

Hospitals to face financial penalties for readmissions

Hospitals will face financial penalties if patients are readmitted as an emergency within 30 days of being discharged, under government plans. Full story is available at: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/10262344.stm>

Andrew Lansley, gave his first speech on health policy to a packed meeting of LINKs and voluntary sector organisations in the Bromley by Bow Health Centre in east London. The event was put on jointly by the DH, National Voices and the Patients' Association. He gave a commitment to an NHS free at the point of use and highlighted shared decision-making between patient and clinical staff and putting the patient at the centre of health care. He said that power needed to move from the institutions and the DH to the people so that patients and doctors had real power in everything that is done in the NHS. He suggested that LINKs will be merged with national Healthwatch, so there is contact between the national and local but the model is not yet developed.

Andrew Lansley said that action would be taken to reduce the number of emergency readmissions and that following treatment the hospital would maintain responsibility for the patient for a further 30 days. He said this was about making the NHS more outcome focussed. His priorities are to: make a cultural shift from a culture responsive to orders from the top, to one responsive to patients, in which patient safety is put first; devolve power through meaningful information to patients. Patient experience will drive up standards, as the data will influence patient choice; engage people in their care, "no decision about me, without me", and give patients the opportunity to provide feedback in real time, reflecting

the experience of their care; embrace leadership by setting NHS professionals free from a targets without meaning to one focussed on the quality, innovation, productivity and safety required to improve patient outcomes; adopt a holistic approach by looking at the entire patient pathway from preventative health and well-being measures, through to hospital and community care; introduce payments which encapsulate a more integrated care pathway by giving hospitals responsibility for a patient's care for 30 days after they are discharged.

Inspection of Adult Social Care Services by the Care Quality Commission Recently, the Care Quality Commission conducted a full inspection of the Essex County Council Adult Social Care services, which concluded at the end of March. The inspection focused on the areas below, and made the following ratings:

Safeguarding adults	Performing
Excellently	
Improving health and wellbeing for older people	Performing
Well	
Improved quality of life for older people	Performing
Excellently	
Capacity to improve	Performing
Excellently	

Essex County Council is only the second authority, and significantly the largest, to have achieved 'performing excellently' in safeguarding of adults. The full report produced by the Care Quality Commission following their inspection is available online. http://www.cqc.org.uk/guidanceforprofessionals/councils/councilinspectionreports.cfm?widCall1=customwidgets.content_view_1&cid_id=36294

An NHS Alliance publication and launch of *Whose NHS is it anyway?* – Sharing the power with patients and the public

The NHS Alliance is inviting you to the launch of *Whose NHS is it anyway?*-*Sharing the power with patients and the public*. The

launch will take place on Wednesday 30th June at 4pm-5.30pm at Committee Room 3, House of Lords.

The NHS Alliance has long championed the idea of both participatory and democratic accountability in the NHS. Over the last year, they have developed a discussion programme called Whose NHS is it Anyway?, which has informed a detailed plan of action on engagement across the NHS. They see this as offering the coalition government a route map for the next few years. This plan is now being launched with the support of Arthritis Care, National Voices, the National Association for Patient Participation (NAPP), the Patient Information Forum (PiF), Forum and African HIV Policy Network (AHPN), Diabetes UK, National Association of LINKs members (NALM) and M.A.C. **RSVP** to Ana Paula Nacif, pressoffice@nhsalliance.org or call 07772756674.

National Association of LINKs Members - Building Effective and Powerful LINKs

NALM is organising a special event for LINK members on Thursday, July 8th 2010 from 11am to 4.30pm at Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London, NW1. The purpose of the meeting is to develop a powerful case for the long-term sustainability and funding of LINKs. They also want to review the effectiveness of the current LINK model and consider in what ways LINKs could be strengthened or remodelled. The Department of Health are collaborating with NALM on this event and will attend the conference. All LINKs members welcome but priority given to NALM members.

National Institute for Health Research – Mental Health Research Network

Service User and Carer Training Needs Survey

The Mental Health Research Network (MHRN) aims to involve service users and carers in every part of its work. The MHRN is carrying out this survey to see what the training needs of people who are involved in the MHRN (or would like to get involved) are. The answers you give will be confidential; there is no need to give

your name, email or postal address if you do not want to. A £10 Amazon voucher will be sent to the first five people that fill out this questionnaire. Please return this form by 30th June 2010.

