



## National Clinical Homecare Association News

Summer 2022

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### NHS Best Kept Secret

There are more than 500,000 homecare patients across the UK. Reaching this milestone, despite still being the NHS best kept secret, homecare stakeholders agree clinical and medicines homecare services are now fully embedded in the infrastructure of the NHS healthcare offering to patients. The profile of homecare services is starting to increase amongst health leaders and NCHA continues to engage with the new Integrated Care Board Chairs and other homecare stakeholder(s) to leverage and develop clinical and medicines homecare services to support “care closer to home”.

### Clinical Homecare 2022 – Great to be back

Attendees at NCHA Clinical Homecare 2022 organised by NCHA, heard from Bruce Warner, Deputy Chief Pharmacist NHSE and Lisa Stalley Green, Deputy CEO and Chief Nursing Officer NHS Birmingham and Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group and Professor Chris Griffiths, OBE MD FRCP FMedSci University of Manchester amongst many others. Looking at the future of clinical homecare all agreed that these homecare services formed an important part of the NHS offering for patients across UK. The packed agenda for the homecare conference was enjoyed by all.

*“I also enjoyed the opportunity to network with the other delegates over the breaks to understand their process’ and to share best practise. This was refreshing after a long season on Teams!”*

Following this success, NCHA are looking for an appropriate venue so we can accommodate increased numbers of attendees and also re-instate the posters section which was not possible this year due to space constraints. We will be announcing dates for Clinical Homecare Conference 2023 in the next weeks, so watch out for details in the [NCHA news](#).

### Homecare Prescription e-signing via NCHA RXESH

Whilst RxESH development was fast-tracked for use in the COVID response, the day-to-day use of NCHA Prescription E-Signature Hub (RxESH) continues to grow rapidly. It can be implemented for individual clinics/prescribers or used more widely within the Trust. Homecare providers are providing tailored demonstration of how RxESH can work for each clinic to assist NHS colleagues spend a small amount of time to understand how the RxESH functionality can significantly streamline their practice and release scarce resource to focus on direct patient care. RxESH can lead to big efficiencies when used with existing manual prescribing processes to simply remove the need for paper prescriptions and ink prescriber signatures. Some NHS colleagues are also taking additional steps to further streamline their prescribing processes utilising the RxESH reminder e-mails prompts and directly uploading the copy of the electronically signed prescription to the patient record.

NCHA continues to support the long-term solution for homecare prescribing via EPS, but in the meantime, the RxESH provides a pragmatic and efficient alternative. For general information about the NCHA RxESH please contact [info@clinicalhomecare.co.uk](mailto:info@clinicalhomecare.co.uk) or contact your homecare provider.

## **NCHA Highly Commended in GO Excellence in Public Procurement Awards – UK National 2021/22**

Following on from winning recognition for “COVID-19 Outstanding Response Award – Private Sector Organisations” 2020/2021. The UK GO jointly awarded NCHA and NHMC Highly Commended for “**Continuous Improvement**” 2021/22 for working together to develop the NCHA Prescription E-Signature Hub solution as both mitigation for COVID and moving forwards to speed up and streamline administration in the homecare prescribing process, release scarce NHS resources to focus on direct patient care. <https://www.goawards.co.uk/national/>

## **NCHA Clinical Homecare Patient Council**

The NCHA Patient Communications Group formed to support COVID communications to patients has been made permanent within the NCHA activities and renamed as the NCHA Patient Council. Meetings were weekly at the height of COVID and are now expected to be quarterly and the terms of reference have been updated accordingly. In the last NCHA newsletter, we asked for nominations of other homecare relevant patient groups and additional patient group representatives have been invited to join the group.

Patient groups currently included are

- *Cystic Fibrosis Trust* - <https://www.cysticfibrosis.org.uk>
- *National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society – NRAS* - <https://nras.org.uk>
- *National Axial Spondyloarthritis Society – NASS* <https://nass.co.uk>
- *PINNT* - <https://pinnt.com/Home.aspx>

If you think any other patient groups should and would like to be represented on the NCHA Clinical Homecare Patient Council, please contact [info@clinicalhomecare.co.uk](mailto:info@clinicalhomecare.co.uk) with further information.

## **Events & activities**

### **NCHA 2023 Conference**

NCHA are very keen to continually build on the success of our annual conference. We would like to hear feedback from you on how this could be improved. If you have any suggestions then please email them to [info@clinicalhomecare.co.uk](mailto:info@clinicalhomecare.co.uk)

### **Date for your Diary:**

**NCHA All Members Meeting – 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022**  
(note: date change due to clash with PDIG)

## **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](http://www.clinicalhomecare.org)

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