

Tuesday 14 May 2024

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**Review of clinical nurse specialist roles** You will be aware of the Scottish Government paper on the review of clinical nurse specialist (CNS) roles across Scotland. As an organisation we continue to work on our response to the paper, alongside colleagues across the country. We know you are keen to understand more; at present there are no significant updates to give, but we wanted to assure you a local review group is meeting regularly, and we are represented on national groups discussing this. As work progresses, we will share information with you. If you want more information about the local review group, Jacqueline Annand and Vicky Bone are members on behalf of the CNS Forum. You can contact either of them on this or on any matters relating to the CNS forum.

**National Operating Department Practitioner (ODP) day** Today is ODP Day and we're celebrating the fantastic contribution made by our operating department practitioners (ODP) colleagues. As the name suggests, they provide expert care in operating departments. They are highly skilled members of the surgical care team, working alongside nurses to care for and support people during their procedure.

The role of the ODP essentially covers three stages of care: the anaesthetic phase, the surgical phase, and the post-anaesthetic care phase. They are registered with the Health and Care Professions Council and have a good understanding of anatomy and physiology, disease, asepsis and infection control, and surgical safety. Since we started offering training in 2019, 29 students have graduated from the University of the West of Scotland in partnership with NHS Grampian. There is an annual intake, and we currently have 22 students across Foresterhill and Dr Gray's. We are also in the privileged position of facilitating learning for students from other health boards, playing host to one student from NHS Shetland and two from NHS Highland as well as one student from Dr Gray's.

**Near Me video consulting – new call screen from 20 May** The Near Me platform for one-to-one calls will be upgraded from next Monday (20 May). Regular users should receive an email this week with more information. The upgrade will make the screen layout more accessible but does not change the process of caller entry or waiting area management. The Near Me team have refreshed their training materials to guide you through the subtle changes. You can access these here: [Training – NHSS National Video Conferencing Service \(scot.nhs.uk\)](https://www.scot.nhs.uk/nearme/training)

Slight changes have been made to the caller information leaflet and services should make sure they are including the most up to date version of their waiting area leaflet with appointment invitations. You will be able to download the updated caller information leaflet from your waiting area page on the platform as soon as the upgrade has gone live.

Please be aware the upgrade will be applied to group call waiting areas later this summer.

**Terminology Tuesday – how we speak about people** Working in the NHS or in social care means we are always speaking or writing about the people we care for. Medical notes, reports, verbal handovers, presentations, stakeholder analysis – it never ends. What it would be like though, if those people read the reports or heard the handovers? Would they understand what we had said? Would the language we use upset them? Would they recognise themselves in those words?

Rebekah Pierre, a journalist, social worker, and someone who experienced the care system first hand, has written about reading her own case notes: ['I wanted to go back and stand up for the little girl that I was' - Community Care](#) This was a difficult experience, with something as simple as her name being misspelled over 100 times. For today's Terminology Tuesday, we're sharing two guides to preferred language – see links below. You may know of other guides – we'd be delighted to hear from you if you do!

[Preferred language when referring to older people – British Geriatrics Society](#)

[Language guide for care experienced young people – North Lanarkshire Council](#)

**Vaccinations for inpatients** Are you based in an inpatient area in Aberdeen City? Do you have any patients who require a COVID-19 spring vaccination? During this campaign, jabs are being offered to:

- All adults aged 75 years and over
- Residents in care homes for older adults
- Individuals aged 6 months and over who are immunosuppressed (as defined in tables 3 and 4 in the COVID-19 chapter of the Green Book)

If you are caring for people in your inpatient team who fit these criteria, [please use this form to refer them](#). The vaccination team will plan with wards before attending.

**Leading an empowered Organisation (LEO) now available to managers in non-clinical roles** Do not miss your opportunity to be part of this internationally licensed leadership programme. During the 3-day course you will be introduced to key LEO outcomes of encouraging ownership, accountability, teamwork, quality improvement and an inclusive and engaging leadership style. For more details or to apply, [please follow this intranet link](#) (networked devices only). If further information is required, please contact [gram.coaching@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.coaching@nhs.scot).

**Michael McIntyre ticket offer** With thanks to the team at P&J Live, additional tickets have been added to the Michael McIntyre offer. These are for tomorrow's show (Wednesday 15 May); please note booking fees will apply. [You can snap up your tickets via this link](#).

**Tune of the day** In celebration of ODP Day, we have been asked to share The Laryngospasms and their take on [Waking Up is Hard to Do](#) by the lovely Shiona C McKelvie, who is the lead for ODP education in the north region.

I'm also sneaking in [Young Americans](#) by David Bowie, in tribute to saxophonist David Sanborn who features on this (and many other great tunes) and who died on Sunday (EP)

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)