If you have any problems filling out this form please contact Lorraine McPherson on 02078480644 or email her at mhrnppi@kcl.ac.uk.

BME Artist CPD Opportunity working with schools

Creative Partnerships Networking evening on Monday 21st June at ERO –Free event

Time – 5.30 – 8pm

Date – Monday 21st June 2010

Venue – Essex Records Office, Chelmsford

Partnership project between ECDP (Essex Cultural Diversity Project)*, Royal Opera House and Future Creative- Kent

Open to all emerging BME artists and arts organisations working in partnership with ECDP

For further information and booking please contact –

inderjit.sandhu@essex.gov.uk

Mobile – 07863 203732

* We apologise for the error made in the last e-bulletin. We abbreviated ECDP as Essex Coalition for Disabled People instead of Essex Cultural Diversity Project.

BME Artist CPD Opportunity working in schools

Creative Partnerships Training and Development Day – Free Event

Time – 10 am until 4pm

Venue – Essex Records Office , Chelmsford

Date – Friday 16th July

Partnership project between ECDP (Essex Cultural Diversity Project), Royal Opera House and Future Creative- Kent

Open to all emerging BME artists and arts organisations working in partnership with ECDP

Lunch will be provided.

For further information and booking please contact –

inderjit.sandhu@essex.gov.uk

Mobile – 07863 203732

Essex Cultural Diversity 'Vision Day'

Time 10.30 -1.30 pm

Venue – Essex Records Office

Date – Tuesday 13TH July 2010

Open to all partners, stakeholders, funder's, artists and arts organisations working in partnership

Lunch will be provided – free event

For further information and booking please contact –

inderjit.sandhu@essex.gov.uk

Mobile – 07863 203732

BME Artist CPD Opportunity

Safe Guarding Training Event

Time -10 am to 3.30 pm

Venue – Brentwood Town Hall

Date -30th June 2010

Cost – (Free) cost paid by ECDP – limited spaces

Please note only 4 spaces available

Open to all emerging BME artists and arts organisations working in partnership with ECDP

Lunch will be provided

For further information and booking please contact –

inderjit.sandhu@essex.gov.uk

Mobile – 07863 203732

Making Involvement Matter in Essex Consultation event-The Future of Mental Health Services in Your Area

If you use or care for someone who uses mental health services or have sought help from your GP for stress, anxiety or depression they want to hear from you.

Decisions will be made in the coming months about services for your area and they want service user and carer views to be put forward at the beginning of that process.

Come along on **16th June 2010, 10.00 am – 12.30pm** at **Vineyard Centre, Southend** and have some lunch and tell them what you think. You will be paid travel expenses and a small thank you **gift of £10** for sharing your ideas and experiences. **Book** now by telephoning 0845 196 4172, leave a message and they will ring back and confirm your place or email: jennifer.scott@anglia.ac.uk

Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Alliance (ARMA)

Please find attached May 2010 newsletter of ARMA. For further information visit: www.arma.uk.net

Mental Health Newsletter

Please find attached May 2010 newsletter on mental health. If you need any more information or have any information to share, please contact Mark Dale on markdale101@hotmail.co.uk

News for the North

Please find attached the Weekly Bulletin of mental health news and policy Issue 15.

Service Users and Carers Needed!

The School of Health and Human Sciences of the University of Essex is looking for service users/carers with an interest in becoming involved in the education of a range of health care professionals, including adult and mental health nurses, physiotherapists, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists and psychologists. An information event will take place on **Friday 25 June 2010, 10am to 2pm** at the Colchester Campus (Wivenhoe Park). For further information, please contact the School of Health and Human Sciences via e-mail at surg@essex.ac.uk. Or alternatively write to: Service User Reference Group, The School of Health and Human Sciences, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3SQ.

Understanding your Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Service

Diabetic retinopathy is the main cause of blindness in adults of a working age. Regular screening can detect early diabetic eye changes before your sight is affected and, importantly, when treatment is more successful. People with diabetes who are over the age of 12 and are registered with a GP in the South East Essex area are entitled to a FREE eye screen. You will automatically receive a letter inviting you to attend for retinopathy screening, at a local healthcare venue, at least annually. Please find attached a leaflet, which sets out to answer some of the questions you may have about screening for diabetic retinopathy.