



E-Bulletin from National Association for Patient Participation Issue Number 119 June 2017

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

a. Diary dates

- **19th – 24th June 2017: PPG Awareness week:** Each year, more and more PPGs take this opportunity to showcase and raise the profile of their PPG, connect with the wider patient community, recruit new members and let people know that all the GP practices in England should now have a PPG in place. **How does your PPG make a positive difference to patients and to the practice which provides their care?** Do use local media, community or parish newsletters, local radio and social media to reach as many members of the public as you can. This is the fifth Awareness Week, which was established in response to calls from our members to publicise the existence of PPGs and the work that they do. It's not too late to download [the Resource Pack](#) from the home page of the N.A.P.P. website.
- **Annual Conference “Patients, Power and Partnerships” in Basingstoke, Hampshire.** There are still a few places available, so make sure you don't miss out on the opportunity to network with and learn from other PPGs, the speakers and workshop sessions. Keynote speeches from Professor Paul Hungin, President of the British Medical Association and Ruth Rankine, Care Quality Commission's Chief Inspector of General Practice. Further details of the programme and the registration form are [here](#) on the N.A.P.P. website.
- **Annual General Meeting 24th June 2017 at 4.15pm:** The AGM will convene immediately after the conference. Members of affiliated PPGs are invited to attend. If you have not registered to attend the conference but would like to be present at the AGM, please contact secretary@napp.org.uk for further information.
- **N.A.P.P.' Annual report and independently examined Accounts.** These will be available on the N.A.P.P. website by 16th June.

2. NHS England Clinical Reference Groups: Patient Public Voice opportunities

NHS England Specialised Commissioning is recruiting Patient Public Voice members and patient organisations to its **Clinical Reference Groups (CRGs)**. Vacancies include patient organisations/charities for Paediatric Medicine and Perinatal Mental Health. Clinical Reference Groups (CRGs) bring together groups of clinicians, commissioners, public health experts, patients and carers. They use their specific knowledge and expertise to advise NHS England on how specialised services should be provided, advise on the development of service specifications, commissioning policies, identifying innovation and improving quality. There will be an honorarium of £75 per half day or £150 per day (for those people not employed by an organisation). There are two vacancies on Paediatric Medicine: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/spec-services/npc-crg/group-e/e03/> To request an application form please email england.voice-crg@nhs.net **Deadline for applications is Thursday 13th July 2017.**

For further information on the variety of CRGs with PPV vacancies: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/spec-services/npc-crg/>

3. How does the NHS compare with other health care systems?

The Commonwealth Fund has published its annual comparison of the healthcare systems of 19 countries around the world. Each [overview](#) covers health insurance, public and private financing, health system organisation and governance, health care quality and coordination,

disparities, efficiency and integration, use of information technology and evidence-based practice, cost containment, and recent reforms and innovations. In addition, summary tables provide data on a number of key health system characteristics and performance indicators, including overall health care spending, hospital spending and utilisation, health care access, patient safety, care coordination, chronic care management, disease prevention, capacity for quality improvement, and public views.

4. CCG lay members, non-executive directors and STP governance and engagement

A report, published in partnership with NHS England, summarises discussions at four regional workshops which focused on the role of lay members and non-executive directors in Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs). It discusses the importance of governance and accountability and developing working relationships across STP footprints. It also captures a number of case studies highlighting where there has been good practice in involving lay members and non-executive directors across STPs. [More.....](#)

5. Patients prepared to wait for a GP who listens

Patients who are experiencing symptoms that could be due to cancer are willing to wait an extra three and a half weeks for an appointment with a doctor with good listening skills, and an extra week for an appointment with a GP of their choice. In this [study](#), a UK-wide online survey of adults aged 50 years or more, in a series of experiments in which over 600 participants were presented with symptoms that could indicate differing levels of cancer risk. They found that participants expressed preferences for doctors with better listening skills, their ability to see a GP of their choice, and shorter waiting times. These results suggest that improving communication in consultations might encourage people to seek help in the longer term.

6. Is general practice in crisis?

This is a question addressed in [a report](#) published ahead of the general election by the King's Fund. There are widespread reports that people are finding it more difficult to access their GP. GPs report that they are under growing pressure as a result of an increase in the volume and intensity. At the same time, fewer GPs are choosing to undertake full-time clinical work in general practice, while large numbers are retiring and leaving the profession. This adds up to a profession under enormous pressure and facing a recruitment and retention crisis. The King's Fund is an independent charity which works to improve health and care in England

7. N.A.P.P. website: Don't miss out this useful benefit of belonging to N.A.P.P!

The website Member pages contain **key resources available only to affiliated PPGs and CCGs**. For login details, **visit the website, click on Members and use screen instructions**. We recommend each PPG to establish a generic group email address as the username for the login.

8. Reminders: Please email this bulletin to fellow members promptly. We do not send hard copies of e-bulletins. All previous bulletins can be found at <http://www.napp.org.uk/ebulletins.html>

*Edith Todd,
Trustee,
June 2017*