

South West

COVID-19 Workforce and Training Cell Bulletin – 31 August 2020

This bulletin aims to provide a summary of key information and updates on COVID-19 guidance that has been shared to date. It should be read in conjunction with the national COVID-19 advice and guidance hosted by [Health Education England](#) and [NHS England and NHS Improvement](#).

****Please note:** this regular bulletin will no longer continue. Any key communications from the workforce and training cell will be issued as and when required. The cell mailbox will remain operational at COVID19workforce.sw@hee.nhs.uk.**

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Faculty of Advancing Clinical Practice

The NHS Long-Term Plan calls for a step change in advancing practice, requiring capacity to be built at national, regional and local level – including STPs, ICSs or ‘faculties’ to drive change. HEE’s National Centre for Advancing Practice has been established to standardise routes into advanced practice, accredit advanced practice programmes and recognise registered health and care practitioners who demonstrate the capabilities set out in the advancing practice or consultant practitioner framework and the national education standards for advancing practice.

The concept of a faculty at both regional and sub-regional level is a virtual hub and spoke model; based on strong co-production, co-ordination and extensive stakeholder engagement on all matters relating to advancing practice. The south west faculty will work with all partners at a regional and local level to ensure that the region supports the development of Advancing Practice as set out by the HEE National Centre for Advancing Practice and in a manner that is responsive to

workforce demands. For more information please contact Lisa.Munro-Davies@hee.nhs.uk.

Interim foundation pharmacist programme: registration live

Registration for the interim foundation pharmacist programme is now [live](#). This new education and training programme has been established to support the 2019/20 cohort of pre-registration pharmacists whose training and registration have been disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. It also provides a unique opportunity to accelerate [pharmacist early years' education and training reform](#) and supports delivery of the [NHS People Plan for 2020/21](#).

This is a positive step towards delivering the recommendations from [HEE's Advancing Pharmacy Education and Training \(APET\)](#), and meeting the ambitions of the [NHS Long Term Plan](#), [NHS Interim People Plan](#) and [NHS People Plan for 2020/21](#).

Find out more on our dedicated [IFPP web page](#), including FAQs and an eligibility and process flowchart. Join up to receive weekly updates from the programme team at: fpp@hee.nhs.uk.

Meeting the nursing workforce challenge

You can read what HEE's Chief Nurse Mark Radford had to say about meeting the nursing workforce challenge in three opinion pieces published by the [Nursing Times](#), [Nursing in Practice](#) and [Public Sector Executive](#) recently.

New NHS Education Contract

The new NHS Education Contract will be introduced from April 2021, to replace the varying contractual arrangements currently in place (including the Learning and Development Agreement with NHS service providers).

The NHS Education Contract will become a key tool for improving the quality of education and training, driving change, and providing funding. To help develop this new standard contract, HEE is seeking the advice of partners, especially those who use the Learning Development Agreement or may use the new NHS Education Contract in the future. HEE has begun work to identify what can, and should, be in any new contract and a draft contract document has been prepared for consideration. You can access the draft contract [here](#). HEE has also created a five-question survey to receive feedback on a draft new contract. You can access the survey [here](#), and the survey will remain open until 20 September 2020. If you have questions about the survey or the wider project, please email commissioning@hee.nhs.uk.

Education and training tariff for 2020/21 published

The education and training tariff guidance document, including the 2020/21 tariff rates, has been published by the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC). You can access the guidance document [here](#).

Join us for a deep dive into our Allied Health Professions.

Over September a series of short AHP workforce webinars will be held, each focussed on three allied health professions. We will take a look at the current, national challenges for each profession, capture the perspective of the professional bodies and look at profession-specific workforce data. This is a unique opportunity to view a 360 perspective of each profession. The webinars are aimed at those who have an interest in the AHP workforce but all are welcome to join one or more of the webinars, click the links below to join:

