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Reports

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A new operating model for health and care

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Exploring how the health system and centre could work together to deliver a more integrated and devolved healthcare model.

A whole-system response to drug prevention in the UK

Report on the long-term prevention of drug use and related harms among young people.

Warrington Borough Council: local authority assessment

Warrington's population is around 211,580 people. There are 43,468 people aged between 0-17 years (20.54%), 126,997 aged between 18 and 64 years (60.02%) and 41,115 aged over 65 years (19.43%). The over 65 population is anticipated to increase, and projections indicate a 21% rise in people aged 65 and over from 2018 to 2028, and 44% rise in people aged 65 and over in 25 years, from 2018 – 2043. The average age is 42 years, which is slightly higher than the Northwest and England average of 40 and the over 65 population is slightly larger than the England average of 18.61%.

Frameworks

Improvement framework: community language translation and interpreting services

This framework is designed to support the provision of consistent, high-quality community language translation and interpreting services by the NHS to people with limited English proficiency.

Studies

Classifying the Information Needs of Survivors of Domestic Violence in Online Health Communities Using Large Language Models: Prediction Model Development and Evaluation Study

Domestic violence (DV) is a significant public health concern affecting the physical and mental well-being of numerous women, imposing a substantial health care burden. However, women facing DV often encounter barriers to seeking in-person help due to stigma, shame, and embarrassment. As a result, many survivors of DV turn to online health communities as a safe and anonymous space to share their experiences and seek support. Understanding the information needs of survivors of DV in online health communities through multiclass classification is crucial for providing timely and appropriate support.

Toolkits

Misinformation UnMASKED

The NHS England Knowledge and Library Services Team have worked with South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust to create a set of tools to help the public to unmask misinformation.

Calls for Evidence

Review of CQC Regulation 9A: visiting and accompanying in care homes, hospitals and hospices Seeks views from individuals, professionals and organisations about visiting and accompanying in care homes, hospitals and hospices in England since Regulation 9A came into force on 6 April 2024.

Inquiry into Digital Inclusion and Health: Call for Evidence

As digital systems become increasingly embedded across the NHS, questions about access, equity, and accountability are growing more urgent. The Digital Poverty Alliance's national inquiry into digital inclusion and health is gathering evidence on how this shift is affecting those least equipped to navigate it – and what must change to ensure digital transformation does not deepen existing inequalities.











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Blogs

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Mitigating the risks of domestic abuse

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Emma Swift and Zuzanna Lito explain how we've updated the NHS service standard to make sure teams building online services are more aware and responsive to the risks of domestic abuse and coercive control.

The lamentable decline of district nurses in the NHS in England

District nursing is a critical component of community health services. In our chart of the week, Billy Palmer explores the concerning decline of district nurses in England, at a time of increasing population need.

Bringing mental health care to the criminal justice system: The development of Mental Health Treatment Requirements

I'm a nurse who has spent the past 15 years determined to bring hope, care, and empathy into the criminal justice system, by focusing on addressing the underlying reasons people enter the system.

Take Five to Age Well: Empowering people towards healthier lives

This blog is aimed at all members but will be of particular interest to those who have an interest in public health and healthy aging. Take5 is running for the month of May in 2025.

Are 'mental health A&Es' really the answer to long waits for urgent care?

Last weekend, NHS England announced via The Times newspaper an intention to create a network of mental health emergency departments, separate from existing A&E services. On the face of it, it looks like a good idea. Many existing emergency departments are not safe or suitable places for someone facing a mental health crisis. People in a mental health crisis face much longer waits in A&E than others, and many report negative responses from staff in mainstream crisis services.

Weight Management and Mental Health in Wales

Welcome to this month's blog post, in which Dr Katherine O'Mahony (Patient and Public Involvement representative) and Dr Emily Peckham (Senior Research Fellow, Bangor University) introduce our new report, Weight Management and Mental Health: A framework for action in Wales (developed in partnership with the NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee (JCC) and the Dyfodol Programme). They also share the eight recommendations on how to support people with mental health conditions in healthy weight management.

OHA Comment: Advertising Restrictions – Delayed and Diluted

After capitulating to industry demands, the restrictions on advertising less healthy foods before 9pm on TV, or online at any time, which were due to come in on Oct 1st 2025, will now be enforced 'voluntarily' until the legislation is amended – with a new legally-binding exemption for 'brand' advertising – on Jan 5th 2026. The news is reported in The Telegraph [paywall] – Ministers 'caving in to food industry' after delaying junk food ads ban.

News

<u>Concern raised over proposals to transfer police powers to medical practitioners under Mental Health Bill reform</u> The UK Government should reject plans to extend police powers of detention to medical practitioners as these risk causing significant harm with dangerous consequences, warns the Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCPsych) alongside eight leading health and social care organisations.

