



Registered Charity No. 292157

E-Bulletin from National Association for Patient Participation Issue Number 86: June 2014

1. Latest N.A.P.P. News

a. Annual Conference 'Quality in General Practice 7th June 2014 in Leeds

The conference provided an opportunity for patients and staff from PPGs, practices and CCGs and others involved in engaging with patients to share ideas, information and experience and to learn from each other. Chair of Council of the Royal College of General Practitioners, Dr Maureen Baker set the tone with a hard-hitting keynote speech "How can we make General Practice future-proof?" The statistics made a compelling argument for the RCGP campaign for better funding for general practice. The audience raised a number of challenging issues. Read the [Conference Report](#) where the workshop presentations can also be downloaded.

2. PPG Awareness Week: June 2nd – 7th

Thanks to all of the PPGs who planned and ran events and activities to promote PPGs and to increase membership of their own groups. We are still receiving reports, photos, video clips and special editions of PPG newsletters. With much more time to plan than in 2013, many more of you took part and the momentum is growing.

3. Corkill Award

The 2014 Corkill Awards were presented by Alex Furnell, Head of Account Management for EMIS, sponsors of the award. The winning PPG is the Stag Medical Practice PPG in Rotherham. Since its formation in December 2011 the group has grown steadily to become a valued resource for the practice. The PPG is constantly evolving and taking on new challenges. They have engaged not just within the practice, but more widely at CCG level and their constant focus is quality of care. Highly commended was the Luther Street Practice PPG in Oxford, a specialist surgery solely for people experiencing homelessness, an innovative and challenging approach impressed the judges.

4. Research Engagement Award announced by NIHR and N.A.P.P.

This new award was launched at the conference by Simon Denegri, Chair, INVOLVE, National Institute for Clinical Research Director for Public Participation and Engagement in Research. In partnership with N.A.P.P., NIHR Clinical Research Network will acknowledge the contribution made by patients and will look for examples from PPGs which illustrate:

- Building a research culture - making research part of the everyday for practices and CCGs
- Evidence of events and activities which have promoted Clinical Research Network patient campaigns
- Where PPGs have provided a patient perspective and feedback options for patients and much more

Read [more](#) on the N.A.P.P. website. The winner will receive a small cash prize. Application forms and details of the criteria are available online at www.crn.nihr.ac.uk/crnnappaward

Closing date: 12th September 2014

Award announced: October 2014

5. RCGP and N.A.P.P. campaign: Where is your petition? Have you signed it?

Put patients first: Back general practice petitions have been distributed to almost every practice across the UK. Is it on display in your practice? If not, please ask where it is and encourage staff to display it in a prominent and accessible spot and to ensure that patients are made aware of it and encouraged to sign and support the campaign. If no petition has been

received, it can be obtained from <http://www.rcgp.org.uk/campaign-home/resources.aspx> where you can also obtain posters, badges and other promotional materials, including a PowerPoint presentation for the waiting room screen. The petition can also be downloaded on the RCGP website at PPG members can be crucial in encouraging other patient so support this campaign. Better funding will enable practices to improve staffing levels and reduce waiting times for appointments, improve opening hours, increase the length of consultations to provide a better service to their patients. Those who cannot visit the practice can sign online at <http://www.rcgp.org.uk/campaign-hormme/get-involved/petition/petition-england.aspx>. Scroll down the page to find the online form. **Deadline 12th; August 2014**

5. Physician Assistants – a way to meet demand in General Practice?

The popular Soapbox session at the conference allows individuals 90 seconds to speak on any health-related topic. This year we heard from a North Yorkshire delegate about Physician Assistants (PAs) who are 'mid-level' practitioners, science graduates who have completed 2 postgraduate years of intensive medical programme in both hospital and general practice settings. Now, [a study](#) published by the National Institute of Healthcare Research looks at the impact of demographic change, demand and financial pressure on staffing configurations. A small number of general practices in England have employed PAs and this study aimed to investigate the contribution of PAs to the delivery of patient care.

4. Time to end top-down reform of the NHS?

A report from the King's Fund, **Reforming the NHS form within: beyond hierarchy, inspection and markets** argues that politicians' role in the running of the NHS needs to be better defined to counter interventionist and centralising tendencies that have hampered effective reform to date. It makes the argument that a new political settlement is needed that clarifies the strategic role of ministers in determining funding, establishing priorities and providing accountability to Parliament, and leaves local NHS leaders with the space to innovate and lead service change. This settlement should reflect lessons learnt from the experience of the present government's health reforms, which have failed to distance ministers from the operational management of the NHS as originally intended. [More ...](#)

6. Care Quality Commission: second wave of GP practice inspections

Following the inspections of practices in 12 CCG areas in April and May, CQC has announced the location of the next wave of 11 CCGs where they will conduct inspections next month. Details [here](#)

2. Get your N.A.P.P. member password now!

The Members' pages of the N.A.P.P. website contain **key resources available only to affiliated PPGs and CCGs**. For your PPG's unique login details for use by all the members of your PPG, (but not to be divulged to others), **visit the website, click on Members and use the screen instructions**. The response will come from server@serifwebresources.com

6. Reminders:

Please forward this bulletin to fellow members as promptly as possible. We do not send hard copies of e-bulletins. This and all previous-bulletins are at <http://www.napp.org.uk/ebulletins.html>

Edith Todd

Trustee

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