

# Research and Evidence Bulletin

NECS Research  
and Evidence Team

August 2019

Hope you are all enjoying the “summer” and having some well-earned rest and relaxation.

As always, lots more research, evaluations and evidence to share with you all. Please use our website and twitter as “go to” places to inform your decision making.

Best Wishes

*Shona*

## Contact the Team



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<https://www.necsu.nhs.uk/research-evidence/>

## GP Retention and Intensive Support Sites

In 2015, NHS England (NHSE) committed to increase GP numbers by 5,000 full-time equivalent roles by 2020. Unfortunately, GP numbers have continued to fall. To combat the attrition, NHSE announced a £3m investment to establish 7 GP intensive support sites across the country in areas that were struggling most to keep their GPs. The support sites bought interventions together at different levels (individual, practice and system levels) to provide a holistic approach to retaining GPs.

NECS R&E team worked collaboratively to successfully deliver evaluation of the GP Retention Intensive Support Sites which has fed into the NHSE Toolkit.

The aim of our evaluation was to ascertain;

- The effectiveness of various types of interventions
- The overall impact of a multi-level approach
- Local barriers and facilitators
- Key lessons learned

We adopted a mixed method approach that employed document reviews, face-to-face interviews, focus groups and quantitative questionnaires to provide a comprehensive assessment of intensive support sites. Our qualitative research provided insights on important factors that influenced implementation of local level initiatives. These insights and our quantitative evaluation have informed a national GP retention toolkit that will be published in June 2019.

Our quantitative evaluation demonstrated that the majority of GPs reported a positive impact on their job satisfaction, patients, practices and the wider healthcare system. Importantly, more GPs reported that the support received increased their likelihood of remaining in the profession and their localities compared to those who did not. Both the report and Toolkit have now been published on the NHSE website - <https://www.england.nhs.uk/gp/gpfv/workforce/retaining-the-current-medical-workforce/making-general-practice-a-better-place-to-work/>

The collaborators have been commissioned to undertake a further evaluation at the same sites in the Autumn to ascertain progress made as initiatives become embedded. We will, naturally, share this in due course.

## Information Sharing

The NECS Research and Evidence team continues to share reports about outcomes from research and evidence in the North East and North Cumbria using our Research Library webpage ; <https://www.necsu.nhs.uk/research-evidence/research-library/> It has recently been updated with information including the interim Report into Vanguard/NCM from Manchester University.

***If you have reports that you would like help to disseminate, please submit to the team and we will share published reports on our webpage***

## Current Projects Lists:

These have now been split into sections to facilitate locating the information you want. Link: <https://www.necsu.nhs.uk/research-evidence/projects/>



## Research changes lives.

It is through research that we can develop better treatments, as well as improve diagnosis, prevention, care and quality of life for everyone. But this vital research is only possible thanks to the many people who participate every year. These people help change lives and improve healthcare for us all.

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) is determined to make it as easy as possible for the public to find out about research happening across the country and enable them to take part.



That's why they have launched the [Be Part of Research](#) study search site. In addition to making information about research available to the public, the site also acts as a simple tool that busy clinicians and healthcare professionals can use to support patients who ask about research. In this way, it enables them to fulfil the pledge in the [NHS constitution](#) to inform patients about research opportunities, giving people the opportunity to access the best care and latest treatments.

<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/news/nihr-makes-it-easier-than-ever-to-be-part-of-research/12162>

There are a number of upcoming EVENTS – details at <https://www.necsu.nhs.uk/research-evidence/events/>

### Fuse Healthy Ageing Research Meeting

**Monday 16 September 2019, 12.30 – 16.30** The Core, Science Central Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 5TF  **fuse**  
As part of the refresh and renew of the Fuse Healthy Ageing Programme (HARP) programme you are invited attend this research meeting. The programme will include a few short presentations followed by workshops on translational research and reinvigorating the research strategy for the programme going forward. The meeting is open to all with an interest in Healthy Ageing, it is an opportunity to help inform the research of the programme and to network with academic and practice colleagues across the region. A programme for the meeting will follow soon but in the meantime to register your attendance please complete the brief [registration form](#) Further information and a more detailed programme will be available shortly on the Events pages of the Fuse website: [www.fuse.ac.uk/events](http://www.fuse.ac.uk/events)

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October - **STEM Club** – invite you to join an informal gathering of colleagues who are interested in evidence-based decision-making in the healthcare setting. System leaders will share current and past examples of commissioning and de-commissioning processes. For details / to book a place:

<https://www.lksnorth.nhs.uk/events/stemclub-meeting-dilemmas-in-decision-making-how-evidence-informs-changing-services-and-systems/> For more information contact [Joanne.naughton@hee.nhs.uk](mailto:Joanne.naughton@hee.nhs.uk)



The **SAPC North team** invite primary care researchers and educationalists from the North of England to **SAPC North Conference** hosted by UCLan on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dates to Note: **Abstracts** – submit between 01 July 2019 and 01 September 2019. Deadline for **Workshop Proposals** – 31 July 2019 (emailed confirmation of acceptance returned by 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019).

## Are you a primary or community care prescriber or a community pharmacist/dispensing technician? CAN YOU HELP?

### Prescribing error reporting: facilitating learning and patient safety across primary care

Researchers from Sunderland University would like your help with an interview study on prescribing error reporting. They are looking for volunteers to take part in a 30-45 minute interview about their views on the key facilitators and barriers to reporting and learning from prescribing errors within primary care.

Your participation and views are important as they will contribute to improving our understanding of how best to promote a culture of error reporting across different primary care organisations and how this might help to maximise effective learning and patient safety. We know that this can work well for dispensing errors in community pharmacy, and medication errors in hospitals. However, less is known about how well this works when prescribing mistakes happen in one organisation (e.g. GP practice), but are found somewhere else (e.g. community pharmacy). Who should report the error? To whom? How do we find patterns and share the learning from them? How do we change practice?

*The study is funded by the AHSN-NENC and is being completed in collaboration with representatives from the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee, Sunderland CCG, the Community Pharmacy Safety Group and NHS improvement.*

Further information: See Study Information Sheet <https://www.necsu.nhs.uk/research-evidence/get-involved/> or contact Dr Nicky Hall, Sunderland University, ([n.hall@sunderland.ac.uk](mailto:n.hall@sunderland.ac.uk) 0191 515 3261).