Booking is now available for the fourth regional WSDAN event in Bristol on 10 September 2009 – book early to be sure of a place.

http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/Events/EventDetail/?eventID=505

Welcome to the June/July 2009 newsletter. The Telecare Learning and Improvement Network (LIN) is responsible for providing general implementation support to organisations building their telecare and telehealth programmes.

The learning network is growing at the rate of around 100 people per month with over 4800 Telecare LIN members – an increase of over 1300 in the last year – make sure that you are registered to receive regular updates. The newsletter also goes out to over 4000 Housing LIN members.

You can register for newsletters at:

If you are an organisation implementing telecare or telehealth in England and have an interesting local telecare or telehealth story for inclusion in a future newsletter then e-mail Mike Clark at telecare@dhcarenetworks.org.uk

Note: DH Care Networks is not responsible for the content of external links and does not endorse any suppliers or their products. Any claims made by organisations should be carefully evaluated as part of normal commissioning and procurement arrangements.
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Headlines for June/July 2009

Item 1 covers ‘Shaping the Future of Care Together’. This Green Paper sets out a vision for a new care and support system. The Green Paper highlights the challenges faced by the current system and the need for radical reform, to develop a National Care Service that is fair, simple and affordable for everyone. There are references to telecare in the green paper. A Department of Health Social Care Bulletin Green Paper Special Issue is now available at [http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/_library/Social_Care_Green_Paper_special_bulletin.pdf](http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/_library/Social_Care_Green_Paper_special_bulletin.pdf)

Item 2 covers the Government publication ‘Building Britain’s future’ together with a cross Government report (Building a society for all ages) and Cabinet Office report (Working Together for Older People in Rural Areas). These are linked with the social care green paper and again have telecare references. Items 1 and 2 should be read together.

Item 3 covers the work of the Whole System Demonstrator Action Network (now a year old with over 1000 registered members). The network based at [www.wsdactionnetwork.org.uk](http://www.wsdactionnetwork.org.uk) provides update information on the whole system demonstrator programme and the evidence base for telecare and telehealth. Presentation slides are available for the recent Leeds event. A searchable evidence database is now available. Booking is now available for the Bristol event on 10 September 2009.

Item 4 covers the recent NHS Expo. On 18 and 19 June 2009, over 5000 people attended the Excel Centre in East London for a two day series of presentations and seminars accompanied by an exhibition which included an Innovation House. The House drew considerable interest as it placed assistive technology in the home environment. The BBC filmed a short clip which is still available online.

Item 5 introduces a recent Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) briefing (June 2009) on personalisation for commissioners.

Item 6 provides a timely reminder to telecare and telehealth service providers to ensure they have a robust plan in place to ensure continuity of services as the numbers of people affected by swine flu increase across the country. The Department of Health has appointed a social care flu lead.
**Item 7** identify a number of DH publications that are of importance to commissioners and service providers including reports on Fair Access to Care Services (FACS), dementia pilots, transforming community services and a year of progress on ‘High Quality Care for All’. There are several telecare and telehealth references in these documents which have been identified. The documents should be read alongside those referred to in Items 1 and 2.

**Item 8** provides a monthly news round up from the UK and around the world providing a comprehensive update for everyone in the telecare and telehealth fields.

**Item 9** provides an updated listing of DH Care Networks events including the Bristol event on 10 September – don’t forget to register early.
1 Social Care Green Paper - Shaping the future of care together

‘Shaping the Future of Care Together’ sets out a vision for a new care and support system. The Green Paper highlights the challenges faced by the current system and the need for radical reform, to develop a National Care Service that is fair, simple and affordable for everyone.

Within the Green Paper, it sets out a number of consultation questions and asks everyone to provide their views about how they think Government can make this vision a reality and develop a care and support system fit for the 21st century.

The consultation will run from 14 July 2009 to 13 November 2009.

There are some references to telecare within the green paper.

Extract from Page 51

“We also want to offer targeted support to help people who are likely to need greater amounts of care and support. By making sure that as few people as possible need ongoing care and support, we will improve the quality of life for people and make the system more efficient. We will achieve this through a number of routes……

- Telecare is any service that brings technology-based care and support directly into a person’s home. Telecare services range from a basic community alarm service to more complex systems with sensors that detect motion, falls, fire or gas and let a response centre know when somebody needs help. Telecare can be particularly helpful in keeping people safe in their own homes, and giving them confidence. Using technology to enable delivery of high-quality support will be a vital element of the future care and support system. We will continue to promote telecare so that people feel more confident about staying in their own homes for longer.

- We will make sure that everyone can easily get hold of information about prevention and early intervention…."

Case study: Re-ablement and telecare (Page 52)

“After he had a stroke, Terence was at risk of falling and was not able to be at home safely on his own. Because he wanted to leave hospital, he was discharged two weeks early to a special flat with
additional support. While he was there he received rehabilitation from the intermediate care team, but also built up his confidence to live independently and had a falls detector, bed sensor and gas detector. He returned to his own flat several weeks later and did not require further care”.

Older People’s Prevention Package (Page 52)

“….In 2009, the Government will introduce a package to encourage the use of prevention services for older people and improve their health, wellbeing and independence. The package will bring together information on current services for older people (including flu vaccinations, cancer screening, health checks and integrated care planning). It will also promote best practice on how to prevent and treat falls and fractures and provide footcare. It will review national intermediate care guidance, and summarise existing progress on audiology and telecare……

What kind of information do people need? (Page 56)

• …..Information and advice on the services that are available (both traditional care services and non-traditional services such as telecare and handyperson services) and how to choose between them…..”

The Government has already started to build the evidence base in care and support (Page 78)

“There are ongoing studies of the effectiveness of telehealth and telecare –
www.wsdactionnetwork.org.uk “

Report:

Consultation arrangements:
http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_102339

2 Building Britain’s future


Chapter 6 Section 20
“…The Government will set out the details of a health prevention package for older people, which will bring together existing entitlements such as flu vaccination, cancer screening, eye checks and vascular checks. It will build on these entitlements by promoting best practice around footcare, falls and fractures prevention, as well as a review of national intermediate care guidance. It will set out progress on audiology and telecare. The package will evolve over time and will also include continence care, and treatment for depression and arthritis…..”


DH Care Networks
Shaping the future of care (see item 1) is linked with Building Britain’s future.

b) Building a society for all ages (published on 13 July 2009)

The Government has published a report entitled ‘Building a society for all ages’ that links with the social care green paper. There are references to telecare in the report and action plan.

Page 13

“…..The extension of telecare was boosted in 2006 by the £80 million preventative technology grant”.

Page 41

“…We will shortly be publishing a Care and Support Green Paper. This will set out a new vision for care and support, explaining how services will change to deliver the vision, and setting out options for a fairer and more sustainable funding system. It will also look to make care more flexible for individuals and families by encouraging new technologies such as telehealth and telecare…”.

Implementation Plan reference to telehealth and telecare

| Publish a Care and Support Green Paper which will set out a new vision for care and support, explaining how services will change to deliver the vision, and set out options for a fairer and more sustainable funding system. It will also look to make care more flexible for individuals and families by encouraging new technologies such as telehealth and telecare. |
|------------------|----------------|
| Summer 2009      | DH |

http://www.hmg.gov.uk/buildingasocietyforallages.aspx

c) Working Together for Older People in Rural Areas (published on 13 July 2009)

The Cabinet Office has published a report on ‘Working together for Older People in Rural Areas’ that includes telecare references.