"Urgent action" needed to resolve dangerous gaps in out of hours palliative care in England New research maps out significant gaps in out of hours care available for people at the end of life across England.









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Telecare users and their loved ones across the UK urged to speak to telecoms providers ahead of switch to digital landlines

The 2 million vulnerable people who rely on lifesaving telecare alarms to call for help have today been urged to get in touch with their landline providers so companies can provide additional support for them during the switch to digital landlines.

What does the 2024 Community Mental Health Survey tell us about people's experiences of NHS mental health care?

Since its inception in 2003, the Community Mental Health Survey has played a pivotal role in gathering feedback from people receiving mental health care and assessing the quality of services provided by NHS Community Mental Health Trusts across England.

CQC rates Warrington Borough Council's adult social care provision as requires improvement

CQC has a new duty under the Act to assess how local authorities work with their communities and partners to meet their responsibilities. This includes promoting the wellbeing and independence of working age disabled adults, older people, and their unpaid carers to reduce their need for formal support where appropriate. Where support is needed it should provide people with choice and control of how their care needs are met.

RCPsych responds to plans to open mental health A&E centres across England

The NHS has confirmed that it will be opening specialist mental health crisis centres in England over the next decade. The plans are currently being trialled by ten hospital trusts and have been outlined in several recent media reports.

Even small amounts of cannabis used daily cause significant harm – RCPsych responds to London Drugs Commission

Responding to the London Drugs Commission report, the Royal College of Psychiatrists has called for an end to underestimating the harms caused by use of natural cannabis and 'synthetic' cannabinoids.

Nobody with ADHD should wait years for life-changing care, says RCPsych

Responding to NHS Digital data published today that indicates almost 2.5 million people in England have attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, the Royal College of Psychiatrists is calling for an end to people waiting years for the life-changing care they need to manage their condition.

PIF and Ipsos launch film exploring health misinformation

Researchers, charity representatives and patients discuss the impact of health misinformation – and how we can tackle it.

Partnership for Change publishes Connected Care report

A new report calls for patient experience and care co-ordination to be central to any future plans for the NHS and to be incorporated into the 10 Year Health Plan. Connected Care: Transforming Care Co-ordination shares feedback from patients whose frustrations with the NHS have been borne out of poorly co-ordinated care. Patients report frequently needing to retell their stories, chase up referrals and advocate for themselves in a convoluted system.

Flagship 'Insights' tool to help NHS listen more deeply developed in Derbyshire

A flagship tool to help the NHS and partners listen more deeply to communities is being piloted in Derby and Derbyshire. The aim of the Community Insights Framework is to improve services by being able to talk to people more effectively, removing hierarchy and truly listening to people's needs, providing a safe space for people to talk.









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Substance use and mental ill health: From fragmentation to integration?

Mental health problems can drive problem substance use, and vice versa. But people struggling on both fronts routinely face closed doors to care, refused mental health support until they stop using substances.

Study finds links between social media and loneliness depend on the app

New research finds that although overall time spent online is linked with higher levels of loneliness, use of social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram and Twitter is not.

Mind signs open letter to UK government on planned welfare cuts

Mind has joined 8 other disability charities in writing to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions. The open letter expresses our concerns around the proposed changes to welfare benefits.

UK adopts historic Pandemic Agreement

Better protections for British public and NHS thanks to deal adopted at the World Health Assembly in Geneva.

Millions receive help from NHS high street pharmacies

More than 5 million patients have received help from high street pharmacies for minor illnesses, as the NHS brings care closer to people's homes.

Flu vaccine prevented around 100,000 hospital admissions UKHSA data shows the flu vaccine prevented 96,000 to 120,200 hospitalisations in England during last winter.

Why gait quality matters as you age

Walking is one of the most important things we do for our quality of life. In fact, research shows it contributes more than any other physical activity to how well we live day to day. Yet one in three people over the age of 60 report having some difficulty walking.

Universal vaccines could reshape how we fight future outbreaks - but a broad approach is needed Every year, the race begins anew. Scientists scramble to track mutating viruses, pharmaceutical companies reformulate vaccines and public health systems brace for another season of jabs and logistics.

NHS initiative helps thousands more tackle their diabetes risk

A record 166,360 more adults in England began receiving support last year from a world-leading NHS public health initiative, which helps people lose weight and make lifestyles changes to stop or delay them developing Type 2 diabetes, according to new data.

Building the future of healthcare: Why the Single Patient Record must be about more than technology

The idea of a Single Patient Record (SPR) is not new, but today, it feels closer to becoming a reality than ever before. As the healthcare sector undergoes sweeping digital transformation, the vision of a unified patient record, a system where every individual's health information is accessible, accurate, and centred around their care journey, is gaining momentum.









