHS 111 online and the Health A-Z directory on the NHS.UK website. Once that happens, the app will enable them to book and manage GP appointments, order repeat prescriptions or register as organ donors ▪ “The potential of the app is huge and we will be listening to user and GP feedback as we add additional tools and services and more GPs come on board,” said Wendy Clarke, NHS Digital executive director of product development ▪ NHS England said most practices would go live between April and June this year, with a view for the app to be fully rolled out by 1 July. It has been available for download on iOS and Android since 31 December, and a browser version will be launched in the following months - although no exact date has been given ▪ The announcement comes after the 10-year plan for the NHS in England released at the beginning of the month outlined a key focus on digital services 	https://www.mobihealthnews.com/content/nhs-app-being-rolled-out-across-england
25JAN19	National	<p>NHS: NHS 111 BY M&C SAATCHI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The National Health Service (NHS) has unveiled a comical campaign in a bid to increase 111 use. This is M&C Saatchi's first campaign for the NHS ▪ The campaign aims to get millions more people using NHS 111, which is a free phone line for urgent healthcare needs ▪ To raise awareness to the crucial service, the work comically features a man working himself up as he self-diagnoses his stomach pain ▪ As he sits painfully clutching his stomach, a scrubbed up version of himself bursts through the living room door, proceeding towards the fish tank to wash his hands, while proclaiming "this is bad, something is not right" ▪ As the heightened version of readies himself for an examination, the laid back GP version perches next to our stomach pain sufferer, coolly telling him to: "stop panicking, it's probably nothing... we don't want to waste anybody's time" ▪ In steps our internet surfer, googling the symptoms online, who agitates the scene, babbling: "hang on, according to this forum it could be indigestion... Or an exploding appendix" 	https://www.thedrum.com/creative-works/project/mc-saatchi-nhs-nhs-111

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the three medical versions of himself debate over his symptoms, our protagonist works himself up until he finally gives 111 a call - demonstrating that it's better to be sure than ignore a health problem that's causing you anxiety 	
25JAN19	National	<p>Could the NHS Long Term Plan mean less opportunity for NHS contracts?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NHS's Long Term Plan includes a provision to repeal elements of the Health and Social Care Act 2012; in this blog we consider the potential impact on private providers and their opportunity to tender for NHS contracts Amidst all the column inches and airtime devoted to Brexit and Trump, it was easy to miss the recent announcement of the NHS Long Term Plan. In early January, the Government announced a 10-year plan designed to make the NHS 'fit for the future', and to ensure the country is getting 'the most value' out of every pound of investment. It also set out how the £20.5 billion budget settlement for the NHS (announced by Theresa May last summer) will be spent over the next five years Even easier to miss (nestled in one paragraph on page 114 of the 136 page document), is the Plan's recommendation that the procurement requirements under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 are repealed. This is a significant development which could potentially have a huge impact on private healthcare providers which contract with the NHS The 2012 Act currently requires NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups to put out to tender any contract worth £615,278 or more. These types of contract represent a hefty part of the NHS purse; the Department of Health's published accounts reported that £13.1 billion of the NHS's budget in 2017/2018 was spent on non-NHS organisations (including the voluntary sector, local authorities and private providers) This requirement means that non-NHS entities have the opportunity to tender for a significant number, and wide variety, of NHS contracts; and has led to many NHS contracts being awarded to private companies (Richard Branson's Virgin Care alone holds over 400 individual contracts) However, the Plan concludes that the current set-up leads to wasted procurement costs and fragmented provision (particularly in the GP / urgent care sectors), and identifies this as an area ripe for streamlining and cost-saving. The BMA has voiced its support, with Chair Dr Chaand Nagpaul describing the procurement requirement as a 'wasteful use of resource' The intention is for the provisions in the Act to be replaced by 'statutory guidance'. This means that NHS Commissioners will be able to decide when and where procurement should be used, subject to what is described as 'a 'best value' test to secure the best outcomes' (with no further explanation given). Without further guidance, it is unclear when NHS Commissioners will choose to tender contracts and whether or not there will be a uniform approach across the UK Private providers should note that the contracts they currently hold could, in future, be kept within the NHS, without there being an opportunity to re-tender. Likewise, providers hoping to 	https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=918ac33c-5f67-4e6c-9308-2878a5d24ce6

		<p>expand their businesses by tendering for future contracts may not get the chance. For those providers whose work currently involves a large number of NHS contracts, consideration needs to be given to the potential impact that losing those contracts may have on their business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Before such a change is made, the relevant provisions of the Act will need to be repealed (which will involve passing another Act, with all the drafting, debate and readings in Parliament that this would entail). In the current political climate it seems unlikely that much planned legislation will progress in the near future and so providers can sleep easy – for the time being at least. However, the inclusion of the recommendation in the Plan lays down a marker as to the Government's intention: providers should take steps now to prepare themselves 	
26JAN19	Brighton and Hove	<p>THE NHS is urging residents to look after themselves after the Met Office issued a Cold Weather Alert for Brighton in the next few days</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Doctors say it could impact on vulnerable residents and put further pressure to health services ▪ Colder weather brings a range of illnesses and ailments such as flu, coughs and colds, which can also cause great pressure on health services ▪ Dr David Supple, Clinical Chair for NHS Brighton and Hove Clinical Commissioning Group, said: “It’s important to look after yourself, especially during the winter as cold weather can be seriously bad for your health ▪ As the cold weather sweeps in, it’s important we do what we can for ourselves and our family to help us all stay well throughout the colder months ▪ “There are a number of steps people could take to make themselves more resilient to the cold weather - simple things such as adding extra layers and wearing shoes with good grip can make such a difference when it’s icy outside” ▪ Advice includes: • Keep warm – Keeping warm over winter helps prevent colds, flu and even more serious health conditions 	<p>https://www.theargus.co.uk/news/17385834.met-office-issues-cold-weather-alert-for-brighton-and-hove/</p>
27JAN19	Yorkshire	<p>NHS bosses will ease a controversial regime restricting the number of people receiving free transport to hospital appointments in the coming weeks, it has emerged</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A review of imposing national eligibility criteria for the Patient Transport Service (PTS) across North Yorkshire had highlighted that the issues of “distance and rurality” needed addressing, a spokesman for four clinical commissioning groups (CCG) said ▪ John Darley, speaking on behalf of Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby, Scarborough and Ryedale, Harrogate and Rural District and Vale of York CCGs, added it had become “clear and obvious” that eye injection patients should not be expected to make their own way for treatment ▪ The announcement, made to district councillors in Richmondshire, where the “refreshed” PTS regime has sparked an outcry, was met with scepticism by some members and given a cautious welcome by others 	<p>https://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/17385602.distance-added-to-nhs-patient-transport-test-in-north-yorks/</p>