Innovation Bulletin June 2020

Articles

**Adult patient perspectives on receiving hospital discharge letters: a corpus analysis of patient interviews.**
[Participants reported inconsistent access to discharge letters. Most wanted to receive a copy of their discharge letter although some expressed reservations. Perceived benefits included: increased understanding of their condition and treatment, reduced anxiety, and increased satisfaction.]

**Aims, actions and advance care planning by district nurses providing palliative care: an ethnographic observational study.**
[Key Points: District nurses are key providers of palliative care at home, but little is known about how they perform this role; Observational research is important to understand what is done, not only what people say they do; District nurses talked about relationship building to enable excellent future care; Observed care showed familiarity with patients facilitating management of physical symptoms, but little advance care planning in practice.]

**Care organising technologies and the post-phenomenology of care: an ethnographic case study.**
Shaw SE. *Social Science & Medicine* 2020;255(June):Epub.
[Epub ahead of print. Care organising technologies are software applications that are intended primarily for informal carers, to help organise, document and coordinate caring work. These may be purchased privately or provided as part of state support. Take-up to date remains low. Based on empirical case studies of three such technologies and drawing on post-phenomenology and political science, we examined people's experience of caring when caring technologies find a way into their lives.]
*Freely available online*

**Checklists in community care: reducing differences in care delivery between regular and relief staff to improve consistency and client experience.**
[CONCLUSION: The use of checklists can transform the way care is delivered in the community support sector and other service delivery agencies alike to bring greater standardisation of care between providers, thus significantly improving client experience across the healthcare sector.]
*Freely available online*

**Measuring the benefits of the integration of health and social care: qualitative interviews with professional stakeholders and patient representatives.**
[There was consensus among stakeholders that patient experiences and outcomes are the best measures of integration, and that the main measures currently used to assess integration do not
directly assess patient benefits. Validated health status measures are readily available, however, a substantial shift in practices is required before their use becomes commonplace.]

Evidence-Based Summary

**Apps to help patients take medication on time need to be evaluated in a consistent way.**
NIHR Evidence; 2020.  

[NIHR Alert. Patients who used apps to remind them to take their medication were more likely to say they took it as prescribed. A review found that patients were twice as likely to say they followed the information given by their prescriber (adhered to their medication) if they used an app. However, a consistent method is needed to assess adherence and the value of apps before they can be recommended by healthcare professionals.]

Freely available online

Reports

**Digital transformation in the NHS.**
National Audit Office (NAO); 2020.  

[This report describes the current state of digital services in the NHS and examines the readiness of the NHS to deliver digital transformation. It focuses on strategy and implementation plans, including lessons from past strategies and progress made to date. It also considers the governance of digital transformation, financial and human resources and technical challenges.]

Freely available online

**Evaluating social prescribing: Insight 55.**
Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (IRISS); 2020.  

[This briefing provides a review of the research methods and approaches used to evaluate UK-based social prescribing interventions in recent years, to inform health care and social services professionals, as well as organisations delivering social prescribing interventions and those conducting evaluations of them. It aims to give an overview of how social prescribing has been evaluated, and what can be learned from this.]

Freely available online

**How do we secure more effective place-based primary care networks for the long-term?**
Institute of Public Care, Oxford Brookes University; 2020.  
[https://ipc.brookes.ac.uk/publications/PCN_long_erm.html](https://ipc.brookes.ac.uk/publications/PCN_long_erm.html)

[This paper considers how local partners in health, care and wellbeing services across the UK have responded to the coronavirus pandemic so far. It argues that to build effective place-based primary care networks on the ground for the longer term, partners will need to work together now to drive through further changes in shared services, systems, commitments and leadership.]

Freely available online
**How to improve the health and wellbeing of the UK population: devolution and reform of health and social care.**

[This report, which was largely completed before the Covid-19 outbreak, aims to provide comprehensive and actionable recommendations for the reform of health and social care. It looks at the role of individual circumstances in determining health outcomes, the operational measures that can improve patient outcomes, and population health and the need to streamline responsibilities so it is clear who is accountable for performance.]

Freely available online

**NHS Reset campaign themes.**
NHS Confederation; 2020.
https://www.nhsconfed.org/resources/2020/06/reset-campaign-themes

[NHS Reset is a new NHS Confederation campaign to contribute to the public debate on what the health and care system should look like post COVID-19. This briefing spotlights the ten themes and how NHS Confederation members and partners can get involved. We are committed to working with a range of patient charities and groups to help ensure their voice informs our work.]

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