

All the latest Lung Improvement
news and views . . . **FIRST**



eBULLETIN lungimprovement

NHS Improvement

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Delivering tomorrow's improvement
agenda for the NHS



This eBulletin is produced by NHS Improvement - Lung and is available for information to anyone working in health care, social care or the voluntary sector with an interest in Lung. It is provided on an opt-in basis, and to subscribe or unsubscribe, please send an email to info@improvement.nhs.uk

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Welcome! to the March 2012 edition of NHS Improvement -Lung eBulletin – your one-stop resource for all the latest news and developments within the respiratory world.

Focus on... Networks

New COPD Diagnosis Online Resource Launched

Surveys

Respiratory Organisations and Events

NHS Improvement - Lung

Focus on...Networks

Since around 2000, clinical networks have been playing an important part in the NHS, bringing local clinicians and managers together to improve care for patients at all stages of their treatment. More recently, the NHS Future Forum has emphasised the need for *a strong role for clinical and professional networks in the new system with clinical engagement at all levels.*

A clinical network is a local NHS organisation made up of clinicians, managers and commissioners who work together to improve care and are a forum to share multi professional advice, influence and learning, to maximise knowledge and deliver better outcomes for patients. They do this by bringing together service providers, commissioners, patients, social care and other stakeholders with a common interest, to enable the local NHS to work in a collaborative and co-ordinated way for its population, to best meet local needs and priorities.

From: "Establishing and Developing Cardiac Networks" (Modernisation Agency 2004):

"Bringing key players together in a network can also improve the quality of local commissioning. As they become more established, networks can become powerful advocates of where best to place resources to maximise the benefits for the patients that they serve. They give the potential to plan services from the perspective of the whole local system rather than piecemeal, organisation by organisation.

But participation in a network is not simply an altruistic activity for its component organisations. It is frequently the best way for organisations to secure their own objectives, by providing a framework in which to engage with other key players.”

Over the course of the last few months, Dr Cathy McLean, Clinical Transitions Director for the Department of Health, has been leading work to develop proposals for clinical networks in the modernised NHS. The huge support for networks and interest in this project was highlighted by the overwhelming response to the recent Webinar (held on 13/2/12) on the [emerging high level proposals](#).

[View a recording of the webinar](#).

Common themes from the webinar and subsequent correspondence are currently being drawn out. Further information on the next stages of the project will be shared in the near future on the [Department of Health website](#).

NHS Improvement has considerable experience in supporting networks, developed over the last 10 years through the cardiac, stroke and cancer teams, and further information can be found [here](#), or you can contact one of the [NHS Improvement - Lung Team](#) for further information.

Improvement News

New COPD Diagnosis Online Resource Launched

We have launched an online resource to offer a ‘one stop shop’ for anyone wishing to improve diagnostic services.

We know there are approximately 2.2million undiagnosed people in the UK. We also know that 900,000 people have a diagnosis and many of these people have been misdiagnosed, diagnosed inaccurately, are sub optimally managed or diagnosed late in the disease progression.

Optimal services will prevent people from dying prematurely, enhance the quality of life, ensure effective communication between health professionals and reduce healthcare associated costs. Our online resource will help you to provide optimal services for your patients.

The online resources include:

- The patient pathway for suspected COPD
- Information for commissioning diagnostic services
- Examples of service models
- Practical examples, top tips & case studies
- Evidence and guidance
- How to access and analyse diagnostic data
- Education, training and staff competencies
- Information that should be given to patients
- Therapies (smoking cessation, home oxygen, pulmonary rehabilitation, pharmacotherapy) and lots more...



[Click here to enter the site](#)

More information will be added on a regular basis, if you would like more information in a certain section or would like to contribute to the website, please [contact zoe.lord@improvement.nhs.uk](mailto:zoe.lord@improvement.nhs.uk)

Help the Improvers improve!

What makes a good website?

NHS Improvement, of which the Lung programme is a part, will be making changes to their [website](#) this year. Before starting on this work, they are running a website evaluation survey to gather feedback on the current site.

Please take a moment to [complete the survey](#) – tell us what you would like to see to help us, help you!

Respiratory Inhaler Survey

The London respiratory team would greatly appreciate 5 minutes of your time to help with our short survey on the knowledge that healthcare professionals have around inhaled respiratory medications. You can take the survey if you work in healthcare, whether clinical or managerial, respiratory or otherwise.

In return, we hope that by the end of the survey you will have learnt something that will be thought provoking, and make a change to your day to day practice.

Please feel free to forward this link to any colleagues who you think may also be interested in the information contained. By spreading this knowledge, we may be able to increase awareness of the problems highlighted within the survey and improve our practice for the benefit of patients.

To take the survey, please click on this link: [Respiratory Inhaler Survey](#)

Respiratory Education and Training - Survey

Respiratory Education UK are currently looking to develop new areas of education and training and to amend some of our current provision. To do this we are canvassing students and commissioners and would therefore welcome your views.

