



MAPLE Staff Network Bulletin

December – January 2024

The aim of this current awareness bulletin is to provide a digest of recent guidelines, reports, research and best practice.

NHS Workforce Disability Equality Standard (WDES) reports and action plans across NHS Lincolnshire

- [Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust](#)
- [Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust](#)
- [United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust](#)

For more information on Lincolnshire's population demographics see the latest [Greater Lincolnshire Census 2021 Summaries](#) prepared by the Lincolnshire County Council Public Health Intelligence Team.

A guide to improving staff disability data

This [updated guidance from NHS England](#) (originally published in 2020) can help employers improve their staff disability data.

Making workplace adjustments to support disabled staff

Under the Equality Act 2010, employers have a legal responsibility to make reasonable adjustments for disabled staff. This [updated guide from NHS Employers](#) looks at making simple and effective reasonable adjustments to support disabled staff in their roles, which can have a positive impact on the wellbeing, experience and performance of your workforce.

Meeting the needs of autistic adults in mental health services

This [guidance from NHS England](#) will help drive our collective efforts to bring about improvements in the provision of mental health care for autistic adults in all mental health services. It will support staff working in mental health to better understand and feel confident about meeting the needs of autistic people who access their services. We hope too that the information will be useful to commissioners and staff across all health settings including primary care and acute as we collectively seek to improve the health outcomes and experiences of care for autistic people.

Revising health assessments for disability benefits: third report of session 2023-24

Despite providing essential financial support for some of those most in need, applying for disability benefits can currently be lengthy and stressful for claimants. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) established the Health Transformation Programme in 2018 to digitise the process, enable online applications, improve case management, and triage claims. [This report from the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee](#) warns that the greatest risk to this work is that the DWP focuses exclusively on the delivery of a new digitalised service, without achieving the important transformational change for the experience of claimants.



Recently published research

Association between ethnicity and migration status with the prevalence of single and multiple long-term conditions in UK healthcare workers.

BMC medicine, 2023, 21(1), p.433.

Healthcare workers' (HCW) well-being has a direct effect on patient care. However, little is known about the prevalence and patterns of long-term medical conditions in HCWs, especially those from ethnic minorities. This study evaluated the burden of multiple long-term conditions (MLTCs), i.e. the presence of two or more single long-term conditions (LTCs), among HCWs in the United Kingdom (UK) and variation by ethnicity and migration status.

Click here for full access: [BMC Medicine](#)

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- **Information skills training:** We can provide training on how to search healthcare databases and resources as well as showing you how to appraise the information that you find: <https://www.nhslinclslibrary.uk/training/>

Online Resources

- **BMJ Best Practice** is a clinical decision support tool that provides step-by-step guidance on diagnosis, prognosis, treatment and prevention of a wide variety of conditions: <https://bestpractice.bmj.com>
- **ClinicalKey** is a database which supports healthcare professionals by providing access to the latest evidence across specialties: <https://www.clinicalkey.com/>