Page 27

“….Telemedicine can enable patients to access specialist consultations and diagnosis within their local community hospital. Telemedicine has already been widely used in remote Scottish areas to address access issues to outpatient and Accident and Emergency admissions…”

Page 29

“….Rural Whole system Demonstrator - Cornwall is one of 3 national evaluation sites for the demonstration of the whole system approach to supporting people with Long Term Conditions (LTC). The demonstrator will be evaluated using a randomised control trial (RCT) over two years and will test
the benefits of both telehealth and telecare. Telehealth allows patients with LTC to be monitored from home. Patients submit biometric readings such as blood pressure, blood glucose and/or weight to a simple user-friendly device which automatically sends the information to a clinician for review. Based on these readings cases are prioritised. Those that are deemed a high priority are visited or called by the community matron and others with a lower priority are reviewed. Telecare devices are used for people who are frail, at risk of falling or have dementia. These monitor any unusual activity and alert carers or a call centre if a problem is detected....”

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/221434/working_together_older_people_rural_areas_report_july_09.pdf

3 Whole System Demonstrator Action Network (WSDAN)

Prepared by Mike Clark (Co-Project Lead)

The latest WSDAN eNewsletter was issued on 13 June 2009 covering updates on the demonstrator programme together with evidence reviews. The next newsletter will be available around mid to late July 2009 – don’t forget to register for regular updates at http://www.wsdactionnetwork.org.uk/about_wsdan/register_for_updates.html

The third of eight regional events was held in Leeds on 11 June 2009 and presentation slides from the event are now available at http://www.wsdactionnetwork.org.uk/past_events/wsdan_roadshow.html

Tim Ellis (left above, WSD Programme Manager) provides updated information on the whole system demonstrator trial including how people are recruited into the trial.

Hazel Price from Kent covered some of the challenges faced in their programme including the recruitment of GPs and users/patients to the trial.

Professor John Cleland (right above, University of Hull) provides a review of telemonitoring for people with heart failure.
Marianne Howard (above left and below, Leeds Telecare) with Martin Kennard and Donna Lancaster (first two pictures below) present information about the Leeds Telecare Service.

Paul Trueman (above right, YHEC) provides an insight into the evaluation of the telecare programme in Scotland to an attentive audience.

Professor Sue Yeandle from Leeds University looked at carers and telecare whilst David Miles (Nottingham City Council), Sally Parker (NHS Nottingham) and Malcolm Clarke (Brunel University) covered the Nottingham Telehealth programme and its evaluation. You can read more about their presentations in the July and August WSDAN newsletters.

A short video (some stills below) from Leeds Telecare captures how staff, users, carers and other stakeholders have worked in partnership to build an award winning service in the city.
Also at the event, the WSD Action Network launched a search facility for the evidence database. The first 220 entries are now available in the database which can be searched by evidence type, long term condition/client group and technology. More references are being added over the coming months.

http://kingsfundlibrary.co.uk/wsdan/
Don’t forget that the WSDAN site also has a continuous listing of relevant new journal articles:

Sample reports from the WSDAN News Service – keep up to date at www.wsdactionnetwork.org.uk

‘Diabetes patients should have regular exercise, weight training’ – American Heart Association

07.07.09 | Posted by: WSDAN
To reduce their cardiovascular risk, people with type 2 diabetes should do at least two-and-a-half hours per week of moderate-intensity or one-and-a-half hours per week of vigorous-intensity aerobic exercises, plus some weight training.

Computer system for dementia patients

07.07.09 | Posted by: WSDAN
A European project being tested in Norway and Poland provides helpful information and prompts on a touch-screen computer as a reminder for older people who may have memory and cognitive problems.

New therapy found to prevent heart failure

03.07.09 | Posted by: WSDAN
A four year study of over 1800 patients has successfully demonstrated a 29 per cent reduction in heart failure or death in patients with heart disease who received an implanted cardiac resynchronization therapy device with defibrillator (CRT-D) versus patients who received only an implanted cardiac defibrillator (ICD-only).

Telemedicine expands reach of care for Parkinson's patients

03.07.09 | Posted by: WSDAN
A webcam-based telemedicine project is providing distant nursing home patients with Parkinson’s disease access to neurologists at the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC).

Nationwide telemedicine networks are essential for successful health care reform in the USA

03.07.09 | Posted by: WSDAN
Experts propose that telemedicine, or information technology enhanced health care, must be a core component of a viable health care reform strategy in the USA.

Healthcare via Cell Phones: A Systematic Review

25.06.09 | Posted by: WSDAN
The authors searched the literature to identify controlled studies evaluating cell/mobile phone voice and text message interventions to provide care and disease management support.


There will be further coverage of the evidence database and Assistive Living Directory featured at the Leeds event in the WSDAN newsletters for July and August 2009. Register now for regular updates.
Booking is now available for the fourth regional WSDAN event in Bristol on 10 September 2009 – book early to be sure of a place.
http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/Events/EventDetail/?eventID=505

4 NHS Innovation Expo

*Prepared by Mike Clark*

On 18 and 19 June 2009, over 5000 people attended the Excel Centre in East London for a two day series of presentations and seminars accompanied by an exhibition which included an Innovation House.

The Innovation House was supported by 40 organisations with a variety of assistive technologies including telecare and telehealth.

For a list of organisations involved in supporting the Innovation house go to
http://www.healthcareinnovationexpo.com/innovationhouse.asp

**Jacky Scobell** from Kent County Council demonstrates how the technology of the future could look in a community setting. The video has been developed by the Digital Access Provision (DAP) Forum which is one of the Assisted Living Innovation Platform (ALIP) funded programmes. Those attending the recent Leeds event were also able to view the recently launched video. ALIP funded initiatives will
be featured at the Bristol event on 10 September 2009. You can also view the video at http://www.dapforum.org/page.jsp?id=19 (you will need to install Microsoft Silverlight on your computer for the video to run – check with your ICT support where necessary).

Andy Burnham, Secretary of State for Health visits the Innovation House.

Louis Burns from Intel and Lord Darzi of Denham gave major presentations along with David Nicholson (NHS Chief Executive).

Sir Liam Donaldson, Chief Medical Officer at the Department of Health is updated by Tim Ellis (WSD Programme Manager, DH) and Andrew Forrest (Cornwall Demonstrator Programme).
Lord Darzi and Lord Drayson (Minister for Science and Innovation, BIS) visit the Innovation House along with Rob Chesters (West Midlands Medilink and i-House) and Martin Scarfe (Newham Demonstrator Site). David Colin Thome (Right picture – centre, National Director for Primary Care, DH) receives a briefing from Martin Scarfe and Tim Ellis on the Newham telehealth system.

Tim Ellis and Anne-Marie Pascoe (Cornwall Demonstrator Site) with David Colin Thome (left picture). Lord Darzi accompanied by Sir Gus O'Donnell (Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Civil Service) with Tim Ellis (Centre picture). Andrew Forrest (Cornwall Demonstrator) explains the telecare and telehealth programme to Sir Gus O'Donnell.

You can hear Lord Darzi’s Expo speech at the Innovation Expo at [http://www.ournhs.nhs.uk/?p=1220](http://www.ournhs.nhs.uk/?p=1220)

The Innovation House was also visited by health ministers **Ann Keen** (Parliamentary Under Secretary for Health Services) and **Phil Hope** (Minister of State for Care Services), Permanent Secretary **Sir Hugh Taylor** and Director General of Social Care, **David Behan** all from the Department of Health.

