



National Clinical Homecare Association News Autumn/Winter 2019

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As we approach the turn of the year, this newsletter looks forward to the priorities for 2020. The homecare sector has high satisfaction amongst service users as measured by homecare organisation's internal patient experience surveys, however the published evidence base for homecare is both limited and not easy to find. The two priorities for 2020 are for stakeholders to work together to develop the published evidence base for homecare services and to continue to push for paperless homecare services.

Digital Homecare Strategy

Paperless homecare has been the "holy grail" for homecare providers and NHS Clinical Referring Centres. Several initiatives have stumbled and it is clear that to successfully deliver benefits that can outweigh the development and ongoing costs, digital homecare must be fully paperless including exchange of patient identifiable data.

Following the Digital Homecare Stakeholder Workshop on 17th October, the NCHA / NHMC joint vision for digital homecare is being refreshed and will be published shortly.

The vision is essentially the same vision as articulated in the original Output Based Specification (Homecare Handbook Appendix 15a) produced following the Hackett Report 2011 (<https://www.rpharms.com/Portals/0/RPS%20document%20library/Open%20access/Professional%20standards/Professional%20standards%20for%20Homecare%20services/Appendices/15-obs-homecare-v8-post-consultation.docx>) and the challenges are essentially the same as those articulated in the NCHA Homecare System Workshop Proceedings 2015 (<https://www.clinicalhomecare.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/NCHA-Proceeding-Homecare-Booklet.pdf>).

Whilst there has been no direct responses to the NCHA Briefing Paper "Resolving the e-prescribing Interoperability Challenge" issued in Sept 2019 (https://www.clinicalhomecare.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Resolving_the_e-prescribing_Interoperability_Challenge_in_Clinical_and_Medicines_Homecare_Services_final_220719.pdf), this paper does seem to be opening doors for discussions with regulators and policy makers.

Professional Recognition & Clinical Service KPIs

The NCHA project to extend professional recognition of homecare services to include nursing continues. The Royal Pharmaceutical Society Professional Standard for Homecare Services has been reviewed by the NCHA Nursing and Clinical project group and multidisciplinary updates recommended. Engagement with professional nursing bodies to gain support and accreditation for the update is beginning.

The national standard key performance indicators for clinical and nursing services are on track to "go-live" for reporting in April 2020. Homecare providers are already collecting and collating pilot data. This implementation relates to version 6 of the national standard key performance indicators that will be published on the RPS website imminently in the same location as the current version (Appendix 10 - <https://www.rpharms.com/recognition/setting-professional-standards/professional-standards-for-homecare-services/homecare-handbook-appendices>).

Impact of Price Changes in Clinical Homecare

NCHA has published its position statement on the Impact of Price Changes in Clinical Homecare. Originally prepared as an internal stakeholder briefing paper in 2015, this paper has been updated and published on the NCHA website in October in response to requests from NHS colleagues https://www.clinicalhomecare.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Position-statement_Price-Changes_v1approved_171108_statuschange091119.pdf.

The Patients View of Homecare 3rd Annual NCHA Homecare Conference

Plans are well advanced for the 2020 Homecare Conference on 6th February in Birmingham. This will be the third annual conference and will focus on the patient experience and features sessions from personalised medicines to patient support apps. Conference plans include a bigger and better poster session which aims to build the published evidence base for homecare. The full conference programme, call for poster abstracts and bookings are online here <https://www.clinicalhomecare.org/ncha-annual-conference-2020/> or contact info@clinicalhomecare.co.uk for more information. We look forward to seeing you there.

Events & activities

Third Annual Clinical Homecare Conference and Symposium 2020 6th February 2020 in Birmingham

NCHA All Member's Meeting 24th June 2020, London NCHA All Member's Meeting 19th November 2020, London

NCHA All Member's Meetings are invitation only events for NCHA members and invited guests including NHS Regional Homecare Specialists and CMU Homecare specialists.

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About NCHA

The National Clinical Homecare Association (NCHA) was established in 2006 to represent and promote the patient-led interests of specific organisations whose primary activity is to provide medical supplies, support and clinical services to patients in the community.

For further information visit www.clinicalhomecare.org