If you are willing to participate, please take part in our short survey:

[Respiratory Education and Training - Survey](#) Your co-operation would be greatly appreciated.

We also have a brand new study day **Palliative Care/Ethics**; an emotional subject for us all

and this day will focus on principles of good practice across the multi-disciplinary team and promote ethically sound decision making. It will take place here at Aintree on 22nd May 2012. For full details of REUK's academic and short course provision, please visit [Respiratory Education UK](#)

Win up to £100,000 for improving COPD care in the NHS Innovation Challenge

This year's NHS Innovation challenge has been announced and you will be pleased to hear includes a COPD challenge. The aim of the challenge is to encourage diffusion of innovation and good ideas.

Please distribute this message as widely as you can to encourage submissions from our NHS colleagues. The competition closes at midnight on the 1st June 2012. The winners will be announced in December 2012.

The [NHS Innovation Challenge Prizes](#) have been created to recognise and reward ideas that tackle some of the most challenging areas in healthcare. Now in their second year, the scheme not only rewards the tremendous pool of talent that exist in the NHS with well-deserved recognition, but also provide successful applicants with prize money – the biggest winner to date received £100,000.

[Download a short presentation about the NHS Innovation Challenge Prizes](#)

Find out more about the NHS Challenge Prizes and find out how submit an entry at the NHS Innovation Challenge website www.challengeprizes.institute.nhs.uk

A Framework for NHS Patient Experience

The Department of Health has published the NHS Patient Experience Framework, which outline the areas most important to patients' experience of NHS services. This framework, agreed by the National Quality Board Patient Experience sub group, provides healthcare organisations with a common evidence-based list of what matters to patients, and can be used to direct efforts to improve services. For example it can be used to help define what questions to ask patients in surveys and in real time feedback

Improving patient experience is a key aim for the NHS [click here](#) to access further information about the framework

Respiratory Organisations and Events

Asthma UK Launches New Online Test

Asthma UK has launched a new online test aimed at people with asthma to help them find out their risk of having an asthma attack and what they can do to reduce it. The test, called the **Triple A: Avoid Asthma Attacks Test**, can be found at asthma.org.uk/TripleA. It asks simple questions about factors which have all been linked to an increased risk of an asthma attack that could lead to an emergency hospital admission.

The response to the test has been extremely positive with over 23,000 people taking the test in the first two weeks. The charity is keen for healthcare professionals to make their patients aware of the test as a large number of people who have taken the test already are falling into the increased risk or highly increased risk categories. This indicates that their GP or asthma nurse, alongside the charity, may be in a crucial position to help them manage their asthma

more effectively so that they are able to have more control over their asthma symptoms.

Dr Samantha Walker, Director of Research and Policy at Asthma UK, says: 'The test was formulated by clinical staff at Asthma UK together with Asthma UK's Chief Medical Advisor, Dr Mike Thomas and experts in asthma and its management. We want people to sit up, take notice and make changes to the way they manage their asthma if they are shown to be at an increased risk of an asthma attack. This kind of test for asthma has never been done before but we're confident it will prove an effective motivator to help reduce frightening and often unnecessary hospital admissions.'

The Allergy & Free From Show 18–20 May 2012, Olympia, London

The Allergy and Free From Show 2012 takes place from Friday 18 to Sunday 20 May, and asthma nurse specialists from Asthma UK will be there holding one-to-one consultations, checking inhaler technique, providing information on asthma and answering any questions that people with asthma may have. As a special offer, Asthma UK is offering all its supporters free tickets to the show, available at allergyshow.co.uk/go/asthmauk

The show takes place in the New West Hall in London's Olympia and is for anyone who is affected by asthma, hay fever, eczema, skin conditions, food intolerance, coeliac disease, chemical sensitivities, and other allergies and related conditions.

On Sunday 20 May, Asthma UK's asthma nurse specialists will be running a 90-minute asthma workshop, between 2pm and 3.30pm which is open to everyone at the show. The workshop will teach people what to do in an asthma attack, how to monitor their peak flow effectively, how to identify and control their triggers and tips on controlling asthma. If you know anyone who might want to book a one-to-one appointment at The Allergy & Free From Show 2012 then please ask them to call the Asthma UK Adviceline on 0800 121 62 44.

In addition, there will be a free Allergy Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Masterclass available specifically for health professionals on Friday 18 May. A full day programme covering new treatments for respiratory allergy and sublingual immunotherapy will be delivered by prominent specialist speakers, including Dr Robert Boyle (Consultant Paediatric Allergist) and Dr Guy Scadding (Clinical Research Fellow). Not to be missed by Respiratory Specialists, GPs, Nurses, Pharmacists, Paediatricians, Dieticians and Dermatologists. Please visit allergyshow.co.uk/london/masterclass for more information.

