



Registered Charity No 292157

Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year

E-Bulletin from National Association for Patient Participation Issue Number 135: December 2018

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

a. Diary dates

- 15th June 2019: N.A.P.P. Annual Conference 2018 in Cheltenham
- 9th - 15th June: PPG Awareness Week

2. Consultation on a review and update of CCG guidance on *Items which should not be routinely prescribed in primary care*

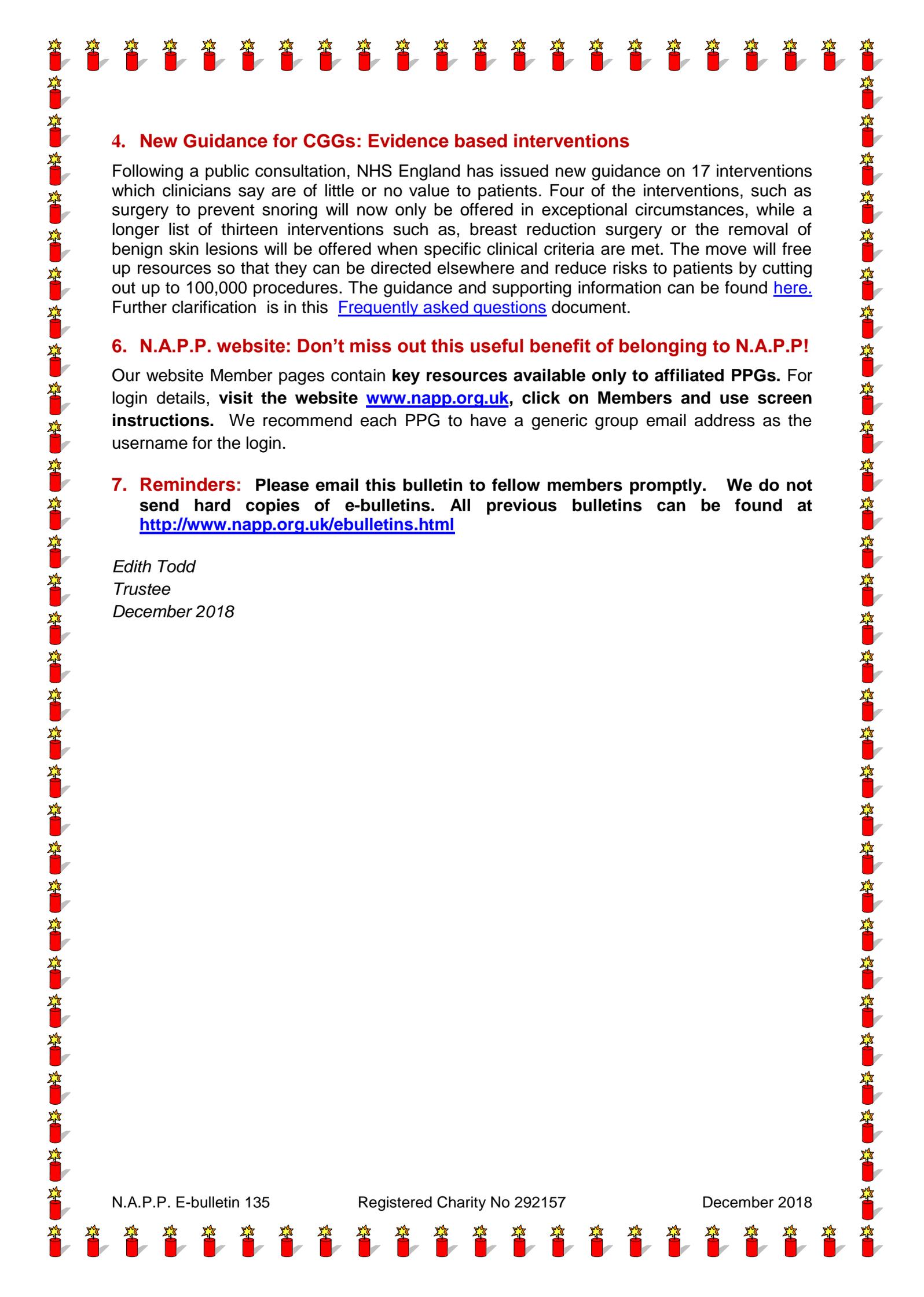
NHS England provides guidance to clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) in ensuring that they can use their prescribing resources effectively and deliver best patient outcomes from the medicines used by that their local population. A [national public consultation](#) has been launched on proposals to update and review the commissioning guidance on eight more products that cost the NHS more than £68 million. Where there are other more effective, safer and/or cheaper alternatives available to the items that NHS England is recommending should not be routinely prescribed in primary care. The consultation runs from 28 November 2018 until 28 February 2019. Details of public consultation events (face to face meetings in Leeds, London and Birmingham) can be found [here](#).. The closing date for the consultation is 28th February 2019.

3. General Data Protection Act (GDPR) Myths

N.A.P.P. has not yet produced a definitive guide for PPGs around consent, because the ICO (Information Commissioners Office) has not provided sufficiently clear answers to our specific questions. We have highlighted the need for those with virtual groups to

- appoint a Data Protection lead
- provide a Privacy Statement and
- obtain consent from patients who have signed up to be part of "virtual" PPGs, which should have been in place under the terms of the previous 1998 Act.

We are aware that some PPGs have been advised by practice staff (in some cases by CCGs) that they can no longer mail newsletters to the wider patient community. Its Deputy Commissioner for Policy has published a number of "GDPR myth-busting" blogs which should be useful. The latest [Sleigh-ing the Christmas GDPR myths](#) is tongue in cheek but informative. A previous blog issue [Consent is not the silver bullet for GDPR compliance](#) emphasises that the new law provides other ways of processing data that may be more appropriate than consent.



4. New Guidance for CGGs: Evidence based interventions

Following a public consultation, NHS England has issued new guidance on 17 interventions which clinicians say are of little or no value to patients. Four of the interventions, such as surgery to prevent snoring will now only be offered in exceptional circumstances, while a longer list of thirteen interventions such as, breast reduction surgery or the removal of benign skin lesions will be offered when specific clinical criteria are met. The move will free up resources so that they can be directed elsewhere and reduce risks to patients by cutting out up to 100,000 procedures. The guidance and supporting information can be found [here](#). Further clarification is in this [Frequently asked questions](#) document.

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

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

7. 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
December 2018*