Chief Scientific Officer’s Bulletin

A bulletin for everyone working in healthcare science

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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 as the source. Alternatively, they can subscribe by sending an email to CSO.bulletin@dh.gsi.gov.uk

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Catch up on the breadth and depth of the Catalyst 2012 healthcare science event with presentations & posters online

The 2012 healthcare science leadership event, ‘Healthcare Science: A Catalyst for Delivering a New Healthcare System’ took place in London on 30 April and 1 May, featuring high-profile speakers from the NHS, Department of Health and scientific research. These included a perspective on the evolving NHS from the Chief Executive of the NHS Sir David Nicholson, the Chief Medical Officer Dame Sally Davies and Professor Sir Bruce Keogh, Medical Director of the NHS.

Sir Ian Carruthers spoke about the central role of healthcare science in innovation and adoption within the NHS. Cutting-edge science in physiology, genomic science and engineering was
presented by Professor Wendy Tindale of Sheffield University, Professor John Burn of Newcastle University and Professor Mark Miodownik of University College London.

Nearly 300 delegates attended over the two days and there was a strong contingent of current Scientist trainees bringing a fresh perspective. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive about the event with people praising “the time and effort that has been put in by senior NHS managers to supporting healthcare scientists”, “the presentation of the near future of healthcare was fascinating” and “the chance to update my understanding of the current changes in the NHS and how this will impact on the healthcare science professions”.

Delegates also praised the opportunity to network and, through discussion, to interact and reflect on current practice in the NHS, which prompted them to look at engaging in a number of local initiatives from establishing local groups of scientist, looking at ways to improve patient pathways through to engaging with the Clinical Commissioning Groups as they move forward.

While not everyone working in healthcare science was able to attend the event in person, the presentations and posters from the sessions have been made publicly available so you can pick up on anything that you missed and share these with your team.

There will also be a special conference for trainees in the autumn, followed by four regional events across England for everyone working in healthcare science.

- Download the presentations from Catalyst 2012 from the PCC website
- Download the workshop posters from the NHS Networks website

Healthcare Science Awards 2012 winners and Roll of Honour

As part of the Catalyst 2012 event, the Secretary of State for Health, the Rt Hon Andrew Lansley CBE presented the 2012 Healthcare Science Awards at a special evening ceremony, along side the Chief Scientific Officer, Professor Sue Hill OBE. The Secretary of State also enrolled four individuals into the new Healthcare Science Roll of Honour.

The Secretary of State praised the quality of the science, the impact the healthcare scientists had made on their services and, most of all, the benefit this had shown in outcomes for patients.

The winners of the Healthcare Science Awards 2012 were:

Healthcare Scientist of the Year - Rachel Cutting, Jessop Hospital, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals Trust

Clinical Leader of the Year - Keith Pearce, South Manchester University Hospitals Trust

Service Innovation of the Year - Ed Hinchcliffe, South Manchester University Hospitals Trust

Ambassador of the Year - Helen Liggett, NHS North West

Excellence in Research - Derek Middleton, Royal Liverpool Hospitals Trust

Healthcare Science Patient Involvement Award - Martin Myers, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust

Rising Star of the Year Award - Katherine Kenny, Oxford University Hospitals Trust

Runners-up in the Rising Star category were Charlotte Hill, Royal Liverpool Hospitals Trust, & Georgios Ntentas, Kings College Hospital, London.

Dr Derek Cramer, Professor Anne Green, Dr Maybeth Jamieson (embryology), Professor Pamela Riches (clinical immunology) were enrolled into the Roll of Honour on the night.

- Read the Award winners full citations and see pictures from the event
Latest updates on changes and initiatives in the NHS and the Public Health system

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

Clinical Commissioning Group geography and constitution
The NHS Commissioning Board Authority has published names, geographical areas and constituent GP practices for the 212 CCGs that are to go forward for authorisation in the papers for the 31 May Board Meeting

- Read details of the 212 CCGs in the papers on the NHSCBA website

Shared Decision-making consultation
As part of the Government’s commitment to giving patients more say and choice over their care and treatment, the Department of health is proposing a model of shared decision-making all along the patient pathway. This should relevant irrespective of patients’ conditions, their clinical pathway or progress along it.
A consultation on these proposals is running until 20 July 2012.

