

Welcome to the April 2009 PHCN newsletter



This sheet briefly summarises progress in setting up a national network of commissioners for England. It is released every 1-2 months, with the latest version on the PHCN website, www.phcn.nhs.uk

Did you know...?

We have been contacted by people in **over two-thirds** (67%) of English localities interested in joining the Commissioning Network

Role of honour

Latest confirmed topic leads...

Heywood, Middleton & Rochdale – hepatitis C

North Lancashire – venous thromboembolism

Rotherham – COPD

Sheffield – heart failure

Somerset – looked-after children

Surrey – learning disability

Gloucestershire & North Staffordshire (topics tbc)

'Focus on Commissioning' Workshops

The Informing Healthier Choices programme at the Department of Health is sponsoring a number of workshops on specific commissioning topics, which will be run in association with the Commissioning Network.

The first workshops, to be held regularly from June 2009, will be on:

- Familial hypercholesterolaemia
- Renal disease/end-stage renal failure
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- Autistic spectrum disorders
- Using the Map of Medicine (MoM)
- Laboratory services/Diagnostics

PHCN partners will automatically receive information about these workshops, but anyone else who is interested in attending or contributing please contact the PHCN administrator, Sarah Moore (sarah.moore@kintoa.org)

HOW TO... receive automatic emails when a topic you are interested in is updated

1. Go to www.phcn.nhs.uk and log in to PHCN
2. Navigate to the topic you are interested in by selecting the subcommunity on the right hand side of the screen
3. Click on the Forum tab (or Library or Wiki tab if you want updates on these), then 'Subscribe to this forum' on the right side of the screen... done!

nb. You can remove these 'alerts' at any time by selecting 'My home' then 'My alerts' at the top of any screen

Interested in joining?

The Public Health Commissioning Network makes it easy for PCTs and local authorities to share their experience and expertise on commissioning issues. Partners take a lead on a particular topic on behalf of the rest of the Network, collating guidelines, evidence and practical examples of commissioning (e.g. service specifications) from around England, and moderating a discussion forum on their chosen topic. In return, their host organisation receives access to the rest of the Network, with information on over 100 topics.

If your organisation would like to join please see the list of suggested topics below, and contact the Project Manager, Dr Tom Porter, tompsoner@nhs.net

newsletter

WANTED!

Could your PCT or LA make an important national contribution on one of the following topics?

Other topic suggestions welcome!

Population groups

BME communities Older people Women of reproductive age

Wider determinants and risk factors

Cholesterol Home and leisure accidents Physical inactivity
Diet and nutrition Hypertension Poverty and unemployment
Drugs misuse Iron deficiency Toxic agents (e.g. pollutants)
Education Occupational health incl. stress

Programme budget categories

Blood disorders Healthy individuals Poisoning
Cancers & tumours Hearing problems Respiratory system problems
GI system problems Musculoskeletal system problems
(excl. trauma) Skin problems
GU system disorders Neonatal conditions Social care needs
Trauma/injuries

Clinical pathways

Asthma Failure to cope in old age Poisoning
Bowel cancer Glaucoma Prostate hypertrophy/cancer
Breast cancer Headache Psoriasis
Deafness & tinnitus Incontinence Renal failure
Dementia incl Alzheimer's Inflammatory bowel disease Rheumatoid arthritis
Disability Lung cancer Schizophrenia
Drug & alcohol dependence Neonatal conditions Skin cancer
Dysmenorrhoea and menorrhagia Neurotic disorders Spinal disease
Eczema Osteoarthritis Stomach cancer
Epilepsy Parkinson's disease

Specific services

Adult intensive care Language access services Pathology
Assistive technologies Microbiology Screening
Genetics Neonatal & paed intensive care Markers of disease
Imaging

Commissioning processes & procedures

Judicial review Public involvement in commissioning Ethics of commissioning
Clinical exceptions protocols Commissioning for quality Health economics

Please contact tompson@nhs.net if you would be interested in joining PHCN and sharing your knowledge on one of these topics