



Welcome

Welcome to this week's newsletter

A note from the Executive Director

Yesterday I had lunch with some former colleagues who retired from the NHS a few years ago. They included Don Greenslade - whom I'm sure a lot of you will know and who is still very active in the Association - Arthur Bule and Peter Boyer. If any of you remember Arthur or Peter, I can report that they are both still going strong and Peter still has the same terrible sense of humour!

We shall very shortly be sending out details of the Summer School, the fifty-first school that the Association has run!

It will be held from 19 to 24 August at the University of Birmingham and is designed to provide training for staff on Grades 3, 4 and 5, or equivalent, who are employed in healthcare supplies. It aims to increase professionalism generally and to encourage those attending to obtain relevant professional qualifications. Further details to follow.

If you need any further information at this stage, please do not hesitate to contact me.

John Smith
Executive Director

N3PD and the GO Awards

Thank you to all Health Care Supply Association members who completed an application for the *Government Opportunities (GO)* Excellence in Public Procurement Awards 2007. Each year the standard of entries has surpassed that of the previous year - and 2007 is no different.

Judging has been completed, and all entrants who have made the shortlist will be notified week commencing 7 May. Good luck to all!

If you are not fortunate enough to be shortlisted for this prestigious accolade, you can still reserve your place to attend by visiting www.n3pd.com

Speakers for this year's event are Sir Michael Lyons, author of the Lyons Review; Dr Neil Bentley, Director, Public Services Directorate, CBI; and Vincent Cable, Shadow Chancellor and Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats.

Places are filling fast so book today!

News

More surgery closer to home

The latest advances in surgery mean that as many as eight out of ten operations can now take place in local community hospitals, health centres or GP practices, rather than in large hospitals. [More...](#)

Reporting faulty medical equipment

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) is calling on the public, as part of a new campaign in England, to report medical equipment they have bought or that has been given to them by a GP's surgery, hospital, pharmacy, optometrist or clinic, that has developed faults. [More...](#)

Growth of NHS foundation trust sector

The latest additions to the NHS foundation trust sector have been announced by Independent Regulator Monitor. [More...](#)

Changing trends on place of death in hospital

The percentage of children dying at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) NHS Trust has not increased, however the proportion of children dying in intensive care is greater, a new study has found. [More...](#)

From sickness service to health service

In four new reports launched at a special King's Fund event, attended by Prime Minister Tony Blair and Health Secretary Patricia Hewitt, leading clinical experts have set out the progress made for patients in key areas of NHS service over the past decade. [More...](#)

Terms of reference for Modernising Medical Careers independent review announced

Health Secretary Patricia Hewitt has announced the terms of reference of the independent review into Modernising Medical Careers, which will establish how the programme will go forward in 2008 and beyond. [More...](#)

New support group for gynaecological cancer

A support group for women affected by any stage of gynaecological cancers, including cervical cancer, cancer of the ovary, cancer of the womb and vulval cancer, has been set up by staff at the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust. [More...](#)

News can be read at: <http://www.healthcaresupply.org.uk>

This Week's Reports

The NHS: Ten years on

These four reports set out the progress made in key areas of the NHS over the last ten years. The reports focus on coronary heart disease, emergency care, cancer and mental health services.

Healthcare Commission: Gender equality scheme and positive action plan

This scheme sets out how the Healthcare Commission is promoting equality for women and men and eliminating sexual discrimination and harassment in its role as an inspectorate and in its employment functions.

A New Organisation to Check Health and Social Care: What the Commission for Social Care Inspection thinks of the Government's ideas

This document is an easy-to-read version of the Commission for Social Care Inspection's response to the Government's consultation document 'The future regulation of health and adult social care in England'.

Senior Managers' Guide to the Drugs Bill

This guide is intended to provide primary care trust boards and senior managers with a summary of sources of information on prescribing activity.

Reports can be found at:

<http://www.healthcaresupply.org.uk/reports/>

Events

Health Care Supply Association Annual Conference and Exhibition 2007

1 and 2 November 2007 - Holiday Inn, Stratford upon Avon

Can the NHS afford to buy quality?

Over the years the Health Care Supply Association's Annual Conference and Exhibition has developed in content and reputation. Every year the high-quality debate on key issues attracts a capacity audience of members, other healthcare professionals and representatives of major supply companies from across the UK, and this year will be no exception.

The conference programme will help delegates explore new opportunities, approaches and alternative ways of working which will assist them in achieving their goals.

Speakers already confirmed include:

- Professor Christine Harland, Health Care Supply Association President and Director of the Centre for Research in Strategic Purchasing and Supply (CRiSPS), University of Bath

- John Wilkinson, Director General of ABHI
- Patrick Johnson, Managing Director of NHS Supply Chain
- Julian Cobbledick, Managing Director of Nottingham Rehab Supplies
- Peter Sharott, Director of London, Eastern and South East Specialist Pharmacy Services
- Bob Dredge, Senior Fellow in Financial Management at Keele University
- John Warrington, Director of Policy and Innovation for NHS PASA
- Peter Homa, Chief Executive of Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Delegates will again be provided with a unique opportunity to understand and discuss all the latest thinking across the healthcare sector, and particularly in healthcare purchasing and supply strategy and performance. You will also be provided with the opportunity to network with colleagues from across the UK and to meet in relaxed surroundings.

Update your diary by visiting

<http://www.healthcaresupply.org.uk/events/index.htm>

Discussion Forum

Do you have a burning issue or a hot topic that you wish to share with members? Then why not post it on the Discussion Forum in the members area of the website.

To read the current topics, or to begin your own discussions, visit the Health Care Supply Association Discussion Forum by clicking [here](#)

Health Care Supply Association www.healthcaresupply.org.uk
Members Area - Hosts Access to CPV Codes Online, Members Directory, Members Discussion Forum, World-wide Procurement Links & Contract Search Services, as well as E-tendering and Electronic Supplier List Facilities, for further information on these services please visit <http://www.bipsolutions.com/Delta/delta.html>

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