- Read more about the proposals and respond to the consultation on the DH website

Information Strategy
The Department of Health published the Information Strategy The Power of Information on 21 May, setting out a ten-year plan for information across public health, healthcare and social care underpinned by the Health and Social Care Act 2012. The Department of Health has set up a micro-website giving summaries and case studies around the strategy, together with a link to the full document.

- Read more at the Power of Information DH microsite

Public Health England
Duncan Selbie, the newly appointed Chief Executive of Public Health England has set out his vision for the Public Health service in the ‘Transforming Public Health’ bulletin.

- Read more about Duncan Selbie’s vision in the Transforming Public Health bulletin

Results of the 2011 Inpatient survey
The CQC have published their detailed analysis of the 2011 Inpatient survey, which looked at the experiences of over 70,000 people who were admitted to NHS hospitals around England.

- Read the trust-by-trust breakdown of results on the CQC website
Innovation funding available through the Health Foundation’s ‘Shine’ programme

The Health Foundation is an independent charity working to continuously improve the quality of healthcare in the UK. Its innovation programme, Shine, is open for a new round of funding applications from 1 May 2012, with over £1 million available to support up to 18 innovative healthcare teams.

- Shine is open for applications from 1 May 2012 until 17 July 2012.

- Read more about the Shine programme and how to apply for funding at the Health Foundation website

National School for Healthcare Science launches website

The National School for Healthcare Science now has a website at www.nshcs.org.uk to explain its role within the infrastructure around Modernising Scientific Careers and its work in supporting training, maintaining standards and improving outcomes for patients.

- Find out more at the National School for Healthcare Science website

Research information alerts for scientists

NHS Evidence provides an alerts system that helps you to keep up-to-date with the latest research through receiving e-mail alerts from searches of the wide range journals and databases held in the NHS Athens system. You will need to be registered with NHS Athens to use this service.

- Read more about the research alerts system on the NHS Evidence website

The NHS Institute also offer an alerts service which provides some more tailored alerts feeding in from research on particular service areas.

- Read more about the NHS Institute alerts system on their website

Help inspire young people to a career in science through ‘I’m a Scientist, get me out of here’

I’m a Scientist, get me out of here is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) engagement programme, supported by the Royal College of Pathologists amongst others, that encourages young people to engage with working scientists by using some of the techniques and approaches of reality TV.

It’s an X Factor-style competition between the scientists, where students are the judges. It uses an online approach over a series of month-long events where students get to meet and interact with scientists – with the judging giving scientists the chance to win £500 to communicate their work.

Their 25 June – 7 July event (named ‘Los Angeles’) features, as specialist areas, both the Pathology Zone (sponsored by RCPath) and the Organ Zone.

- Read more about I’m a Scientist, get me out of here on their website
Spotlight on respiratory physiology with World Spirometry Day

World Spirometry Day, on 27 June, starts a month-long series of events and activities putting the focus on respiratory physiology and the importance of spirometry as a physiological test. This year’s events also have a focus on exercise to tie in with the Olympics. Hospital teams across England are going out in to community to offer free lung testing to the public - from staff at the international COPD 8 conference in Birmingham to hospital teams in Bath and community teams in Hartlepool.

- Read more about World Spirometry Day on the European Lung Foundation website
- Download a toolkit and materials to help you run your own World Spirometry Day event

IPEM appoints new Chief Executive

Rosemary Cook CBE has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of the Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine, following the retirement of Robert Neilson.

- Read more about the appointment on the IPEM website

Third round of HFECE Senior Clinical Lectureships awards now available for healthcare scientists

The third round of senior lecturership awards in the clinical field, supported by university funding body HEFCE, is now inviting healthcare scientists to come forward. The objective of these awards is to build new, high-quality capacity and secure long-term sustainability and enhanced outcomes in research and teaching at senior lecturer level. Closing date is 1 Aug 2012.

- Read more about the Senior Clinical Lectureship awards

The CSO/NIHR Healthcare Science research fellowships are still open for applications. Closing Date is 24 July 2012.

- Get more information and apply through the NIHR Trainees Coordinating Centre website