British Lung Foundation

BLF Services offers quality products and services to assist health care providers in meeting the objectives in the *Outcomes strategy for COPD and Asthma in England*.

Our Love 'Your Lungs campaigns' aim to raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of COPD and to encourage early diagnosis. We work alongside PCTs to deliver integrated campaigns aimed at people in hot spot areas.

As well as our awareness-raising events, we aim to equip patients and health care professionals with the tools to work in partnership to manage COPD through a variety of publications and workshops.

Our self-management packs provide a comprehensive guide to the ongoing self-managing COPD. As success of a self-management programme depends on patient engagement, the BLF offers two hour health care professional workshops to outline the content of BLF self-management packs and to examine methods of ensuring patient compliance and understanding.

Additionally, our new patient education programme provides patients and carers with a clear and detailed understanding of COPD and of self-management, supporting them to become experts in their own care.

All products or services will receive a 10% discount if booked by 31st March 2012.

Please contact Delaney Bullied on 020 7688 6026 or delaney.bullied@blf-uk.org for more information.

6th World Conference of the International Primary Care Respiratory Group

Hosted by PCRS- UK on the 25th – 28th April 2012 in Edinburgh

With more than 10 parallel streams and 94 speakers offering clinically relevant educational and practical updates from world renowned speakers such as Professor Eric Bateman and Dr Michael Kidd; and including all the regular UK faces we know and admire such as Dr John Haughney, Monica Fletcher, Dr Ian Pavord, Professor Henry Chrystyn, Dr Paul Cullinan and many more; not to mention the 165 scientific abstracts and 66 posters you simply can't afford to miss this conference.

For more information visit [International Primary Care Respiratory Group](#)

British Thoracic Society

The BTS **Clinical Grand Round** competition is now a well-established part of the BTS Summer Meeting programme, and the Society is very keen to attract applications from all healthcare professionals.

Further details can be found here [BTS Summer Meetings 2012](#) and applicants have until 11th April 2012 to send in their presentations.

BTS Awards for Innovation, Education & Integration

BTS is also promoting some new Awards this year as part of the Summer Meeting programme and you might also wish to look at these via the same link as above. These focus on innovation and education and integrated service delivery. The Awards are open to everyone working in respiratory care and the Society would like to showcase the best of projects whether they be large or small. These Awards would be an excellent way of sharing best practice with peers in these challenging times in the NHS. Closing date for entry (via short abstracts) is 30th March 2012.

Both of these competitions have cash prizes attached, as well as being publicised during the Meeting itself and on the BTS website after the event, and, in the case of the BTS Awards, in the programme booklet.

COPD8

20-22 June 2012 International Convention Centre, Birmingham

Following on from the celebrated success of COPD7, the new website for the COPD8 International Conference on Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease has been launched. COPD8 is an International Conference aimed at the breadth of the COPD spectrum from basic science through to clinical practice and what people living with the condition need and want. COPD8 will provide new and interesting information for all delegates and encourage lively debate and discussion. Follow COPD8 on Twitter for all the latest information or view the programme and register for the event at: [COPD Conferences](#)

Do you have the right skills?

Do you want to learn the necessary skills to conduct spirometric testing safely, effectively and reliably? Do you recognise the importance of accurate and reproducible results which can be safely interpreted by another Health Care Professional? By studying our [Spirometry Diploma Module](#) (Accredited by ARTP/BTS) you will be able to assess your patients pre-test with confidence and ensure that spirometry is safely and effectively performed and the great news is that we have **part funding available for the first 15 places** booked on our upcoming course!

(Regular price £510, course funded for £250, you pay £260)

- Course Start Date:
23rd April 2012
- Dates to Attend:
2nd May & 11th July 2012
- Location:
Warwick

Contact our team now if you would like to enrol and secure one of the part funded places:

Tel: **01926 838969** or email k.boyle@educationforhealth.org or n.overton@educationforhealth.org

NHS Improvement – Lung

Who are we?

[NHS Improvement - Lung](#) works closely with NHS and social care staff, the Department of Health and the voluntary sector. NHS Improvement - Lung is part of NHS Improvement, a national programme that works with clinical networks and NHS organisations to transform, deliver and sustain improvements across the entire pathway of care in cancer, heart, diagnostics, lung and stroke services.

Twitter!

NHS Improvement is now on Twitter! For all the latest news, events and updates [click here to follows us now!](#)

NHS Improvement - Lung Website

Visit [NHS Improvement - Lung](#) and find out more about the NHS Improvement – Lung.

Spread the word...

If you find these eBulletins useful and informative, then please forward this on and encourage your colleagues to sign up by emailing info@improvement.nhs.uk

If you have any comments about the Lung Improvement News eBulletin please forward them to emma.dashfield@improvement.nhs.uk

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