

# East of England Primary Care Newsletter January 2016



**Sharing best practice and the latest developments in primary care from across the region**

## Welcome

**Welcome to the first edition of our Primary Care Newsletter**

Through the creation of this newsletter we hope to bring you up to date information on primary care news, facts and figures from across the east of England.

It is dedicated to bringing you news on new initiatives and inspiring stories that are happening right now. Primary care covers such a large variety of fields and professions we think it's important to shout about successes to ensure we all continue to push towards creating a better future for primary care.

John Howard  
Head of Education and Quality for Primary and Community Care  
Health Education England - East of England Office



**Developing people  
for health and  
healthcare**

[www.hee.nhs.uk](http://www.hee.nhs.uk)

## Primary Care: Future Workforce

### Be part of the future at our primary care event

We are bringing together leaders from across primary care to discuss how we **assess, plan** and **develop** the future primary care workforce across the east of England. Share your vision with key figures in primary care through collaborative workshops and market stalls and learn about current plans in the region. The event is on Wednesday 30 March 2016 and you can **register for your free place now** via [www.bit.ly/FuturePCWorkforce](http://www.bit.ly/FuturePCWorkforce)

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## Primary Care Transformation

### Putting primary care first

Patient centred primary care delivered through general practice is vital to the NHS and our patients. To give this work the focus it deserves, HEE has a new Primary Care Steering Group for the east of England. We recognise the immense challenges faced by primary care and our aim is to ensure HEE delivers the clinical workforce we need for a primary care provided by generalists that is high quality, safe and effective and above all cares for each patient and every problem. We are also developing a Primary Care Operational Services Group to support our work which has much wider representation from across the service.



The group provides direction and guidance on all HEE primary care programmes, managing the investment plan, integrating workforce planning and communication with stakeholders and reporting back to the Executive Team for our region. Through the new steering group the HEE Board has one central system giving oversight of HEE's programmes so that consistent and equitable support can be given to all areas.

More information about our work is available on the Health Education England local website [www.heeoe.hee.nhs.uk](http://www.heeoe.hee.nhs.uk).

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## Community Education Provider Networks

### Coming to a town near you

HEE in the east of England is starting a trend, one that encourages primary care communities to come together to plan and train the future multi-disciplinary workforce where they are needed. We want everyone to be involved in the future of education and training.

The formation of CEPNs across the east will provide a new way of organising the management of learning in primary care. Our vision is that a CEPN will give greater control over the distribution of funding and management of learners and placements in primary care to all local service providers. In December 2015 we successfully bid for funding from HEE to form our first wave of Community Education Provider Networks (CEPNs) across the east of England.



The three pilot sites are starting work; **Great Yarmouth & Waveney, Suffolk** and **Essex** will all pilot the scheme in advance of a second wave of pilots. We have released the details of the bidding process which will see funding released for a further **6 CEPNs in 2016** – for more information on CEPNs please email [holly.stride@nhs.net](mailto:holly.stride@nhs.net).

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### Essex Primary Care Inter-professional Centre

#### Essex is EPIC!

Through the primary care workforce transformation programme, Essex Workforce Partnership created 'EPIC' - the **Essex Primary Care Inter-professional Centre for Workforce Development** - in September 2015. EPIC launched as a means of recruiting and retaining GPs in general practice and supporting returners, working seamlessly alongside NHS England's 10 Point Plan, *Building the Workforce – the New Deal for General Practice*.



The concept of the EPIC development centre was devised by Health Education England and North and South Essex Local Medical Committees (LMCs) as an innovative solution to addressing the ongoing difficulty in recruiting, developing and retaining primary care staff. Their mission is to **support, inspire** and **expand** the primary care workforce in Essex and this is the first step in doing so. Their flashy website acts as a central point for all things primary care workforce including **training** and **education opportunities**, but also promotes the county of Essex as a great place to work.

The EPIC website can be found here [www.epic-wd.org.uk](http://www.epic-wd.org.uk). Look out for the EPIC Careers Fair and other PC engagement activities during 2016.

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### Physician Associates

#### New placement opportunities

Anglia Ruskin University (ARU) and the University of East Anglia (UEA) are commencing new Physician's Associate courses to help meet the need for additional clinicians in both primary and secondary care. The courses are open to previous health care science graduates and lasts two years; ARU had their first intake of **30 students** in September and 30 UEA students start their programme in March 2016.

There are very successful examples of physician's associates working alongside GPs in the east of England, gaining primary care experience and higher chances of securing their services in the long term. The ten week primary care placements begin in February with students placed in training practices in Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire, and experiencing the benefits of working in primary care across the east of England. There will be a further and longer round of primary care placements in 2017 which will represent a real opportunity for practices to offer future employment to the students.

HEE is proud to be supporting this innovative development and we are sure that physician's associates will have a key role within the clinical workforce in both primary and secondary care in the future. For more information on Physicians please check out the RCP website [www.rcplondon.ac.uk](http://www.rcplondon.ac.uk).



## Clinical Pharmacists

### New pilot underway across the east

An NHS England clinical pharmacist pilot hopes to relieve pressures across primary care in the east of England. Practices in Beccles, Norwich, Sawbridgeworth, Bedford, Colchester, Epping and Great Yarmouth are between them recruiting **32 pharmacists** to work in primary care. The clinical pharmacists will be employed by the practices but will receive a fantastic educational package from the Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) supported by CPPE educators and the GP School network of educators.



The pharmacists will all be able to complete prescribing qualifications over the next two years. The clinical pharmacists will develop a direct patient facing role; estimates have shown that this new breed of clinician can easily undertake **40% of a GPs workload**. Given the pressure on the GP workforce, this new role will be a vital part of the clinical provision within the primary care service of the future. In total NHS England are investing **£30M in 406 clinical pharmacists** across England.

Apart from the development of this valuable new workforce, the cooperation between general practice and pharmacy educators opens up the possibility of genuinely inter-professional postgraduate education. Here in the east of England we will be exploring this over the next few months and developing cooperative opportunities for learners in both general practice, GP nursing and clinical pharmacy. HEE has been at the forefront of developing this work in the east of England and we look forward to supporting NHS England in bringing this innovative and important pilot to successful fruition over the next two years.

For more information on Pharmacy please visit our webpage [www.heeoe.hee.nhs.uk/pharmacy](http://www.heeoe.hee.nhs.uk/pharmacy).

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## Midlands & East GPN Conference

### Book your place now!

Registration for the Midlands and East General Practice Nurses Conference 2016 is LIVE!

The conference spans 1st and 2nd March 2016 at Holywell Park, Loughborough University. You can book to attend as a day delegate or for the full two day conference (limited accommodation is available).

This conference is aimed at inspiring general practice nurses, those in leadership positions and aspiring leaders for the future, and is a rare opportunity to attend a free two-day conference!

Places are limited per area; **book your place now** under the 'latest news' section via [www.hee.nhs.uk/hee-your-area/east-england/news-events](http://www.hee.nhs.uk/hee-your-area/east-england/news-events)





## Primary Care Newsletter – January 2016

We want to share the stories that matter to you, the people working in primary care. If you have any inspiring stories or new initiatives that you would like featured on this newsletter then we want to hear from you. Please email details of your story to the east of England PMO team on [holly.stride@nhs.net](mailto:holly.stride@nhs.net).

