



Welcome

Welcome to this week's newsletter

Can the NHS Afford to Buy Quality?

1-2 November - The Holiday Inn, Stratford-upon-Avon

This will be the Association's 37th Annual Conference and Exhibition and, as in previous years, we have created a stimulating and topical event designed specifically for purchasing and supply professionals involved in the support of health care. Attendance is open to members and non-members working in the field of medical purchasing and supply, to other health care professionals and to representatives of companies who supply to the health care sector.

The theme this year is 'Can the NHS Afford to Buy Quality?' and is designed to reflect the increasing pressure on budgets in general and procurement departments in particular in the modern NHS.

The Conference will provide an excellent opportunity to explore key issues, all of which affect the provision and performance of health care purchasing and supply services, and, ultimately, patient care.

Once again we have attracted speakers of the highest calibre who will provide delegates with a unique opportunity to understand and discuss the key issues that affect us all.

Each year the high-quality debate on key issues attracts a capacity audience of members, other health care professionals and representatives of major supply companies from across the UK, and this year will be no exception. As in previous years, attendees will also be provided, via the Exhibition, with the chance to network with colleagues from across the UK and to meet together in relaxed surroundings.

For more information or to book your place, please visit www.hcsaconference.org.uk

Government Opportunities (GO) magazine

All Association members should be receiving a copy of *Government Opportunities (GO)* magazine as part of their membership. *GO* magazine is an indispensable guide to all that is happening in the

fast-moving world of public procurement.

If you are not receiving your copy of this must-have magazine, please click [here](#) and request your copy today! To take part in the GO survey please click [here](#)

News

New posts to tackle hospital infections

The first ever Infection Prevention and Control Co-ordinators are to take up their posts this month thanks to a £325,000 cash handout. [More...](#)

Medical Research Council welcomes funding settlement

A significant increase in the publicly funded health research budget has been welcomed by the Medical Research Council (MRC). The MRC is to receive £682 million a year by 2010-11 from the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills. [More...](#)

Achieving fair and responsive health and social care services

The 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review continues a decade of unprecedented investment with a three-year settlement for the Department of Health, increasing the NHS budget by four per cent per annum in real terms, and taking total NHS funding from £35 billion in 1997-98 to £110 billion in 2010-11. [More...](#)

McGimpsey outlines the importance of 'Getting it Right'

NI Health Minister Michael McGimpsey has written to all health and social care staff to provide an update on structural changes for health. [More...](#)

Locally led, staggered recruitment for specialty training in 2008

Deaneries will organise their own recruitment process for specialty training in England in 2008 and junior doctor start dates will be staggered, Health Minister Ben Bradshaw has announced. [More...](#)

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

This Week's Reports

[Delivering Sustainable Development: Department of Health action plan 2007-08](#)

This action plan sets out how the Department will make progress on sustainable development in its policies and the running of its business during 2007-08.

[Is Anyone Listening? A report on complaints handling in the NHS](#)

This report gives the findings of the first audit by the Healthcare Commission of how well the NHS handles complaints. It highlights what needs to be done if complaints are to be handled better for

patients.

Further Developments in Measuring Quality Adjusted Healthcare Output

Following the publication of Healthcare Output and Productivity: Accounting for quality change, this paper explores different methods of incorporating quality adjustments when measuring NHS output.

Reports can be found at:

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

Events

Select Accredit Roadshow 2007

The BiP Select national pre-qualification service for the public sector has been developed to reduce the amount of administration that suppliers and public sector buyers face during the tender process. BiP Select offers a simple and structured approach to pre-qualification via supplier assessment across a range of commonly evaluated criteria.

A programme of FREE roadshows has been designed to provide procurement professionals with the opportunity to learn about the service and how they can benefit from it.

To attend one of these roadshows register free now as places are limited.

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>

We welcome your feedback, comments or suggestions for topics to be addressed, these should be emailed to media@bipsolutions.com This email (and any attachment) is intended only for the attention of the addressee(s). Its unauthorised use, disclosure, storage or copying is not

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