



Registered Charity No. 292157

# E-Bulletin from National Association for Patient Participation Issue Number 67 October 2012

## 1. **New N.A.P.P. Website - new passwords**

After a complete makeover, our new website was launched on 1<sup>st</sup> October. It is a key resource for all PPGs, whether new and established. All **Member area passwords have changed**. If your PPG already had a password for the previous website, you should have received from [server@serifwebresources.com](mailto:server@serifwebresources.com) on 9<sup>th</sup> October an email entitled '**Create a NAPP Members section Account**' giving you new login details. Each PPG has a single username and password to be used by all its members, but not divulged to others. Details about applying for the login are on the website Member page. If you experience any problems, please contact [edith.todd@napp.org.uk](mailto:edith.todd@napp.org.uk).

News items are updated frequently, so please visit the website regularly and let us have your feedback and ideas for further development of this most important resource for our members.

## 2. **Self Care Week 2012: November 12th – 18th** \*\*

As national patients champion for the Forum we strongly encourage PPGs to join in the activities this year. To help you implement local campaign activities, promotional materials and information are provided through the Self Care Forum website. Resources to help promote Self Care Week 2012, including downloadable posters and web banners can be found on the [Self Care Week 2012 Resources page](#)

## 3. **Choose Well Winter Campaign**

Along with this bulletin is a letter about Choose Well Champions. **Choose Well** is a national NHS communication and engagement campaign that aims to help local people to understand the NHS services available for them if they have a minor illness, ailment or injury; promote self-care and the use of local pharmacy for these conditions; highlight the message that A&E and 999 are for life-threatening and emergency situations. The letter urges PPGs and their members to take an important role in promoting publicising key messages about self-care in their communities. See the range of resources and information [here](#) and also [here](#).

## 4. **2012 European Antibiotic Awareness day in England: Resources**

European Antibiotic Awareness Day (EAAD), which takes place on 18 November 2012, is a Europe-wide public health initiative aimed at encouraging responsible use of antibiotics. The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control has created information and educational materials for use in hospitals and primary care settings and these have been adapted for use in England. There is a key messages document, web site banners and 3 posters and a leaflet for use in primary or secondary care. There are also antibiotic awareness videos on the Life Channel in GP surgeries: [Read more](#)

## 5. **Patients want more engagement and involvement on care decisions**

Patients want to be more involved in their care but feel GPs are currently not delivering good communication or shared decision making, according to a snapshot of opinion published by The Patients Association this week. The recent survey of patients found that 80% want to be more involved in decisions about their care and treatment. However almost 40% of respondents to our survey say they rated their GPs communication skills as five out of ten or less. [Read more](#)

## **6. Research: Inviting patients to read their doctors' notes**

Little information exists about what primary care physicians (PCPs) and patients experience if patients are invited to read their doctors' notes. The object of this research, conducted in the USA, was to evaluate the effect on doctors and patients of facilitating patient access to visit notes over secure Internet portals. The results showed that 77% to 87% reported that open notes helped them feel more in control of their care; 60% to 78% of those taking medications reported increased medication adherence; and 20% to 42% reported sharing notes with others. Researchers concluded that patients accessed visit notes frequently, a large majority reported clinically relevant benefits and minimal concerns, and virtually all patients wanted the practice to continue. With doctors experiencing no more than a modest effect on their work lives, open notes seem worthy of widespread adoption. [Read more](#)

## **7. New guidance to support organisations to deliver peer support for people with long term conditions**

Organisations delivering or planning to deliver peer support for people with long term conditions will be able to find out more about its benefits and good practice thanks to new [guidance](#) published by the Mental Health Foundation. A leaflet entitled Peer Support in Long Term Conditions: the Basics. Is available for free download

## **8. Registration of primary medical services**

In addition to its many other responsibilities, the Care Quality Commission has reached the stage in the registration of providers of general practice where they are beginning to submit their applications. Details can be viewed at [Registration of primary medical services](#). Applications must be submitted within four 28-day windows, which run from September to December.

## **9. Healthwatch England launched**

Healthwatch England, the new national, statutory consumer champion for health and social care in England, was launched on the 1st October. A key milestone in achieving the Government's objectives [Healthwatch England](#) exists to ensure the public's voice is heard at the national level. [Read more...](#) Also [check here](#) to find out where the your area has one of the 75 Local Healthwatch pathfinders

## **10. Reminder:**

**Please forward this bulletin to fellow members as promptly as possible.**

**We do not send hard copies of e-bulletins.**

**All previous e-bulletins and Newsletters are available on our website at [www.napp.org.uk](http://www.napp.org.uk)**

*Stephanie Varah,  
Chief Executive  
October 2012*