- 10 September, 9.30 - 10.45 [AHP Workforce webinar 1: Occupational Therapy, Podiatry and Art Therapy](#)
- 18 September, 9.00 - 10.15 [AHP Workforce webinar 2: Physiotherapy, Operating Department Practitioners and Orthoptists](#)
- 25 September, 11.00 - 12.15 [AHP Workforce webinar 3: Dietetics, Drama Therapy and Paramedics](#)
- 29 September, 15.00 – 16.15 [AHP Workforce webinar 4: Speech and Language Therapy, Music Therapy and Prosthetists and Orthotists](#)
- 30 September, 10.00 - 11.15 [AHP Workforce webinar 5: Diagnostic Radiography, Therapeutic Radiography and Osteopaths](#)

New roles in primary care guidance

HEE has developed guidance for new roles in primary care. Available through your local training hub or downloadable from the e-learning for healthcare (e-LfH) hub, <https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/new-roles-in-primary-care/>, you will have access to additional information about the Primary Care Networks Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS) outlined in the GP Contract as well as other new roles and advanced level of practice.

Any questions? We can put you in touch with your local training hub lead.

Email traininghubs@hee.nhs.uk

BMJ Best Practice – an award-winning resource now free to all NHS staff

BMJ Best Practice is a clinical decision-making support tool providing the latest evidence-based information to use at the point of care, it is free to all NHS healthcare professionals in England.

Rated as one of the best support tools worldwide, BMJ Best Practice includes step by step guidance on diagnosis, prognosis, treatment and prevention as well as medical calculators, how-to videos and patient information leaflets. Content includes clinical expertise from over 1,600 international authors and 2,500 peer reviewers which means users have up to date references available at their fingertips, anywhere, any time of day or night.

All NHS staff in England can access BMJ Best Practice by going to bmj.com/hee where they can register using their NHS OpenAthens username and password

([instructions here](#)). Once registered they can also download and use it via an app on a mobile device.

Topol Programme for Digital Fellowships in Healthcare

Recruitment for Cohort 2 of the Topol Programme for Digital Fellowships in Healthcare will begin in September. The fellowship programme provides fellows with time and support to design and deliver digital health projects and initiatives in their trusts and a programme of workshops and mentoring to stimulate and support fellows to lead digital health transformations for NHS staff and patients. This will be an exciting opportunity for NHS clinical staff, including doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, dentists, healthcare scientists, pharmacists and others, to shape and accelerate the NHS digital revolution. [Read more](#).

Toolkit outlines safe return to simulation training

A toolkit has been produced for learners to safely return to face-to-face simulation training. The *COVID-19 toolkit for safe simulation in health and care* was produced with support from experts in the field and highlights the five areas that need to be considered before returning to face-to-face training with suggestions as to how this might be done.

The toolkit also features a keynote on evaluation and learning which will be vital in encouraging future development and delivery of simulation training. The toolkit is available [here](#).

Flu Immunisation e-learning programme updated for the new season

The e-LfH programme has worked with Public Health England to update the Flu Immunisation e-learning programme to ensure it is up to date for the 2020/21 flu season.

With the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever that this year's annual flu vaccination programme is safely and effectively delivered to as many of those eligible as possible to protect those at risk. It is therefore crucial that those giving flu vaccines are confident, competent and have up to date knowledge about the vaccine(s) they are giving. The Flu Immunisation e-learning resource is designed to provide all healthcare practitioners involved in delivering the national flu immunisation programme with the knowledge they need to confidently promote high uptake of flu vaccination and administer the flu vaccines to those who need them. For more information about the programme, including details on how to access, visit: www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/flu-immunisation/.

NHS Graduate Digital, Data and Technology (DDaT) Scheme

The Digital Readiness funded Digital Graduates scheme is continuing to fund the rollout of this innovative recruitment programme. The NHS Graduate DDaT Scheme not only increases the number of individuals coming into the health care system with digital, data & technology skills but increases quality of graduates, while addressing the diversity ratios for females in Digital, Data & Technology, BAME, regional

variations and career changers. Supported by high quality development pathways this will create a long-term pipeline of fast track entry level staff within Digital, Data & Technology into senior roles, support succession planning and meet increasing technological demands.

The scheme is now recruiting for organisations in the North West, Yorkshire & Humberside, South East, London and the South West. [Further details, including contacts](#), are available on the Graduates into Health website.

Please share the link with networks and colleagues in these regions, particularly in HRD, OD and Health Informatics to enable them to make the most of this great opportunity in getting high quality digital professionals into the NHS.