Also available for the first time at the Innovation House was the new WSD publication which explains the background to the trial.


Additional news:
NHS Cornwall And Isles Of Scilly Praised By Lord Darzi For Transforming Health Care For Local People
[http://www.cornwallandislesofscilly.nhs.uk/CornwallAndIslesOfScillyPCT/News/NewsArticles/300609lorddarzi.aspx](http://www.cornwallandislesofscilly.nhs.uk/CornwallAndIslesOfScillyPCT/News/NewsArticles/300609lorddarzi.aspx)

Minister: NHS must take tech risks
[http://news.zdnet.co.uk/itmanagement/0,1000000308,39665755,00.htm](http://news.zdnet.co.uk/itmanagement/0,1000000308,39665755,00.htm)

Blooming eck, our Vera is Andy Burnham 'special adviser'

Innovate or die, NHS told

**5 SCIE publication on personalisation for commissioners**

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) has published (June 2009) a briefing on personalisation for commissioners.
Personalisation for commissioners means:

- ensuring the right balance of investment between different services – aggregated and disaggregated investments – as well as the appropriate balance between cost, quality and value for money to meet local needs
- shaping the market – so that high quality, flexible and responsive services are available for personal budget holders and self-funders
- ensuring that people have access to information and advice to make good decisions about their care and support, however it is funded
- finding new collaborative ways of working (sometimes known as coproduction) that support people actively to engage in the design, delivery and evaluation of services
- developing local partnerships, particularly between health and social care, which produce a range of services for people to choose from and opportunities for social inclusion and community development
- commissioning prevention and wellbeing services – which promote the public good but which would not be purchased by individuals, as well as some widely used services to more flexible specifications, e.g. domiciliary care
- ensuring all citizens have access to universal community services and resources such as transport and leisure activities.

http://www.scie.org.uk/publications/ataglance/ataglance06.asp

6 Pandemic Flu planning

The Department of Health has appointed Roy Taylor as the new National Director for Social Care Flu Resilience, Care Services. Roy Taylor will report to David Behan, Director General for Social Care and will work closely with Ian Dalton, the National Director for NHS Flu Resilience.

Mr Taylor will be responsible for ensuring that all social care organisations in England build on the robust planning that is already in place to deal with a flu pandemic.


It is important that telecare and telehealth services are well prepared to ensure business continuity as significant numbers of people are now being affected. Here are some important areas to look at:

- Have there been reported swine flu cases in your area? How have services responded? What arrangements are in place? What local lessons have been learned?
- Have you reviewed the range of relevant documentation (eg policy, guidance, leaflets etc) available
from Government and other sources that would help with planning and providing information to staff and service users?

- Do you know about your local flu plan arrangements? Are you up to date with recent local developments? Do you know where the anti-viral collection points are?
- Are arrangements in place to provide national and local sources of information to users and carers if they are unwell?
- Are arrangements in place to link with care providers if users call in to indicate that their care worker or personal assistant is unwell?
- Are arrangements in place to support telehealth users for vital signs monitoring if nursing staff have to cover flu lines and vaccination arrangements in the coming months?
- Are appropriate cover arrangements in place to maintain a control centre and a home visit service if staff are affected by flu (either themselves or caring for their children)? Would other staff be able to cover from the current base or another control centre location?
- Are management and service responsibilities clearly set out for the current and future arrangements?
- Are staff fully briefed on a regular basis about current arrangements and future plans in your area?
- Have you reviewed business continuity and resilience arrangements?

Extensive web links for swine flu resources were listed in the April and May newsletters.

Swine Flu – DH statements

NHS Choices - provides updated information on any changes
http://www.nhs.uk/Pages/HomePage.aspx

Planning for pandemic influenza in social care – further modules are now available

7 Additional DH news of interest for telecare and telehealth commissioning and service provision

Compiled by Mike Clark

a) Consultation on the revision of the Fair Access to Care Services guidance to support councils to determine eligibility for social care services

This paper is a consultation carried out by the Department of Health on the revision of the statutory guidance providing local authorities with a framework to determine individual eligibility for social care – the “Fair Access to Care Services” guidance. The draft revised guidance now put to consultation aims to reset the eligibility criteria framework within the policy context of personalisation and prevention set out in the cross-sector agreement for the transformation of adult social care - Putting People First.

In light of the independent review undertaken by the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) on the application of eligibility criteria, the draft revised guidance also aims to support councils to
implement eligibility criteria in a way that is as fair, consistent and transparent as possible, taking into account the needs of the wider community as well as individual need for support.

There are some references to telecare in the document.

**Page 12 - Targeted interventions to support individuals at increased risk**

“….Councils may also wish to consider commissioning for assistive technologies, designed to help people with long-term conditions or support needs to maintain their independence and to reduce unnecessary hospital and care home use. An evaluation of the Telecare Development Programme commissioned by the Scottish Government suggests that telecare can provide opportunities to promote independence and improve the quality of life of service users and carers, particularly for older people and those with dementia. The Nuffield Trust is also currently leading a multidisciplinary evaluation of the impact of telecare and telehealth on the use of NHS and social services, and the associated costs…..”

In recognition of the benefits of re-ablement, telecare and targeted information, the Care and Support Green Paper puts forward proposals for making targeted support services more universally available to help people regain confidence and retain independence in their own home.

References:

The Nuffield Trust, *Evaluation of the Whole System Demonstrator Project*

**Page 14**

b) Fairer contributions guidance: calculating an individual’s contribution to their personal budget

This guidance supplements the current fairer charging guidance. This new guidance provides councils with a model for calculating a person’s contribution to their personal budget. Councils providing personal budgets should implement this section 7 guidance by March 2010.


c) New phone number to make urgent care easier to access

9 July 2009

A consultation on a new national three-digit number – 111 – that will make it easier for patients to access urgent care wherever they are was launched on 9 July 2009.


d) First specialist dementia advisors start work

9 July 2009

Demonstrator sites, announced by Care Services Minister Phil Hope, will kick off in 22 areas around the country. An additional 18 sites will test different kinds of support networks for families and carers.

Dementia advisors will act as a guide to help people with dementia and their families navigate the care and support system throughout their illness. They will help provide easy access to care, support and advice.

The sites piloting support networks will test different ways of providing local practical and emotional support for people with dementia and their carers and give them an opportunity to take an active role in developing local services. Some of the services that will be piloted include dementia cafes – places where people with dementia and their carers can meet up - and a simple social networking site which will allow people with dementia to network with others.

Dementia Adviser sites (22) Bracknell Forest, Bradford, Bristol, Lancashire, Croydon, Medway, East Sussex, Enfield, Hampshire, Kingston upon Thames, Kirklees, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, North Tyneside, Oxfordshire, Redcar and Cleveland, Somerset, Suffolk, Warwickshire, Worcerstershire, Wigan

Peer support sites (18) Brighton and Hove, Cornwall, Cumbria, Derby, Hackney, Hertfordshire, Kent, Lambeth/Southwark, Leeds, Milton Keynes, Newham, Nottinghamshire, Salford, South End, Stockport, Surrey, Torbay, Wakefield


e) Research and development work relating to assistive technology 2008-09
9 July 2009

This annual report covers research and development work carried out by or on behalf of any government department in relation to equipment that might increase the range and independence of older and disabled people.

