



Nursing bulletin

March 2025

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

If you would like to request any of the articles included in this bulletin, or be added to the distribution list, please contact: ulth.library.lincoln@nhs.net

For more information on Library and Knowledge Services please go to:
www.nhslincslibrary.uk

Guidelines/Reports

[Fixing the Leaking Pipeline](#)

Royal College of Nursing, March 2025

In this RCN Policy report we assess the gaps in the domestic nursing supply pipeline which (1) limit the potential output (2) cause nursing students to leave their studies and (3) lead to early career nurses leaving. Based on this, we recommend a package of interventions to fix the pipeline and resolve issues of high attrition and low output.

Published Research

Safe Voicing for Employee Well-Being

The Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing, March 2025

Nurses are especially subject to posttraumatic stress disorder and moral distress and are often affected by sustained exposure to trauma and difficult clinical situations that are life-altering to their patients and thus to themselves. Providing frontline clinical staff with safe and structured systems for voicing their experiences is an important part of fostering employee well-being.

[Self-leadership and why it matters to nurses: A scoping review](#)

International Nursing Review, March 2025

Self-leadership has a positive connection to nurses' work performance and well-being. Nursing students should be introduced to self-leadership skill development in their nursing education programs, and nurses should be offered continuing education opportunities to develop self-leadership skills throughout their careers.

"They Assume I'm Not Intelligent Just Because I Have an Accent": Supporting Retention of Nursing Students Who Speak English as an Additional Language

Journal of Nursing Education, March 2025

Many nursing students who speak English as an additional language unfortunately face challenges that can hinder their academic success. A literature review was carried out to investigate challenges faced by nursing students who speak English as an additional language and strategies to promote academic success.

Clinical Skills/Knowledge

Determining mental capacity: guidance from the courts

British Journal of Nursing, March 2025

Richard Griffith, Senior Lecturer in Health Law at Swansea University, considers the approach to be taken when assessing a person's capacity to make decisions, informed by guidance from the Courts.



Engaging with improvement

British Journal of Nursing, March 2025

Sam Foster considers different approaches to continuous improvement initiatives and the potential benefits for staff and patients. Nursing leadership can feel challenging, with the constant drive for improved performance in health and social care, and a top-down performance management culture in which we typically operate.

How to plan a quality improvement project

Nursing Standard, March 2025

Measuring and enhancing the quality of patient care has become a central aspect of healthcare. Quality improvement (QI) can have many purposes, but its overall aim is to enhance patient care in a structured and systematic manner. It is essential that nurses, as part of the healthcare team, understand the importance of QI and their role in QI projects.

Keeping well with dementia: supporting the person with dementia to function to capacity

British Journal of Community Nursing, February 2025

Nearly a million people are living with dementia in the UK, and less than 65% of them have been formally diagnosed according to the Alzheimer's Society. This article discusses how to a person with dementia can be helped to maintain health and enjoy the best possible quality of life.

Medication management in end-of-life dementia care

Nursing Times, March 2025

Early recognition of dementia as a complex palliative health condition facilitates meaningful advance care planning discussions and improved end-of-life symptom management, particularly for pain, agitation and dyspnoea involving pharmacological interventions, psychosocial support and interdisciplinary collaboration. This article offers a guide to medication management for people with dementia who are nearing the end of life.

Supporting the well-being of nurses working with trauma

Nursing Standard, March 2025

The nursing profession has long been associated with exposure to traumatic experiences, including. This article explores trauma and its various manifestations, such as PTSD and secondary traumatic stress, which are increasingly prevalent among nurses. It also considers the adaptive and maladaptive coping mechanisms that may be adopted by nurses, and discusses the effectiveness and limitations of various debriefing interventions.

The Health and Care Act 2022 and community nursing

British Journal of Community Nursing, March 2025

Iwan Dowie explores the provisions of the Health and Care Act 2022 and its impact on community nursing. The legislation aims to promote the involvement of service users in the decision-making process for their healthcare planning.

Understanding postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome

British Journal of Nursing, March 2025

Postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome (PoTS) is a clinically significant condition affecting numerous patients across the UK. This article aims to enhance understanding and management strategies for registered nurses by exploring its pathophysiology, clinical presentations, diagnostic processes and treatment protocols.

News/Blogs/Editorials



Datix abuse: the safety issues ignored or minimised by managers

Nursing Standard, March 2025

Nurses say their Datix reports are often ignored or downgraded, even – or sometimes especially – when reporting safe staffing or safeguarding issues. This is demoralising, they say, and experts warn it can also discourage healthcare staff from raising serious patient safety concerns, for fear of repercussions or because they believe nothing will happen.

[National Cancer CNS Day: celebrating the role of the CNS](#)

British Journal of Nursing, March 2025

The 4th National Cancer Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) Day takes place across the UK on Friday 14 March. As in previous years, this day celebrates the CNS role in cancer care, raises their profile and acknowledges their vital contribution to cancer care across the four nations.

[Nursing associates: are they being used as 'budget nurses'?](#)

Nursing Standard Podcast, March 2025

Amid reports that nursing associates are being asked to do some of the work of registered nurses we explore the scope of practice of the role. Martyn Davey, a nursing associate who wants to promote better understanding of what the role involves and foster stronger working relationships between nursing associates and registered nurses, cautions against regarding them as 'budget nurses'.

[Nursing degree applications fall for fourth year](#)

BBC News, March 2025

The number of students applying to nursing courses in the UK has fallen for a fourth year, said UCAS. Only 30,550 have applied this year, down 15,000 applicants from 2021, the university admissions body has said. The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) said many students cannot afford to study due to additional pressures such as working part time to support themselves.

Nursing shifts and parenting: 'How can we make it work for you?'

Nursing Standard, February 2025

Finding work-life balance remains a challenge for many nurses trying to cope with the emotional, physical and financial pressures of parenting alongside working. We look at changes and options that can help, the support managers can provide and how flexible working and self-rostering can benefit both nurses and employers.

Revealed: the shocking violence being faced daily by nurses

Nursing Times, March 2025

Virtually all nursing and midwifery workers in the UK have experienced physical violence at work, an exclusive Nursing Times survey reveals. Staff reported being grabbed, punched, bitten, spat at, strangled, headbutted and even stabbed.



Royal Marsden Manual online training in 2025

Basic sessions will cover searching the platform. Advanced sessions will cover personalisation and customisation with local Trust guidelines. Register [here](#).

Basic sessions:

16 April 2025, 11:30am to 12pm
17 June 2025, 11:30am to 12pm
14 August 2025, 11:30am to 12pm
28 October 2025, 11:30am to 12pm
4 December 2025 11:30am to 12pm

Advanced sessions:

12 May 2025, 11:30am to 12pm
23 July 2025, 11:30am to 12pm
8 September 2025, 11:30am to 12pm
12 November 2025, 11:30am to 12pm