

Cochrane Reviews

[Mobile phone-based interventions for improving contraception use](#)

Contraception provides significant benefits for women's and children's health, yet many women have an unmet need for contraception. Rapid expansion in the use of mobile phones in recent years has had a dramatic impact on interpersonal communication. Within the health domain text messages and smartphone applications offer means of communication between clients and healthcare providers. This review focuses on interventions delivered by mobile phone and their effect on use of contraception.

Research

[7 out of 10 adults support health warnings on alcohol products, new report finds](#)

New research released by the Alcohol Health Alliance (AHA) shows that the majority of adults in Britain would back Government plans to make nutritional information and health warnings on alcohol products mandatory.

Quality Standards

[Alcohol-use disorders: diagnosis and management \[QS11\]](#)

This quality standard covers identifying and supporting adults and young people (aged 10 and over) who may have an alcohol-use disorder and caring for people with alcohol-related health problems, as well as support for their families and carers. It describes high-quality care in priority areas for improvement.

Guidance

[Measles: risk assessment for resurgence in the UK](#)

Risk assessment estimates for measles resurgence in the UK.

Public Advice

[All secondary school pupils eligible for free flu vaccine](#)

All secondary school pupils eligible for free flu vaccine as government expands vaccination programme.

[Face-to-face health checks more than double in one year](#)

The number of NHS Health Checks offered and carried out more than doubled in 2022 to 2023.

[How to tackle vaccine misinformation: what works and what doesn't?](#)

Communicating the scientific consensus that vaccines are safe and effective, and using humour to dispel vaccine myths, may tackle misinformation effectively. Scare tactics, and failing to acknowledge uncertainty, could be unhelpful. These and other findings come from a review of 34 studies into communication strategies to tackle untruths about vaccines.

Blogs

[NHS 75: how the NHS can help break the link between mental health and debt problems](#)

This week the NHS turns 75. Since 1948 the NHS has been a cornerstone of our society, providing universal health care that is free at the point of delivery. As we celebrate the NHS this week, it also provides an opportunity to consider the future possibilities for reducing demand on mental health services through prevention, and avoiding escalation in mental health cases through timely and joint-up financial support.



News

[NHS virtual ward expansion will see thousands of children treated at home](#)

Tens of thousands of children will be able to receive hospital-level care at home thanks to an expansion of virtual wards, chief executive Amanda Pritchard will announce on the 75th anniversary of the NHS.

[NHS shingles vaccine will be offered to almost one million more people](#)

Almost a million more people (900,000) will become eligible for a shingles vaccination from September, the NHS announced today. Anyone who is severely immunosuppressed and over 50 will be able to get two doses of the Shingrix vaccine – currently the vaccine is only available to those over 70.

[Updated guide to Producing Health Information for Children and Young People](#)

2023 edition places tackling health inequalities and involving children and young people from diverse backgrounds at its centre.

[Levels of those considered “severely distressed” rise steadily since the start of the pandemic](#)

New research from the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience (IoPPN) at King’s College London, the Department of Behavioural Science & Health at University College London (UCL) and the SPECTRUM Consortium, has found that there has been a steady rise in the number of people reporting feelings of severe distress in England since the beginning of the pandemic.

[Vaccine hesitancy is one of the greatest threats to global health – and the pandemic has made it worse](#)

The COVID pandemic has disrupted many areas of routine healthcare including, importantly, childhood vaccination. The pandemic saw levels of essential childhood immunisations decline in more than 100 countries around the world, leading to outbreaks of infectious diseases such as yellow fever, cholera, diphtheria and polio.

[How preventive healthcare could save the NHS – lessons from Finland, Japan and Singapore](#)

If it’s true that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, preventive healthcare might really save the embattled NHS – now celebrating its 75th anniversary. By promoting healthy lifestyles, early disease detection and timely treatment, the NHS could reduce chronic diseases such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease and cancer. And reducing the number of people with these chronic conditions would lead to a significant decrease in healthcare spending – which has been steadily rising in real terms since the NHS was founded.

[A pneumonia-causing bug disappeared during the pandemic – but a surge may come this winter](#)

After pandemic restrictions eased, cases of respiratory infections surged worldwide. There were record numbers of people infected with respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), flu and even strep A. Yet one bacterium also known to cause respiratory infections – which typically sees a spike in cases during the winter months – has yet to see a resurgence post-COVID. It’s not entirely clear why it hasn’t yet re-emerged. But the latest data suggests a surge in infections may be coming this winter.