The current report outlines the role of assistive technology in making independent living easier for older people and disabled adults and children. The report describes the wide range of government-funded projects supporting the development, introduction and evaluation of assistive technology. Relevant projects funded by the EU have also been included.


f) Roy Taylor Appointed National Director for Social Care Flu Resilience

The Department of Health has appointed Roy Taylor as the new National Director for Social Care Flu Resilience, Care Services Minister Phil Hope announced today.

Mr Taylor will take up the post today. He will report to David Behan, Director General for Social Care. He will also work closely with Ian Dalton, the National Director for NHS Flu Resilience.

Mr Taylor will be responsible for ensuring that all social care organisations in England build on the robust planning that is already in place to deal with a flu pandemic.


g) The Month

3 July 2009

Includes the latest position on swine flu planning and the recent NHS Expo event.


h) Integrated care pilots go live

2 July 2009
The Department of Health has launched a pilot programme to test and evaluate a range of models of integrated care. The programme of Integrated Care Pilots is designed to explore different ways in which health and social care could be provided to help drive improvements in local health and well-being. ICP allows communities to take a fresh look at how to deliver such care, based solely around the needs of the local population. The aim is to look beyond traditional boundaries (e.g. between primary and secondary care) to explore new, integrated models.

Integration refers to partnerships, systems and models as well as organisations - crossing boundaries across primary, community, secondary and social care.


i) Jim Easton has been appointed NHS National Director for Improvement and Efficiency, the Department of Health announced today.

The new NHS National Director for Improvement and Efficiency will advise on changes needed to support the NHS in delivering its quality and efficiency commitments through a greater focus on quality, innovation, productivity and prevention (QIPP). This will allow the NHS to drive up quality whilst improving productivity - a challenge which means harnessing and spreading innovation and new ideas. QIPP will be key to building upon the success and great progress made in implementing the commitments set out last year in Lord Darzi’s High Quality Care for All.


j) A year of progress towards High Quality Care for All

30 June 2009

Lord Darzi has today published his report High Quality Care for All: Our Journey So Far, which examines the progress that has been made since High Quality Care for All was published a year ago. Across each dimension of quality - patient experience, patient safety and clinical effectiveness - Lord Darzi has found that there has been real progress with patients already seeing the difference.

“The NHS continues to be at the forefront of finding new ways of harnessing advancements in technology for the benefit of patients. For example, technology can help patients to better manage their own health – the NHS is leading the world in telehealth and telecare. In Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly they are being used to support people with long-term conditions as a part of the largest clinical trial of these technologies anywhere in the world. Telehealth allows patients to record vital signs such as blood pressure with easy-to-use equipment installed in their homes. Community matrons and GPs, who can intervene early if they are needed, monitor the results remotely. Telecare is helping people to live independent lives – for example, it is being provided to help people with dementia or those at risk of falling to stay at home more safely, using devices that track movements and prevent incidents such as the bath overflowing. Patients are better able to understand and take control of their care and remain where they want – in their own homes”.

“High Quality Care for All: Our Journey So Far”

New guidance has been launched by Health Minister Lord Darzi to support the NHS in delivering the highest quality healthcare services within the community.

The Transformational Guides for Community Services will support clinical leaders in transforming services locally, providing local staff with the information and tools they need to modernise and improve services in their community.

The guides focus on six key areas: health, well-being and reducing inequalities; acute care closer to home; people with long-term conditions; rehabilitation services; services for children, young people and families; and end-of-life care.

The guides are also intended to help commissioners understand community services better and managers to identify areas where improvements can be made. They contain best-practice examples, which the Department of Health says has been shown to improve patients' experience of community healthcare.

A Quality Framework Guidance for Community Services, published alongside the Guides, will help measure and improve the quality of community services provided. The guidance includes more than 70 proposed quality indicators, which will be tested over the coming months.

These range from improvements in health outcomes and perceived quality of life to how long wounds take to heal, and waiting times to access services. They cover aspects of effectiveness, safety and patient experience across community services.

Lord Darzi said: "Patients have told us that whenever it is safe, they prefer to be treated close to home. The guides I am launching today will give frontline NHS staff all the information they need to help them change the way care is delivered to patients."
These best practice guides have a vital role to play in the delivery of the intentions for High Quality Care for All: the Next Stage Review. They set out ambitions, taking action and measurement of the achievement and link with, should be read in conjunction with the quality framework/quality indicators.

**Transforming services for acute care closer to home**

Pg 19 “Use technology to help empower patients to monitor their own condition, for example, telehealth. This will enable patients to remain at home”.

**Transforming services for people with long term conditions**

- Use a proven tool like the combined predictive model (PARR+) to risk stratify your local population.
- Support and enable people to take appropriate and effective self directed care and greater responsibility for managing their own health.
- Use case managers as key workers to work proactively with very high intensity users (VHIUs) and those with complex care needs. Develop shared care plans with realistic goal setting.
- Invest in telehealth and telecare to empower patients to take control of their health needs, under the guidance and support of the case manager.
- Develop personalised care plans using joint care planning/integrated assessment and join up multidisciplinary working along the care pathway.
“......Use technology (e.g. telehealth/remote monitoring), to help people monitor their own condition to enable independence and, where practical, to avoid inappropriate admissions to an acute trust”.

Page 21

Transmitting symptom data to clinicians and followup

“......Telemonitoring, using computers or telephones to transmit data about clinical indicators, like blood pressure, can empower service users to monitor their readings and enable distance checking by professionals. The key to the success of this intervention appears to be the review and followup by a professional”.

Page 27

Clinical innovators

• Maximising the potential of technology, providing support and information to people with long term conditions and using telemedicine to enable home monitoring of symptoms and active management of risk factors for exacerbation.
• Developing skills and extending roles to enable patients with exacerbations of their illness to be managed at home and in other community settings.

See also High Quality Care for All at http://www.ournhs.nhs.uk/

1) Whole Systems Demonstrators: an overview of telecare and telehealth

15 June 2009

The Whole System Demonstrator (WSD) programme is a two year research project funded by the Department of Health to find out how technology can help people manage their own health while maintaining their independence. The WSD programme is believed to be the largest randomised control trial of telecare and telehealth in the world to date.

m) Practice-based commissioning in action: a guide for GPs

The Guide provides access to easy to follow advice, practical examples and details of where to find further support. Although primarily designed for those just starting out with PBC, it also contains information and useful tips of interest to those that have already made progress but are looking to expand their activity further.


n) Joint commissioning framework for dementia

15 June 2009

"It is becoming increasingly possible for people with dementia to be cared for at home by appropriately vetted, well-trained and motivated staff where the familiarity of their surroundings is of positive benefit. Commissioners need to use an outcomes-based approach and pay a fair price to ensure that providers have the flexibility to deal with needs that may differ over time, and which enables them to respond in creative ways, with dignity and to support family carers. Supporting and disseminating the use of telecare approaches is also vital as growing numbers of people with dementia require care."

Mike Padgham, chair, UK Home Care Association (UKHCA)

Page 36

Housing, telecare and assistive technologies are an integral part of services for people with dementia if improving quality of care and maximising choice, independence and control are to be achieved.

