



Nursing bulletin

May 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

[Nursing Workforce Standards](#)

Royal College of Nursing, May 2025

These standards set out what is required to secure a nursing workforce able to deliver the safe, effective, compassionate, person-centred nursing care our patients and service users need and deserve, ensuring they always feel safe, cared for, and listened to.

[Unreciprocated Care: why internationally educated nursing staff are leaving the UK](#)

Royal College of Nursing, May 2025

Internationally educated nursing staff have been making a critical contribution to UK health and care systems for the better part of a century but continue to face challenges every step of the way to becoming a nurse in the UK. From their initial recruitment to visa applications, from starting work to finding accommodation – internationally educated staff are confronted with unjust and unnecessary hurdles.

Published Research

[Beyond Self-Directed Learning: The Role of Self-Regulated Learning in Nursing Education](#)

Journal of Nursing Education, Vol. 64, No. 5

Self-directed learning (SDL) is widely adopted in nursing education but has limitations in preparing students for professional practice. Self-regulated learning (SRL) provides a complementary approach, emphasizing strategies learners use to manage their own learning.

[Impacts of Second-Victim Experience and Resilience on Nurses' Turnover Intention](#)

International Nursing Review, Volume 72, Issue 2

This study aimed to examine the relationships between second-victim experience, resilience, and nurses' turnover intention. Health organizations should implement programs that assist nurses with overcoming trauma post adverse events and enhancing resilience, which may reduce their turnover intention in the profession.

Clinical Skills/Knowledge

[Beyond pads: promoting effective continence care in the community](#)

British Journal of Community Nursing, Vol 30 Issue 5

Over 14 million people in the UK experience urinary incontinence. It is inevitable that patients who may be struggling with the impact of this condition comprise a significant portion of the community nurse's caseload. However, despite the prevalence of urinary incontinence, systemic barriers to high-quality care provision lead to suboptimal



outcomes, including an overreliance on incontinence products, particularly in the community setting.

[Dehydration in Older People](#)

Royal College of Nursing, May 2025

This blog focuses on the issue of dehydration in older adults, a common yet preventable problem in healthcare settings. It discusses the role of nurses in identifying dehydration risk factors and implementing strategies to maintain hydration, which is vital for preventing complications in older patients.

Developing clinical leadership skills at band 5 and above

Nursing Standard, April 2025

Any nurse, regardless of their experience or role, can demonstrate clinical leadership by inspiring change, driving innovation and improving patient care. Leadership does not require qualifications or training – being a leader in your clinical area might mean advocating for patients, prioritising safety, mentoring colleagues, sharing learning or championing innovation..

Mental Capacity Act 2005: balancing best interests with patient co-operation

British Journal of Nursing Vol. 34, No. 10

Richard Griffith, Senior Lecturer in Health Law at Swansea University, considers situations where acting in a person's best interests is dependent on their co-operation with treatment even though they lack mental capacity

Power of touch in nursing: how to get it right

Nursing Standard, April 2025

Nurses use touch to give compassionate care to patients and families, but emotional intelligence is needed to judge when this contact is appropriate.

Reducing inappropriate continence pad use on hospital wards

Nursing Times, Vol 121 Issue 5

Unnecessary use of continence pads reduces patients' mobility, independence and dignity; it also has negative impacts for the NHS and the environment. After an audit at Great Western Hospital revealed inappropriate pad use on three older people's wards, clinical practice educators for healthcare support workers undertook an initiative to develop pad assessment tools and train staff in their use. The project achieved substantial improvements in pad usage and cost savings.

Type 2 diabetes and the role of nurses in its management

Nursing Standard, May 2025

Type 2 diabetes has become a significant global public health issue. This article provides an overview of type 2 diabetes. It also describes the role of nurses, which involves: advising patients on weight management, diet, physical activity, smoking cessation and alcohol reduction; encouraging adherence to care plans and drug treatment regimens; and providing ongoing support, education and monitoring to prevent or delay the onset of complications.

Understanding the accuracy of body temperature measurements in patient triage during cancer treatment: a retrospective audit

Cancer Nursing Practice, May 2025



This article aims to refresh your knowledge around elevated temperature and how it can be the first sign of infection and neutropenic sepsis in patients undergoing chemotherapy or radiotherapy. We explore the use of home-measured temperature as a factor in whether to admit a patient for assessment/treatment, and reflect on how improvements in temperature measurement in the home environment might optimise patient care.

Understanding the basics of stoma care and how to recognise complications

Nursing Times, Vol 121 Issue 5

There are many reasons why patients may need a stoma, including those resulting from trauma or congenital issues, colorectal or bladder cancer, and inflammatory bowel disease. Nurses in different settings will commonly encounter patients with a stoma so they should have the knowledge and expertise to offer appropriate care and advice and, where necessary, know when to refer patients to the appropriate professional.

[Weight loss drugs: the essentials for non-specialists](#)

Royal College of Nursing, May 2025

Have you heard people talking about Ozempic, Wegovy or Mounjaro? Here's what nursing staff need to know about these medications

What is the concept of total pain?

Cancer Nursing Practice, volume 24, issue 3

The total pain concept can be used to structure assessments for patients in pain. It can be helpful to think of it as a guide to ensure you have explored all aspects of the pain experience with the individual. It is not just about the physical site of pain, but also thinking about the impact the pain is having on them emotionally, socially and spiritually.

News/Blogs/Editorials/Podcasts

[Assisted dying and the nursing profession](#)

Royal College of Nursing, May 2025

As different pieces of legislation about assisted dying progress across the UK, Patricia Hughes, the RCN Associate Director of the Nursing Practice Academy, discusses our position and how we aim to support and represent all our members, whatever the outcome.

New study to investigate domestic abuse of nurses

Nursing Times, May 2025

A new study hopes to shine a light on the issue of domestic abuse against nurses and midwives.

[Sepsis myth-busting: what is best practice now?](#)

Nursing Standard, May 2025

Our podcast discusses guidelines around sepsis and why traditional thinking on various aspects of care is changing – including the use of antibiotics.

[Supporting the development of advanced nursing skills in community nursing](#)

Nursing in Practice, May 2025

Malaika Eparh, community specialist practice programme lead and senior lecturer at University College Birmingham, describes the thinking behind two new MSc courses for community nurses, and comments on a recent announcement removing funding for level 7 apprenticeships.