

# Welcome to the Patients Association's Weekly News







# What good wound care should look like



We're looking for patients with experience of chronic wounds, who would like to work with us to develop recommendations for how wound care services could be improved.

This project follows on from the report <u>Making Wound Care Work</u>, which we developed with the company Mölnlycke, on the state of wound care services in England in 2021, and published last

month.

If you have experience of chronic wounds and would like to work with us to develop recommendations, we'll be hosting a small group discussion on Zoom on 6th July. You'll be able to share your views and opinions about how improvements can be made.

If you're interested in taking part or would like to know more about the discussion, please email Suzanne, on suzanne.meenan@patients-association.org.uk by Friday 17th June.

Email to register your interest

## How can we support your local campaigns?



Roger Blackwell

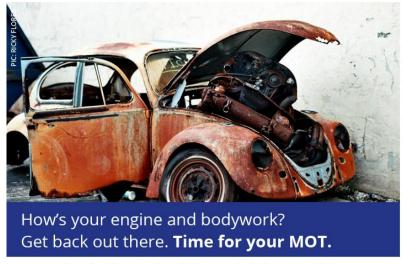
In last year's membership survey, many people told us they joined the Patients Association to improve health and social care.

To help them do that, they wanted us to develop tools they could use to campaign locally. We're planning on doing just that but we'd like to know from members - what sort of resources are you interested in us providing?

To tell us, complete our two-question survey, which asks what kind of campaigns you'd like to do and the kind of tools you'd find helpful.

Take our quick survey

### Men's Health Week



MEN'S HEALTH WEEK

2022



#menshealthweek #manMOT menshealthforum.org.uk/mhw

Men's Health Week starts on Monday and men are being encouraged to get a health MOT.

The Men's Health Forum says that <u>early stage cancer diagnoses fell by third</u> in first lockdown and that a shortfall has continued. That's not because prostate cancer is getting rarer (it isn't), but because men weren't seeing their GPs to begin to get diagnosed. Indeed, the number of men visiting GPs during the pandemic fell more than the number of women's appointment.

But with <u>NHS Health Checks</u> for people over 40, which were paused during Covid, having restarted the Men's Health Forum's message to men is - it's time for your MOT.

- Take notice of what's going on in your body and mind
- Do the Forum's quick and easy <u>DIY Man MOT</u>
- Take a look at the Man MOT manuals: Man MOT and Man MOT for the Mind
- Get an NHS Health Check
- And see your GP if you're concerned about any symptoms.

How the pandemic has affected pain services



The Patient Voice Committee at the British Pain Society is looking into how patients with chronic pain find their way to pain clinics, self-management, the use of community pain teams, and what the impact of COVID-19 has been on their pain and their access to pain services.

It has launched a survey to gather patients' views and is inviting readers of Weekly News who live with chronic pain to complete it. The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

The British Pain Society, whose members are healthcare professionals, promotes education, training, research and development in all fields of pain. The Patient Voice Committee advises the Society and ensures the views of patients are represented within the Society and in external discussions about pain.

The survey closes at the end of the month.

Take the survey

We welcome NHS England's ambitions for ICS partnership with patients



We believe NHS England's statutory guidance for Integrated Care Boards, NHS Trusts, and NHS Foundation Trusts presents positive ambitions for sharing power between local communities and the NHS.

But while we welcome these ambitions, we also believe they will require a major change in the NHS's culture and operation at every level, which may take many years to embed.

You can read our full submission to the consultation on our website.

Read our response to the consultation

# **Body-worn camera consultation**



The second phase of the consultation on the principle of introducing body worn video in the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Health and Social Care Trust (NIAS) is now open.

This phase of the consultation, which is open until 22nd July, looks at deployment, usage, governance, policy and procedure.

For further information on the consultation and to share your views, follow the link in the button below.

Respond to the consultation

# Scotland's data strategy for health and social care



The Scottish Government is consulting on its <u>Strategy for Care in the Digital Age</u>. The consultation stays open until 16th August.

This phase of the consultation builds on a programme of engagement that began last year. Follow the link in the button below to find out more about the consultation, its background, and how to respond. There is an Easy Read version too.

Respond to the consultation

## Bad reaction to medicine



Raymond\* called our helpline following a bad reaction he felt was caused by blood pressure medication his GP had recently prescribed.

Although he'd reported the side effects to his GP, he was told this particular medication was the only one that could be prescribed. Ray was very unhappy about this and asked his GP to refer him to a cardiologist. The GP told Ray he couldn't refer him to a hospital.

So Ray went to the local urgent care unit, explained what the problem was and was offered the same medication, again.

Our adivser told Ray to ask his GP to refer him for a second opinion from one of the other GPs at the practice. Ray could also contact the local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to ask which medications it commissions for the management of high blood pressure, and the adviser explained the role of the CCG as commissioners.

Our adviser also suggested that Ray could visit a walk in centre or call NHS111, and recommended he let the Care Quality Commission know about his experience.

Finally, our adviser also encouraged Ray to use the <u>Yellow Card</u> reporting system to let the medicines regulator know about the side effects he'd experienced.

\*Name changed to protect privacy.

To contact our helpline team, call 0800 3457115 between 9.30am and 5pm on weekdays or email <a href="mailto:helpline@patients-association.org.uk">helpline@patients-association.org.uk</a>. See <a href="mailto:our website">our website</a> for more ways to get in touch.

And remember, we have a <u>range of information</u> on our website from our very popular nutrition checklist right through to understanding your medicines.

## What our team is reading this week

Health and social care review: leadership for a collaborative and inclusive future

Palantir gears up to expand its reach into UK's NHS (FT - behind paywall)

Doctors and nurses 'should take nightshift power naps to keep patients safe'

What is happening to life expectancy in England?

**Diagnosing prostate cancer in asymptomatic patients** 

#### **About Us**

Our purpose is to ensure that everybody can access and benefit from the health and care they need to live well, by ensuring that services are designed and delivered through equal partnership with patients.

Our strategic focus for 2021-25 is patient partnership in the design and delivery of health and care services.

We are a registered charity raising all our own funds. If you'd like to support our work for all patients and make a difference, please <u>donate or consider making a regular donation</u>. You can also raise funds for us at not cost to you by making us your charity of choice on <u>AmazonSmile</u>. If you choose us, every time you buy something through the website, AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price to us. Thank you.



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