SCIE research briefing 28 Assistive technology and older people
The role of housing and housing-related services in meeting older people’s mental health and social care needs has been neglected, but many services like sheltered and extra care housing are now more likely to accept people with a wide range of needs, including dementia.

Annex 1: NICE/SCIE guidance 53 Living well with dementia: the National Dementia Strategy – Joint commissioning framework for dementia

SCIE knowledge management report 15 Using digital media to access information and good practice for paid carers: A feasibility study (2006)

This report points out that much of the focus on telecare has been on its use in supporting people with dementia and their carers through systems tackling behaviour and monitoring cognitive decline.

8 News

News from around the world covering telecare, telehealth and related areas of interest to commissioners, service providers, suppliers and other organisations – prepared by Mike Clark

a) Telecare

Essex County Council makes Telecare free to over 85s

The council is investing £4 million in telecare systems and support, which will be available to new applicants for telecare who are over 85, as part of the council’s vision to deliver the best quality of life in Britain.
Implementing telecare for people with dementia: Supporting ageing in place in West Lothian, Scotland – Journal of Care Management (April to June 2009)

FASS up to 100,000 telecare deployments

Woman rescued from home fire

A disabled woman had a lucky escape when she was rescued by firefighters after a fire broke out in her house.

Firefighters went to the house in Stock Lane, Ingatestone, at about 4.40am on Friday, after Careline alerted them to the fire.

When they arrived they found the living room completely smokelogged and the woman, aged in her early 60s, asleep in an armchair.

They broke in through the front door, dragged the woman out and gave her an oxygen mask.

Calvin Goody, station commander at Ingatestone, said the woman, who had mobility problems, could not have left the property without their help.

He said: “If it hadn’t been for the smoke alarm and if we had got there five minutes later, it could have been a different story.”

Disabled man’s thanks after Weymouth bungalow fire rescue

A disabled man has praised the firefighters who came to his rescue after cooking caught fire at his Weymouth bungalow.

Noel Unwin, 62, of Rockhampton Close, Littlemoor, said he did not realise he was in need of
rescuing until the firefighters came knocking on his door.

Weymouth crews were alerted in the early hours of yesterday by a Careline alarm, which is fitted in sheltered housing accommodation and alerts a control centre when triggered.

Firefighters escorted Mr Unwin out of the smoke-filled bungalow and gave him oxygen while they disposed of the flame-filled pan.

A saucepan of stew had activated Mr Unwin’s Careline alarm and prompted the emergency call out.

http://www.dorsetecho.co.uk/news/4438099.Disabled_man_s_thanks_after_Weymouth_bungalow_fire_rescue/

Nottingham’s pioneering social care technology wins national award


Technology To Help Promote Independence – Neath Port Talbot

Future of Dundee’s telecare to be decided

New alarm service to keep Barnet’s residents as safe as houses
Rapid response - the government's long-awaited social care plans are likely to back telecare. So why isn't it being taken up more widely?

http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2009/jun/24/social-care-telecare

Taking up assistive technologies–views of a social worker

Support Tasmania with telecare

Telecare UK: the use of assistive technology in East Cheshire, South Wales and Hackney, London
From bed sensors to flood monitors: safety at home for independent elderly people

Telecare and assistive technology fits in to the personalisation agenda

Care and support reform – the story so far
http://www.guardian.co.uk/careandsupportreform/story-so-far

Flaws found in alarms system to replace warden scheme

National Telecare and Telehealth Conference (TSA) – November 2009
http://www.telecare.org.uk/information/47914/conference_09/

b) Telehealth

U of Miami, Microsoft test remote monitoring for diabetics

Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund implements e-Health solution from Orange Austria and Alcatel-Lucent

Meaningful Healthcare Reform: Challenges and Solutions

Proven technology and care intersect at the VA Telehealth Clinic
Telehealth can create a mobile revolution  
http://www.publicservice.co.uk/feature_story.asp?id=12051

GPs and clinicians report on success of telehealth  
http://www.ehealthnews.eu/content/view/1632/26/  
http://healthcareitnews.eu/content/view/1496/39/

Telemedicine for kids catches on in Rochester (USA)  

Managing care with handheld technology  

CitiusTech Announces Connect4Health Launch  
http://caas.tmcnet.com/topics/caas-saas/articles/57966-citiustech-announces-connect4health-launch.htm

CfH connects telehealth to EMIS Web  

Telehealth and Telecare in the NHS  

Bioheart to Introduce Improved Heart Failure Monitoring Systems at Heart Failure Nurses Annual Meeting  

Digital doctor – Toumaz  
http://www.theengineer.co.uk/Articles/311787/Digital+doctor.htm

Electronic monitors provide care without doctor  
http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/06/28/BUKS18DFDR.DTL&type=health

Patient Centered Medical Home Can Change the Way Care is Delivered  
http://www.ehealthnews.eu/content/view/1621/26/
Telehealth Solutions launches CardioPod for NHS Health Check


‘Telemedicine’ house helps older people stay safe and independent
http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/health/article6549263.ece

A Personal, Coordinated Approach to Care

Testing telehealth and telecare - the Whole Systems Demonstrator trial aims to test the financial viability of remote health and care
http://www.smarthealthcare.com/telehealth-telecare-whole-systems-demonstrator-03jun09

Yorkshire project to develop telehealth consultation system

Lord Darzi speaking in the Nursing Times

“One of the goals is to take advantage of technology, such as physiological sensors and the internet, to move patients away from hospital settings back into their homes”.

‘When I started training, patients with cardiac failure were in an intensive care unit or a coronary care unit because they had heart failure,’ he said. ‘They are now cared for treated at home by community nurses.’

As evidence for progress in this area, Lord Darzi highlighted the use of physiological sensors, which measure pulse and blood oxygenation levels. Information from these can be transmitted to a community nurse, who can then instigate an early treatment.

Lord Darzi, Nursing Times, June 2009

Fermanagh and Dublin-based McElwaine Smart Technologies has linked up with technology giant Bosch to provide a health-monitoring service.

http://www.teletext.co.uk/regionalnews/northern-ireland/ba64c0973ada68877b48ef2c0d8a3d05/Monitoring+service+launched.aspx

Border residents can use closest health service (Fermanagh)


University of Houston research team aims to help caregivers monitor patients’ health and whereabouts


Hawaii Healthcare starts remote monitoring


A new paradigm in medical service – Korea

http://www.koreaittimes.com/story/4070/new-paradigm-medical-service-all-eyes-u-health

Putting the health back into the NHS

http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2009/jun/16/nhs-health-innovation

UnitedHealth, Cisco partner on telehealth tech


InTouch Health Launches Multi-Presence™ - Multiple Physicians Can Now Simultaneously Collaborate During Remote Patient Consults

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20090708005246&newsLang=en

University of Ottawa Heart Institute's Telehealth Model Cuts Re-Admission for Heart Failure by 54%


$6 Billion Wireless Sensor Network Smart Home Market in 2012


QIPP focus for Yorks and Humber IT – target area for telehealth

http://www.ehiprimarycare.com/news/5003/qipp_focus_for_yorks_and_humber_it
WSDAN – NHS evidence/launch of database
http://cat.csip.org.uk/index.cfm?pid=34&catalogueContentID=3923

VNA Of Western New York, Oldest Visiting Nursing Association, Selects Advanced Cardiocom Telemonitoring Technology
http://www.nurses.com/article.mvc/VNA-Of-Western-New-York-Oldest-Visiting-0001?atc=c=771+s=773+r=001+l=a&VNETCOOKIE=NO

