Regulation of Nursing Associate role ‘will bring benefits for all’

Professor Lisa Bayliss-Pratt, HEE’s Director of Nursing/National Deputy Director of Education and Quality, has welcomed the decision by the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) in January to be the regulator for the new Nursing Associate role.

Responding to the news, she said: “This is an important step in the journey for this exciting new role. “Our consultation showed strong support for regulation and we have always been very clear that regulation is something we are in favour of. “The role will establish a clear pathway for aspiring nurses, through education and training and —supported by regulation — it will give confidence to patients and employers that it is an important part of the NHS workforce.”

Benefits for all
Protecting the Nursing Associate title will provide a key public safety mechanism, Professor Bayliss-Pratt added.

“We often hear about the plethora of nursing titles that confuses not only the public, but, on occasions, our nursing and other colleagues too. “Along with a protected title comes a professional register, code of conduct, national standards and expectations and revalidation.

“This has to be safer for patients, service users, carers, communities and our profession.”

HEE will work with the NMC to ensure that there is a seamless transition to regulation and onto the new register for trainees.

During January, the first 1,000 recruits began their two-year training programme in 11 sites across England.

More information on the new role at the HEE website.
Better Births multi-disciplinary training

HEE’s investment in training supports a culture of continuous learning in maternity services

To support the aim of Better Births and the vision of making NHS maternity services among the safest in the world, HEE’s Maternity Programme has distributed £8m of funding throughout England for packages of multi-disciplinary training.

Key aspects of this training will include leadership, multi-professional team working and human factors training, as well as midwifery and obstetric skills in, for example, obstetric emergencies and reducing maternal and foetal harm. The focus is on working together and training together.

**Culture of continuous learning**

HEE’s mandate means it must ensure that training supports a culture of continuous learning and improvement in safe services; the goals are to reduce the rates of stillbirths, neonatal and maternity deaths and other adverse outcomes such as sepsis and intrapartum brain injuries.

This project is part of NHS England’s Maternity Transformation Programme, working with the Department of Health and other partners to implement Better Births, as well as other maternity initiatives including the Saving Babies’ Lives Care Bundle.

**Key actions to improve safety**

Training begins this year, supported by a catalogue of accredited training programmes suitable for maternity units in England, as well as local NHS in-house training schemes and collaborative programmes. In return for the training funding support, Trusts must commit to deliver key actions to improve safety in maternity services.

An independent evaluation of the project will be commissioned to assess the training programme’s wider impact for mothers and their babies, families and the wider workforce.

- For more information contact HEE.maternityprogramme@nhs.net

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**Study exploring nurse experiences of accessing training and diversity—can you help?**

Nurses are being invited to take part in a national study which seeks to explore your experiences of accessing nurse education/training and your perceptions of diversity in nursing.

Dr Vanessa Heaslip from Bournemouth University and Professor Liz Thomas from Edge Hill University are looking for as many views as possible from nurses across the UK who work in different fields of practice.

A brief questionnaire which should take less than 10 minutes to answer can be found at https://bournemouth.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/implications-of-nurse-diversity-for-practice-final.

Please share with as many nursing colleagues as you can.
Both people and communities, as well as health and care services, benefit from care that is person-centred and co-ordinated across different organisational boundaries.

For the service user there are better outcomes and a reduction in delays, duplications, repetition, the risk of ‘getting lost in the system’ and gaps in delivery. For the service provider, whether it is health or social care, an efficient service means better use of resources.

There are some great examples of how HEE is supporting the move to integrated care, as part of its Mandate to train and develop a workforce with skills that are transferable between primary, secondary and social care.

Joint training on integration
Wessex has introduced joint training on integration, team working and care delivery with social care, the voluntary sector and health, and has also increased community placement experience for pre-registration nursing students.

Its Action on Community Education and Training (AvOCET) project aims to ensure the sustainable development of a skilled non-medical workforce that can support patients across health and social care.

One structure, one budget
The Isle of Wight’s integrated service model - comprising acute, community, mental health, adult social care, NHS 111 and ambulance services - works under one operational management structure and one budget.

Its Vanguard new model of care My Life A Full Life (MLAFL) is based on partnership between the IoW’s voluntary sector, the local CGG, Council, NHS Trust and One Wight Health (a GP membership organisation).

Five-year vision for the Island
It develops initiatives to put people at the centre of their health, wellbeing and care, based on a five-year vision for integrated health and social care on the Island.

Developing new care roles
Based on the ethos of integrating services around patients, Thames Valley is funding multi-disciplinary training for long-term conditions across both primary and community care.

It’s also developing new roles such as care navigators and generic support workers and leadership programmes (Developing Systems Leadership interventions) to help to build robust relationships and trust; share leadership; and manage complex issues.

- The next issue of Care Matters will highlight examples from Midlands and East and the North

In the media
Lisa Bayliss-Pratt’s opinion piece in the Nursing Times on Nursing Associates’ impact on healthcare
Read a personal blog about her first days on the programme by Claire Barnes, one of the new NA trainees based at The Christie NHS Hospital Foundation Trust in Manchester
Spring Issue of The Researcher, focussing on maintaining your momentum
How to embed genomics into nursing and midwifery was the topic under discussion at a roundtable event in Birmingham held on January 13.

Organised by the Genomics Education Programme (GEP), the event was jointly Chaired by Lord Willis of Knaresborough and Professor Lisa Bayliss-Pratt.

Professor Sue Hill OBE Chief Scientific Officer and SRO for Genomics at HEE and Dr Anneke Seller, incoming Scientific Director for GEP, both gave presentations setting the context and updating the group on the project.

Other guests included Dame Professor Donna Kinnair, Director of Nursing at the Royal College of Nursing and Joanne Bosanquet MBE, Deputy Chief Nurse at Public Health England.

**Genomics in everyday healthcare**

Nurses and midwives can play a pivotal role in bringing the benefits of genomics to everyday healthcare. Discussions centred on accelerating the integration of genomics into everyday practice, pre-registration education and research.

The event generated a variety of pledges to support the ongoing implementation of the nursing and midwifery GEP transformation strategy.

A follow-up roundtable is planned for June this year, and a steering group has been established this month.

- As nurses and midwives, are we ready for the revolution in personalised medicine? Read Lisa Bayliss Pratt’s recent Genomics blog.

For more information, please contact: genomicseducation@wm.hee.nhs.uk
Or visit: www.genomicseducation.hee.nhs.uk

This March a further cohort of senior clinicians will begin the Older Persons’ Fellowships programme of study at King’s College London.

The class of 2017 has a rich mix of professionals which includes nursing, physiotherapy, dietetics and pharmacy.

**Growing cadre of clinical experts**

“HEE is delighted to be able to support clinicians undertaking this exciting programme,” said Liz Fenton, Nurse Professional Advisor at HEE. “We now have a growing cadre of clinical experts in this important field of care, building leadership, enabling the profile to be raised for the practice and helping to share good practice.”

Clinicians undertaking this programme are already working at the frontline of care for the older person.

**Recognising the role of AHPs**

For the first time this particular cohort, which began in March, will include allied health care professionals, recognising their significant role in leading and developing the care of the older people.

King’s College London is planning a conference in June to highlight the successes of the programme.

This bulletin has been produced by the Shape of Caring team at Health Education England. For more information, please click on the image below.

'Raising the Bar: Shape of Caring': Health Education England’s response