

# Chief Scientific Officer's Bulletin

A bulletin for everyone working in healthcare science



**April 2012**

**Gateway number: 17460**

Welcome to the new-look Chief Scientific Officer's (CSO) Bulletin. Please share the information in the CSO Bulletin with colleagues who may find it useful, but remember to include [www.dh.gov.uk/cso](http://www.dh.gov.uk/cso) as the source. Alternatively, they can subscribe by sending an email to [CSO.bulletin@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:CSO.bulletin@dh.gsi.gov.uk)

## Click to go to an article

- [Two day leadership event for Healthcare Science](#)
- [Healthcare Science Awards 2012 – Last chance for nominations](#)
- [Update on future architecture of the NHS](#)
- [Working with your SHA cluster scientific directors](#)
- [Developing healthcare science alongside the NHS Reforms](#)
- [IQIPS accreditation process now open for Physiology Services](#)
- [National Laboratory Medicine Catalogue open for review](#)
- [NHS Innovation Challenge Prizes look to reward innovation in Diagnostic Services](#)

## Two-day leadership event for healthcare science

Healthcare Science: A catalyst for delivering a new healthcare system is a major event for healthcare scientists as we move towards implementing the health system changes in April 2013.

The event will focus on the critical role that healthcare scientists need to play in delivering better outcomes for patients and the public.

It will highlight how healthcare scientists need to use their leadership skills to effectively influence at a local level, how they can drive forward the innovation agenda, use education and training programmes to support new ways of working and use science and knowledge to improve practice.

- [More details for the event, including key speakers, are on the NHS PCC website](#)

## Healthcare Science Awards 2012 – last chance for nominations

The 2012 Healthcare Science Awards and Roll of Honour will be held on Monday 30 April, as part of the two-day leadership event. Nominations are still open for the seven award categories:

1. Young healthcare scientist of the year award
2. Healthcare science patient involvement award
3. Innovation in service delivery award
4. Healthcare scientist of the year award

5. Clinical leadership award
6. Healthcare scientist ambassador of the year award
7. Research award

Details of how to nominate an individual or team for the award are on the NHSPCC website.  
**Nominations must be submitted by 5pm on 20 April 2012.**

- [Read more about the awards and how to submit a nomination](#)

## Update on future architecture of the NHS and Health Education England

A number of information documents have been published over recent months:

### NHS Commissioning Board

The meeting of the NHS Commissioning Board in February considered a number of papers including:

- The design and outline staffing structure for the NHS Commissioning Board
- Governance and Authorisation for Clinical Commissioning Groups
- Proposals for Commissioning Support Organisations

- [Download the papers detailing these proposals from the NHSCB website](#)

### Education and Training

Liberating the NHS: Developing the Healthcare Workforce from Design to Delivery was published in January 2012. It explains the overall structure, operation and linkages around education and training in the NHS, including Health Education England, Local Education and Training Boards (LETBs) and the Education Outcomes Framework, which will improve standards and drive excellence.

- [Download Liberating the NHS: Developing the Healthcare Workforce from Design to Delivery](#)

## Working with your SHA cluster scientific directors

There are 10 scientific directors working across the SHA clusters as a connection between the Chief Scientific Officer and frontline staff, providing local leadership and working on a range of cross-cutting projects.

The 10 Scientists are:

- Jane Blower (East Mids)
- Katrina Oates (East of England)
- Fiona Carragher (London)
- Tony Gibson (North East)
- Angela Douglas (North West)
- Jo Nightingale (South East Coast)
- Chris Gibson (South Central)
- Dianne Crawford (South West)
- Val Davison (West Midlands)
- Neil Porter (Yorks & Humber)

- [Contact details are available on the Scientific Directors NHS Network](#)

## Developing healthcare science alongside the NHS reforms

The scientific directors and Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) are working on a series of projects to tackle current issues in healthcare science alongside the NHS reforms. Each of the eight projects is led by one of the scientific directors with policy input from members of the CSO's team.

The eight projects are:

- **Diagnostic pathways** - highlight and identifying issues in diagnostics, such as developing a number of tools including commissioning packs to link the work of healthcare science
- **Innovation** - to highlight the role of scientists in driving the adoption and innovation of new technologies
- **Leadership** - to strengthen leadership development throughout the scientific workforce
- **Patient and Public Involvement toolkit** – a tailored PPI toolkit for scientists and scientific services
- **Point of care** – to identify best practice and provide clear guidance on point of care testing
- **Science and society** - to develop the interface between scientists and the public and to strengthen the knowledge of healthcare science in wider society
- **Seven day working** - to look at how scientific services should develop to support patient care outside traditional working hours
- **Contribution to Outcomes Framework** - to ensure other clinicians and commissioners are aware of the importance of healthcare science to delivering the NHS Outcomes Framework

Further details of the projects can be found on the Senior Lead Scientist NHS Network. If you would like to contribute to any this work contact the project lead for the workstream.

- [Find out more about the eight workstreams from your local scientific director](#)

## IQIPS accreditation process now open for Physiology Diagnostic Services

Physiology Services are now being asked to register their expression of interest to the Improving Quality in Physiological diagnostic Services (IQIPS) Accreditation programme.

IQIPS is a programme overseen by the Accreditation Unit of the Royal College of Physicians (RCP) to promote and recognise good quality practice in physiological diagnostic services. IQIPS is sponsored by the Chief Scientific Officer and the RCP has appointed the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) to manage and deliver the scheme.

The accreditation process has four domains of quality: patient experience, facilities, resources and workforce, and safety and clinical.

The physiological services covered by the standards are:

- audiology
- neurophysiology
- cardiac physiology
- ophthalmic and vision science
- respiratory and sleep physiology
- vascular science
- gastrointestinal physiology
- urodynamics.

The initial standards and criteria were developed by expert clinicians, professional bodies, colleges, independent providers, societies and patient representatives, and are based on the highest level of evidence available.

- [Read more about the IQIPS programme, including how to register an expression of interest](#)

## **National Laboratory Medicine Catalogue open for review**

The National Laboratory Medicine Catalogue (NLMC) is the first comprehensive standard for pathology test requests and results reporting. It has been developed in collaboration between the Royal College of Pathologists, the Department of Health and NHS Connecting for Health.

Although the NLMC will not officially launch in July 2012, it is currently available to healthcare scientists for open peer review.

- [Read more about the National Laboratory Medicine Catalogue](#)

## **NHS Innovation Challenge Prizes look to reward innovation in Diagnostic Services**

The Chief Scientific Officer update in March highlighted the number of innovation initiatives within the health and life sciences sectors.

This is a further reminder that the latest round of the NHS Innovation Challenge Prizes has been launched, with previous awards giving up to £100,000 for successful teams. The prizes have been created to recognise and reward ideas that tackle some of the most challenging areas in healthcare.

In the latest round, the scheme has identified a specific challenge around Diagnostic Services, and they are looking for entries.

The closing date for entries is 1 June 2012, with winners announced by the end of the year.

- [Read more about the NHS Innovation Challenge Prizes, details of the Diagnostic Challenge and how to enter](#)