Englewood Hospital Home Health and Hospice Services Selects Cardiocom Telehealth Technology

Weekly Wireless Roundup: Apple iPhone gets medical; FDA clears MedApps

Research Associate - WSD in Association with The King's Fund
http://www.jobs.ac.uk/jobs/JX216/Research_Associate_-_WSD_in_Association_with_The_Kings_Fund/

Telehealth interventions helpful for cardiac patients

The opportunities and risks of telehealth in the NHS

Telehealth helps cardiac patients improve conditions, study reveals

Study Shows Results from Using Ideal Life's Remote Health Monitoring
http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/154499.php

UK telehealth trials missing minorities

Telehealth interventions for the secondary prevention of coronary heart disease

New communication technologies help cardiac patients improve their prognosis

eNeighbor receives Wi-Fi certification
http://www.mcknights.com/eNeighbor-receives-Wi-Fi-certification/article/138593/
HealthFrontier introduces new innovation in web-based remote health monitoring technology

Cardiac Network, Inc. Announces Deal With Med Mobile to Add Wireless Emergency Communication and GPS Location to Cardiac's Medical Monitoring Services

Apple unveils a medical device-friendly iPhone; FDA clears MedApps remote telemonitoring solution; Continua Health Alliance taps Bluetooth LE and ZigBee for future medical device interoperability; and LifeWatch inks deal with Verizon Wireless for cardiac monitoring service.

Partners Healthcare system in Boston announced plans to spin-off a start-up that “gives patients the tools to be their own doctor” beginning with a wireless blood pressure cuff for at-home and on-the-go monitoring.

VivoMetrics(R) Introduces Next Generation LifeShirt Prototype, a Smart Garment ThatDelivers Real-time Vital Signs Remotely to Healthcare Providers

MedApps Receives FDA Clearance on a New Way to Bring Cost-Effective Remote Health Monitoring to More People
http://sev.prnewswire.com/biometrics/20090609/LA2882109062009-1.html

GPs and Clinicians Report on Success of Telehealth in Enhancing Patient Care
http://www.publictechnology.net/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=20309

Personal Robots to Cost Effectively Enable Smart Homes for Eldercare
http://www.geckosystems.com/investors/Smart_Homes_06222009.php

(AEICV) Incitive to Acquire V-Patch Medical Systems
http://www.americanchronicle.com/articles/yb/132018459

GE invests in home health-monitoring device maker

Telehealth can create a mobile revolution
http://www.publicservice.co.uk/feature_story.asp?id=12051

Fingerprint Reader Improves Telehealth Security For Patients - Telemedcare
http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/153985.php
http://www.telemedcare.co.uk/
A breath of fresh air for patients – telehealth in Scotland
http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2515749.0.a_breath_of_fresh_air_for_patients.php

Is telehealth coming at last? (Scotland)
http://teblog.typepad.com/david_tebbutt/2009/06/is-telehealth-coming-at-last.html

Hospital Employees are using Cell Phones to Manage Chronic Diseases
http://www.confidantinc.com/

Focused Health Solutions Selects Cardiocom Telehealth Technology to Support Early Intervention

ExpressMD Telemedicine Patient Home Monitor Integrates SunTech Medical Blood Pressure Technology
http://eon.businesswire.com/portal/site/eon/permalink/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20090708005186&newsLang=en

Continua's Choice - Low Power Technology Battle Won?

Continua picks ZigBee, Bluetooth LE for health devices, sensors

c) eHealth

Doctor builds Web care system - clinics to feature e-mail, videochats with providers

Medical: Most don't contact doctors by e-mail
http://www.newschief.com/article/20090618/NEWS/906185043/1011/LIVING?Title=Medical-Most-don't-contact-doctors-by-e-mail

Report: Daily health habits are an important part of a personal health record (ODL – observations of daily living)

E-health benefits are at your fingertips
http://www.publicservice.co.uk/feature_story.asp?id=12151

E-therapy website to be launched in UK

FCC program could double California telehealth sites
Digital Medicine: Health Care in the Internet Era (Hardcover)
http://www.hc2d.co.uk/content.php?contentId=11801

Study to benchmark e-health deployment
http://www.ehealtheurope.net/news/4915/study_to_benchmark_e-health_deployment

Calling All Heart Patients
Phone, Internet interventions can improve prognosis for cardiac disease, researchers say

eHealth: A Solution for European Healthcare Systems?
http://www.ehealthnews.eu/content/view/1633/62/

Is Energy Harvesting Moving Into the Smart Home?
http://www.reuters.com/article/earth2Tech/idUS109659598620090707

d) Mobile health

Glucose Buddy inks app deal with Roche

BlackBerry: Wireless health needs “belts and braces”

Timeline: The iPhone as medical tool

FDA may regulate certain mobile phones, accessories
http://mobihealthnews.com/3177/fda-may-regulate-certain-mobile-phones-accessories/

e) Telemedicine

Telemedicine and Parkinson’s (video)

Rural communities could benefit from $6.77 million grant

Telehealth video from VA on You Tube – real time access to care (using video connections from local clinics to experts at a distance)
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JJvmsMZoBzw

Smartphone helps save patient's leg (California)
http://www.sonomanews.com/articles/2009/06/19/news/doc4a3adfbbc756e981124181.txt

Advancing rural telemedicine in India
Telemedicine may depersonalise patients – study

Turriff staff win praise for work to stop amputation
http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/1265566?UserKey&UserKey=

Telemedicine a Boon for Parkinson's Patients

Telemedicine Expands Reach Of Care For Parkinson's Patients

Telemedicine found effective at treating nursing home residents with Parkinson's
http://www.mcknights.com/Telemedicine-found-effective-at-treating-nursing-home-residents-with-Parkinsons/article/138677/

A Review of the Evidence for the Use of Telemedicine Within Stroke Systems of Care. A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association

“The aim of this new statement is to provide a comprehensive and evidence-based review of the scientific data evaluating the use of telemedicine for stroke care delivery and to provide consensus recommendations based on the available evidence. The evidence is organized and presented within the context of the American Heart Association's Stroke Systems of Care framework and is classified according to the joint American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology Foundation and supplementary American Heart Association Stroke Council methods of classifying the level of certainty and the class of evidence. Evidence-based recommendations are included for the use of telemedicine in general neurological assessment and primary prevention of stroke; notification and response of emergency medical services; acute stroke treatment, including the hyperacute and emergency department phases; hospital-based subacute stroke treatment and secondary prevention; and rehabilitation”.

http://www.mdlinx.com/NurseLinx/newsL-article.cfm/2707385/ZZ6821644550261362285079/?news_id=401&subspec_id=46

New evidence touts benefits of telemedicine for stroke patients

According to new scientific evidence, a remote exam of a stroke patient performed via videoconferencing is as effective as a bedside evaluation, and a good argument for the increased use of telemedicine for stroke care. A recent article in Stroke: Journal of the American Heart Association says high-quality videoconferencing not only increases access to stroke patients in rural areas but could also allow physicians to treat a transient ischemic
attack (TIA) with the same urgency and abilities as a full-blown stroke.

http://www.mdlinx.com/NurseLinx/news'article.cfm/2707385/ZZ6821644550261362285079/?news_id=401&subspec_id=46

