



Welcome

Welcome to this week's newsletter

Can the NHS Afford to Buy Quality?

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

Early bird offer extended!

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 purchasing and supply, to other healthcare professionals and to representatives of companies who supply to the healthcare 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 healthcare 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 healthcare 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 on the early bird offer or to book your place, please visit www.hcsaconference.org.uk

Membership details - update

Have you checked your contact details on the Health Care Supply Association website recently? The details of your entry will be used in the forthcoming Annual Procurement Guide. So, even if you haven't changed jobs recently, please take the time to check your entry.

To check and amend your details, click on the 'update your details' link on the members' homepage or click [here](#)

News

NHS complaints 'taking longer'

Complaints about the NHS are taking longer to deal with, figures have revealed. [More...](#)

Gordon Brown pledges £15 billion over ten years to publicly funded medical research

Prime Minister Gordon Brown began an emotional section of his speech at the Labour Party Conference, in which he described how the NHS had saved his sight following a childhood rugby accident. [More...](#)

£97 million boost to tackling violence against NHS staff

NHS trusts across England will share £97 million to help tackle violence and abuse against NHS staff, the Department of Health has confirmed. [More...](#)

Crack down on cleanliness and infections

Next steps in the drive to maintain cleanliness in hospitals and tackle healthcare-associated infections have been confirmed by the Department of Health. [More...](#)

Cancer screening to be expanded and waiting times to be further reduced

Proposals to improve cancer care by increasing access, reducing waiting times and expanding screening for breast and bowel cancer will be set out in a new Cancer Reform Strategy this autumn, the Department of Health has confirmed. [More...](#)

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

This Week's Reports

[Gross Investment Guarantee Monitoring Report: Final figures for 2003-04 to 2005-06 \(England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland\)](#)

This report monitors country level information for 2003-04 to 2005-06. The report has been agreed by Technical Steering Committee (TSC) members from across the UK, from the health departments, NHS employers and the BMA's General Practitioners Committee.

[Uniforms and Workwear: An evidence base for developing local policy](#)

The Department of Health Working Group on Uniforms and Laundry

has put together an evidence base on the wearing and laundering of uniforms. This document outlines the existing legal requirements and current findings, to support and advise employers when reviewing local policies in this area.

[NHS Design Review Panel Guidance](#)

The NHS Design Review Panel (DRP) was set up to provide independent advice, guidance and support to the NHS at key stages during the design development process of major investment schemes. This document outlines the criteria for review and the procedures and documentation required, and replaces previous guidance issued in 2001.

Reports can be found at:

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

Events

[PASS - When the EU Directive meets the UK Regulations](#)

The public sector is weighed down by regulation when it comes to its public procurement activities. Failure to comply with the UK Regulations or implement them effectively could result not only in loss of value for money but also in expensive litigation. This one-day seminar is designed to help you identify and understand the changes in the Regulations, define best value procurement and, at the same time, avoid potentially costly disputes.

Held on 4 October at Marriott Maida Vale, London, this event is one not to be missed!

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 permitted. If you are not the intended recipient, please destroy all copies and inform the sender by return email. This email (whether you are the sender or the recipient) may be monitored, recorded and retained by BiP Solutions Ltd. Email monitoring/blocking software may be used, and email content may be read at any time. You have a responsibility to ensure laws are not broken when composing or forwarding emails and their contents.

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