



Nursing bulletin

October 2025

The aim of this current awareness bulletin is to provide a digest of recent guidelines, and best practice on Nursing

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Guidelines/Reports

[District nursing: Understanding the decline and mapping the future](#)

The Nuffield Trust, October 2025

District nurses, who provide care to people in homes all over the country and operate all hours of the day, are fundamental to the government's plans to shift more care from hospital to the community. But this new research report shows those plans are unlikely to be achievable unless action is taken to address the state of the district nursing profession.

Published Research

[Psychological Safety and Burnout in Nurses: A Scoping Review](#)

Cureus, 15;17(9):e92411

These findings suggest that promoting psychological safety serves as a protective organizational strategy in high-intensity clinical settings. They also underscore the need for comprehensive, multi-level interventions focused on leadership development, structured communication protocols, and robust organizational support systems to enhance psychological safety and mitigate the risk of burnout.

[Relationships Between Nurses' Self-Leadership Practices, Professional Autonomy, Job Satisfaction and Intention to Leave: A Structural Equation Modelling Approach](#)

Journal of Advanced Nursing, October 2025

Implementing professional autonomy and self-leadership practices in organisational structures enhances nurses' valuable role. Empowering leadership encourages nurses to set goals, evaluate beliefs and assumptions, and reward themselves.

Clinical Skills/Knowledge

Delivering effective end of life care in the emergency department: a nursing perspective

Emergency Nurse, October 2025

More patients are presenting to emergency services in the final stages of illness, with emergency departments increasingly becoming places where people experience end of life. This article explores how emergency nurses can provide high-quality care at the end of life when supported by access to appropriate advanced care planning documentation, integrated records, education and interprofessional collaboration.

Facilitating shared decision-making in rehabilitation planning with people with dementia

Nursing Older People, October 2025

When undergoing rehabilitation following a health event, recovery can be complicated and protracted for an older person with dementia. This article provides guidance on how nurses can create an enabling environment by using person-centred communication



techniques to assess an individual's capacity for making choices, building their confidence and supporting them to make decisions about rehabilitation goals and activities.

Fostering psychological safety as part of effective nurse leadership

Nursing Standard, October 2025

Psychological safety refers to the belief that one will not be punished or humiliated for speaking up with ideas, questions, concerns or mistakes. It comprises elements such as open communication, candour and honesty, interpersonal risk-taking and a learning culture. This article discusses the importance of fostering psychological safety as part of effective leadership.

How to deliver bad news

Cancer Nursing Practice, September 2025

Delivering bad news is a challenging yet essential aspect of clinical practice that requires sensitivity, clarity and compassion. The way healthcare professionals deliver bad news can significantly influence the patient's emotional response, their understanding of diagnosis, prognosis and treatment options, their capacity to cope with the situation, and their ability to make informed decisions about their care.

Influence of personal beliefs on adherence to medicines in older people with multimorbidity

Nursing Older People, October 2025

Multimorbidity is common in older people and makes their care more challenging, for example in terms of adherence to prescribed medicines. Nurses have a pivotal role in supporting patients to adhere to their drug regimen. This article reports the findings of an integrative review of the literature on the influence of personal beliefs on adherence to medicines in older people with multimorbidity.

Managing the risk of phlebitis arising from the use of peripheral vascular access devices

Nursing Standard, October 2025

Peripheral vascular access devices (PVADs) are widely used in healthcare for short-term intravenous administration of fluids, medicines and blood products. However, the use of PVADs often leads to complications, notably an inflammation of the vein wall known as phlebitis. This article explores the causes and types of phlebitis and outlines the risk factors. The author reviews evidence-based strategies for preventing PVAD-related phlebitis and emphasises the need for ongoing staff training to support safer PVAD use.

Optimising health outcomes in exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

Nursing Standard, September 2025

Exacerbations of chronic COPD can have debilitating physical effects on patients. Informed by research and clinical guidelines, this article explains how to optimise patients' long-term health outcomes, enhance symptom management and reduce hospital readmissions. It also discusses the importance of a comprehensive nursing assessment, multidisciplinary team input, self-management strategies and patient education. The article explores the hospital-based management of a patient experiencing a COPD exacerbation.

Principles of medicines management in mental health nursing

Mental Health Practice, October 2025

Medicines management is integral to maintaining patient safety and achieving optimal patient outcomes in nursing, including in mental healthcare settings, but there are potential discrepancies between its principles and their implementation in practice. This



article offers an overview of some of the principles of medicines management particularly relevant in mental health nursing.

[Skin conditions in older adults: prevalence, burden and community-based management](#)
British Journal of Community Nursing, October 2025

The growing older population presents unique dermatological challenges, with conditions such as atopic dermatitis and dry skin becoming increasingly prevalent yet understudied. This article reviews current evidence on the clinical characteristics, burden and management strategies for common skin conditions in older people.

The importance of wishes, feelings, beliefs and values in best interests decision-making
British Journal of Nursing, Vol. 34 Issue 17, pp. 902–904

Richard Griffith considers the importance of a person's wishes in determining the best interests of someone who lacks capacity under the Mental Capacity Act. This article explores why these elements are integral to lawful and ethical best interest determinations, reviews key case law, and reflects on implications for nursing practice.

Using a structured process for patient assessment and triage to reduce ambulance handover delays and enhance patient outcomes

Emergency Nurse, October 2025

The article aims to equip nurses who are responsible for ambulance handovers and initial patient assessments with examples of best practice to support their clinical decision-making and guide clinical practice.

News/Blogs/Editorials

Communication failures and NHS patient safety

British Journal of Nursing, Vol. 34 Issue 17, pp. 900–901

Communication failures can be seen as a significant and underpinning cause of avoidable patient harm in the NHS. Such failures feature strongly in the reports of investigations of major patient safety crises, and Never Event data.

[Physical activity as essential medicine in oncology nursing practice](#)

British Journal of Nursing, September 2025

Promotion of physical activity is increasingly recognised as a therapeutic intervention in oncology care. Evidence from the 2025 ASCO annual meeting demonstrated that structured exercise after cancer treatment reduced mortality risk by 37% and recurrence by 28%. However, translating this evidence into routine nursing practice requires addressing implementation challenges that nurses encounter in clinical settings.

[RCN reports 55% rise in members facing racist abuse](#)

RCN, October 2025

Analysis of calls to the RCN shows a surge in complaints about racism at work. The data reveals an increase of 55% in three years, with the RCN advice line receiving three calls a day from global majority nursing staff from across the UK. Our members are calling to seek advice and support after being racially discriminated against in the workplace.

[Reducing the risks to nurses of working with hazardous cancer drugs](#)

British Journal of Nursing, September 2025

Oncology nurses play a vital role in administering systemic anti-cancer therapy, but this comes with the ever-present risk of occupational exposure to hazardous drugs.