American Heart Association Backs Telemedicine for Strokes

The American Heart Association recently released a policy statement calling for health care institutions to allow remote neurologists to examine stroke patients using telemedicine tools such as videoconferencing, the Journal of the American Medical Association reports.

http://www.ihealthbeat.org/Articles/2009/7/1/American-Heart-Association-Backs-Telemedicine-for-Strokes.aspx

Remote-Controlled Telemedicine Robots Improving Access to Stroke Care and Treatment (video)

Early telemedicine try didn't cut Medicare costs
http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUSTRE5655OF20090706?feedType=RSS&feedName=healthNews

Telemedicine may be key to health reform(USA)

Telemedicine lets patients tune in to specialized care


St. Nicholas to offer oversight of wound care patients
http://www.sheboyganpress.com/article/20090705/SHE03/907050385/1096/SHE03
The robot will see you now


TeleMedicine Gets An Apple App Store Facelift (video)

http://www.cnbc.com/id/31709994
http://macdailynews.com/index.php/weblog/comments/21671/

FCC program may double California telehealth
http://www.healthcaregoesmobile.com/content/fcc-program-may-double-california-telehealth-sites

Telemedicine -- changing the face of rural hospitals (USA - video)

http://www.weau.com/home/headlines/49633967.html
EU issues telemedicine update

http://ehealtheurope.net/news/5016/eu_issues_telemedicine_update
http://www.ehealthnews.eu/content/view/1660/27/

Telephone check-in system cuts re-admissions by 54% - Canada heart failure programme

f) Long term conditions

Glucose monitor for Nintendo DS
http://www.bayerdidget.co.uk/

Over 300 people with diabetes suffer heart attacks each week
http://www.inthenews.co.uk/news/health/over-300-people-with-diabetes-suffer-heart-attacks-each-week-$1303839.htm

Call for Tender: Study on Internal Market for Inclusive and Assistive ICT
http://www.ehealthnews.eu/content/view/1636/28/

Home Diagnostics launches new diabetes management software

g) Other references of interest

Community quality indicators launched
http://www.ehiprimarycare.com/news/4977/community_quality_indicators_launched

GPS footwear for dementia

Risk stratification and experiences with nurse-led approaches and telecare in the United Kingdom – Nick Goodwin presentation
http://www.aok-
gesundheitspartner.de/imperia/md/content/gesundheitspartner/bund/dmp/evaluation/konferenzberlinjun
i2009/dmp konf29 30 06 09_goodwin_engl.pdf

Report: Americans are looking online for healthcare data

High-tech way to monitor elderly

More Americans than ever are obese: CDC
http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUSTRE5674UF20090708?feedType=RSS&feedName=he
althNews

Brazilian Patient Monitoring Market Report: Expansion Trends among Hospitals Boost Investments in
Infrastructure and Thereby, Patient Monitoring

Internet used to help young smokers quit
http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUSTRE5614C520090702?feedType=RSS&feedName=he
althNews

Info underpins National Care Service

NIHR report highlights progress in delivering health research

Sensor Sensibility: New Information from Toumaz CEO

New Fylde Housing Launches Unique Facility
Sheltered Plus also provide a dedicated onsite 24/7 care team offering ongoing assessment and
flexible home care, domestic support, personal care, catering, and assistive technology such as
Telecare, that gives older people more control over their care tailored to meet their individual needs.

Randomized controlled non-inferiority trial of a telehealth treatment for chronic stuttering: the
Camperdown Program.
http://callierlibrary.wordpress.com/2009/07/01/randomized-controlled-non-inferiority-trial-of-a-telehealth-
treatment-for-chronic-stuttering-the-camperdown-program-2/

Advances In Medical Technology: What Does The Future Hold?

Nonin Medical, Inc. Announces the First Bluetooth(R) Continua(TM) Certified Product
http://www.nonin.com/
http://www.continuaalliance.org/
More than 1000 patients benefit from emergency stroke care (Ontario)

Self administered cognitive screening test (TYM) for detection of Alzheimer’s disease: cross sectional study
http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/338/jun08_3/b2030

Hypertensive management in the elderly patient at risk for falls
http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/122466589/abstract?CRETRY=1&SRETRY=0

Doc's bedside manner a bit mechanical - Robot connects rural patients with big-city specialists
http://eastoregonian.com/main.asp?FromHome=1&TypeID=1&ArticleID=94744&SectionID=13&SubSectionID=48

'Smart Shirt’ of the future monitors Heart Rates, Respiration and Temperature

Falls - risk assessment

Corrie star targeting Britain's fifth biggest killer (COPD)
http://www.inthenews.co.uk/infocus/entertainment/tv/corrie-star-targeting-britain-s-fifth-biggest-killer-$1303406.htm

Social care system changes urged

Electronic Help For Caregivers Monitoring Patients' Health And Whereabouts

DH - Carers Strategy One Year On - More Help For Carers
http://www.nhs.uk/carersdirect

DWP - More control for disabled people (Right to Control)
http://www.odi.gov.uk/right-to-control

CLG - Research into the financial benefits of the Supporting People Programme, 2009
http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/financialbenefitsresearch

100 Initial Priority Topics for Comparative Effectiveness Research under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 called on the Institute of Medicine to recommend a list of priority topics to be the initial focus of a new national investment in comparative effectiveness research. The IOM’s recommendations are contained in the report, Initial National Priorities for Comparative Effectiveness Research. The list of priority topics is provided below.
The topics are listed by quartile (groups of 25). The first quartile is considered the highest priority group and the fourth quartile the lowest. Within each group, however, the order of individual topics does not indicate rank.

The list provides a starting point for what the report says should be a sustained effort to conduct comparative effectiveness research. As this research initiative progresses, the priorities will evolve as well. Ultimately, research on these and future topics will not yield real improvements unless the results are adopted by health care providers and organizations and integrated into clinical practice. [Link to Stand Alone List of 100 CER Priorities]

First Quartile examples

- Compare the effectiveness of primary prevention methods, such as exercise and balance training, versus clinical treatments in preventing falls in older adults at varying degrees of risk.
- Compare the effectiveness of comprehensive care coordination programs, such as the medical home, and usual care in managing children and adults with severe chronic disease, especially in populations with known health disparities.
- Compare the effectiveness and costs of alternative detection and management strategies (e.g., pharmacologic treatment, social/family support, combined pharmacologic and social/family support) for dementia in community-dwelling individuals and their caregivers.
- Compare the effectiveness of various strategies (e.g., clinical interventions, selected social interventions [such as improving the built environment in communities and making healthy foods more available], combined clinical and social interventions) to prevent obesity, hypertension, diabetes, and heart disease in at-risk populations such as the urban poor and American Indians.
- Compare the effectiveness of literacy-sensitive disease management programs and usual care in reducing disparities in children and adults with low literacy and chronic disease (e.g., heart disease).

Second Quartile examples

- Compare the effectiveness of strategies for enhancing patients’ adherence to medication regimens.
- Compare the effectiveness (including resource utilization, workforce needs, net health care expenditures, and requirements for large-scale deployment) of new remote patient monitoring and management technologies (e.g., telemedicine, Internet, remote sensing) and usual care in managing chronic disease, especially in rural settings.
- Compare the effectiveness of diverse models of transition support services for adults with complex health care needs (e.g., the elderly, homeless, mentally challenged) after hospital discharge.
- Compare the effectiveness of accountable care systems and usual care on costs, processes of care, and outcomes for geographically defined populations of patients with one or more chronic diseases.
- Compare the effectiveness of different residential settings (e.g., home care, nursing home, group home) in caring for elderly patients with functional impairments.
- Compare the effectiveness of coordinated care (supported by reimbursement innovations) and usual care in long-term and end-of-life care of the elderly.

