



# E-Bulletin from National Association for Patient Participation Issue Number 94: March 2015

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

### 3. N.A.P.P. Annual Conference 'Really Putting Patients First: Practices and Patients Working Together' Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2015, 10 am to 4pm at the Woodland Grange Hotel and Conference Centre, Leamington Spa

Registration form and draft programme and are [here](#) on the N.A.P.P. website.

#### **“Early bird” discount and priority booking for N.A.P.P. members until April 25th**

Please be aware that the event is usually over-subscribed, so make a provisional reservation as soon as possible. Provided that we receive payment or have invoiced by April 25<sup>th</sup>, it will be secure

#### **b. PPG Awareness Week 2015: June 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>**

The updated Resource Pack is on our website [here](#). This is an opportunity to let your patients know about their PPG, to recruit new members, run health promotion or self care events and publicise PPGs in the wider community. Further suggestions or innovative ideas which worked well for your PPG last year can be incorporated in the Resource pack, please email them to [admin@napp.org.uk](mailto:admin@napp.org.uk)

#### **c. Corkill Award 2015: PPG of the Year: deadline 20<sup>th</sup> April**

Do you realise how good your PPG really is! Some excellent member groups don't take this opportunity showcase what they do. Read the criteria [here](#) (they do vary slightly from year to year to reflect the changes in priorities for PPGs) and think about how *your* PPG has made difference to patients and the practice. See what previous winners had achieved. Even if you don't win, this is how you can share your ideas and activities.

- Only online entries will be considered.
- Scanned or hand-written forms cannot be accepted.

## 2. RCGP Campaign update; Put Patients First, Back General Practice

The injection of a 1bn fund to invest in GP infrastructure over four years and further £1.5bn to be directed to front line health services were both announced in the Chancellor's autumn statement. With all main political parties promising improved financial support for general practice, the campaign now focuses on how best it can be used. GPs and their teams make estimated 370m patient consultations this year – 70m more than five years ago – due to an ageing population and more patients being treated for long-term and complex conditions.

In a bid to ease current pressures in general practice and address the severe shortage of GPs, the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) and the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) have come up with radical [plans](#) calling for pharmacists to work in GP surgeries. These would not be dispensing pharmacists, but would work closely with GPs and other colleagues to resolve day to day medicine issues, particularly for patients with long term conditions and who are taking a number of different medications. They would also liaise with hospitals, community pharmacists and care homes to ensure seamless care for patients.

## 3. RCGP report says that patients must not be forced to choose between easier access and continuity of care

The Royal College of General Practitioners also says that reducing waiting times for a GP appointment should be a priority for politicians and the incoming government, but not at the expense of continuity of care. In a [report](#) setting out a range of initiatives, the RCGP says that investment in GP services and training of more GPs must remain priorities.

#### 4. Health and Wellbeing website for young people

Created by young people for young people, the [Rise Above](#) website aims to build emotional resilience in individuals aged 11 to 16 by equipping them with the skills and knowledge they need to make informed decisions, and help deal with the pressures of growing up

#### 5. Developing relationships with CCGs and health and wellbeing boards

There is huge variation in how CCGs prioritise PPGs and the level of engagement they establish with them. Compact Voice has launched the first three in a series of briefings based on the experiences of a range of voluntary organisations which have established strong partnerships with local commissioning bodies. Their knowledge and tips have been translated into a number of practical steps organisations can take to engage better with these groups. The first two [Practical guides](#) were produced in partnership with [Regional Voices](#) and focus on engaging with Health and Wellbeing Boards and the other on Clinical Commissioning Groups. The third briefing focuses on Police and Crime Commissioners and was produced in partnership with [Clinks](#). The next in the series will focus on Local Enterprise Partnerships.

#### 6. NHS England proposals for more efficient and responsive access to medicines for patients.

[Proposals](#) which would apply across the United Kingdom, would enable four groups of registered allied health professions (AHPs) – radiographers, paramedics, dietitians and orthoptists – to prescribe or supply and administer medicines, giving patients responsive access to treatment. For many patients an AHP is their lead clinician, yet they often do not have access to the appropriate prescribing or supply and administration of medicines mechanisms. This means the patient may have to make an additional appointment with their GP or doctor to get the medicines they need.

#### 7. Improving transparency in the NHS

The [MyNHS website](#) enables health and care organisations, as well as the public, to compare the performance of services over a range of measures, at both local and national level. You can compare the performance your GP practices, hospitals, mental health services and public health services

#### 8. It's time to Be Online: deadline 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015

By now, all GP practices in England are required to offer **and actively promote** online appointment booking (and cancelling), online repeat prescription ordering and providing some patients with access to their own summary records i.e. details of medications, allergies and adverse reactions by the end of March. As active supporters of [Patient Online](#), N.A.P.P encourages PPGs to support practices in introducing these services. During the coming year, this will be extended to enable patients to access more of their current records to enable them to have more information about their current health, consultations and treatments.

#### 9. Get your N.A.P.P. member password now!

The Members' pages of the N.A.P.P. website contain **key resources available only to affiliated PPGs and CCGs**. For your PPG's unique login details for use by all the members of your PPG, (but not to be divulged to others), **visit the website, click on Members and use the screen instructions**. The response will come from [server@serifwebresources.com](mailto:server@serifwebresources.com)

#### 10. Reminders

**Please forward this bulletin to fellow members promptly. We do not send hard copies of e-bulletins. All bulletins are at <http://www.napp.org.uk/ebulletins.html>**

*Edith Todd, Trustee, March 2015*