Third Quartile

- Compare the effectiveness of different treatment strategies (e.g., modifying target levels for glucose, lipid, or blood pressure) in reducing cardiovascular complications in newly diagnosed adolescents and adults with type 2 diabetes.
- Compare the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of conventional medical management of type 2 diabetes in adolescents and adults, versus conventional therapy plus intensive educational programs or programs incorporating support groups and educational resources.
- Compare the effectiveness of alternative redesign strategies—using decision support capabilities, electronic health records, and personal health records—for increasing health professionals’ compliance with evidence based guidelines and patients’ adherence to guideline-based regimens for chronic disease care.
• Compare the effectiveness of different quality improvement strategies in disease prevention, acute care, chronic disease care, and rehabilitation services for diverse populations of children and adults.
• Compare the effectiveness of different benefit design, utilization management, and cost-sharing strategies in improving health care access and quality in patients with chronic diseases (e.g., cancer, diabetes, heart disease).

Fourth Quartile
• Compare the effectiveness of smoking cessation strategies (e.g., medication, individual or quitline counseling, combinations of these) in smokers from understudied populations such as minorities, individuals with mental illness, and adolescents.
• Compare the effectiveness of care coordination with and without clinical decision supports (e.g., electronic health records) in producing good health outcomes in chronically ill patients, including children with special health care needs.
• Compare the effectiveness of coordinated, physician-led, interdisciplinary care provided in the patient's residence and usual care in managing advanced chronic disease in community-dwelling patients with significant functional impairments.
• Compare the effectiveness of different delivery models (e.g., home blood pressure monitors, utilization of pharmacists or other allied health providers) for controlling hypertension, especially in racial minorities.

IDEAS FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE RESEARCH CAN YOU HELP?

The newly established National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) School for Social Care Research (NIHR SSCR) is looking to undertake and commission research to improve adult social care practice in England, and so improve individual lives.

NIHR has a budget of £15 million over the next five years and aims to provide high-quality evidence-based practice recommendations about how users of care services can be given more control and greater choice; how family carers can find a better balance between their care responsibilities and their working lives; whether there are better ways of commissioning services; and how social care can mesh effectively with health care and other services. These are just some of the areas that could be covered by the research programme.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO ADULT SOCIAL CARE RESEARCH

If you work within or undertake research about social care, the NIHR would like to hear, what:

• Topics in adult social care that need further research
• Specific research questions
• The methods needed to answer them
• The ways that research findings can be translated into a form that can aid the development of practice

Calls for research proposals will then follow later this month.

To contribute, use the electronic consultation form at: http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/NIHRSSCR/researchsuggestionform.htm or email sscr@lse.ac.uk.
The chair keeping elderly patients safe
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/8094799.stm

Digital Britain
On 16 June 2009 the Government published The Digital Britain Report, its strategic vision for ensuring that the UK is at the leading edge of the global digital economy.
http://www.culture.gov.uk/what_we_do/broadcasting/5631.aspx/

Raate Conference (30 Nov-1 Dec 2009)
http://www.raate.org.uk/

9 Events

DH Care Networks events as at 15 July 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Title</th>
<th>Network</th>
<th>Places Remaining</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21/07/09</td>
<td>Common Assessment Framework (CAF) for Adults Demonstrator Site Programme - Expression of Interest Information Events– York Event Morning session 10am-12noon</td>
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<td>Common Assessment Framework (CAF) for Adults Demonstrator Site Programme - Expression of Interest Information Events– Bristol Event Morning session 10am-12noon</td>
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<td>Common Assessment Framework (CAF) for Adults Demonstrator Site Programme - Expression of Interest Information Events– Bristol Event Afternoon session 2pm-4pm</td>
<td>Common Assessment Framework for Adults Network</td>
<td>25 of 35</td>
<td>Book now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30/07/09</td>
<td>Common Assessment Framework (CAF) for Adults Demonstrator Site Programme - Expression of Interest Information Events– London Event Morning session 10am-12noon</td>
<td>Common Assessment Framework for Adults Network</td>
<td>Reserve places available</td>
<td>Add me to the reserve list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30/07/09</td>
<td>Common Assessment Framework (CAF) for Adults Demonstrator Site Programme - Expression of Interest Information Events– London Event Afternoon session 2pm-4pm</td>
<td>Common Assessment Framework for Adults Network</td>
<td>11 of 35</td>
<td>Book now</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Information Events– London Event
Afternoon session 2pm-4pm

06/08/09 to 07/08/09
Transforming Community Equipment - Project Managers’ Induction Course
Care Services Efficiency Delivery
- N/A

08/09/09
South West Regional Housing LIN Meeting
Housing
33 of 35 Book now

10/09/09
Whole System Demonstrator Programme (WSDAN) - Integrated care using telecare and telehealth - Bristol
Telecare LIN
76 of 80 Book now

24/09/09
East Midlands Levers for Change Event - Working together to commission better neurological services in the East Midlands
Commissioning
93 of 100 Book now

24/09/09 to 25/09/09
Transforming Community Equipment - Project Managers’ Induction Course
Care Services Efficiency Delivery
- N/A

29/09/09
Personalisation
22 of 50 Book now

22/10/09
West Midlands Regional Housing LIN Meeting
Housing
31 of 35 Book now

12/11/09 to 13/11/09
Transforming Community Equipment - Project Managers’ Induction Course
Care Services Efficiency Delivery
- N/A

Events listing: http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/events/s/.

WSDAN Events: 10 September 2009 – Bristol Royal Marriott (10-4pm)

TSA Conference (16-18 November 2009)

David Behan and Tim Ellis from the Department of Health will be presenting at the TSA conference on 16-18 November 2009 in London

- Individual Budgets – the strategy for personalisation and its potential impact on the telecare market. David Behan, Director General for Social Care, Local Government and Care Partnerships, Department of Health
- Whole System Demonstrators – an update on this high-profile project that will impact the future for telecare and telehealth. Tim Ellis, Whole System Demonstrator Programme Manager, Service Design Division, Department of Health.

The Foundation for Assistive Technology (FAST) provides a full listing of forthcoming telecare events – see http://www.fastuk.org/services/events.php?page=2. Suppliers also run telecare and telehealth events – check their web sites regularly for dates.
All previous telecare eNewsletters are available at: [www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/telecarenewsletters](http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/telecarenewsletters)

**Glossary:**

ALIP – Assisted Living Innovation Platform  
AT – Assistive Technology  
BERR – Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform  
CSCI – Commission for Social Care Inspection  
CQC – Care Quality Commission  
DCLG – Department for Communities and Local Government  
FACS – Fair Access to Care Services  
IB – Individualised budgets  
i4i – Invention for Innovation  
LIN – Learning and Improvement Network  
NHS CfH – NHS Connecting for Health  
NHS PASA – NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency  
POPP – Partnership for Older Peoples Projects  
PT Grant or PTG – Preventative Technology Grant  
SCIE – Social Care Institute for Excellence  
TSA – Telecare Services Association  
TSB – Technology Strategy Board  
WSDAN – Whole System Demonstrator (Long Term Conditions) Action Network