



National Care Home Open Day

19th June 2015 - Are you participating?

Please note that this newsletter provides only a brief outline of ihcp issues and full details can be found on the ihcp website –www.ihcp.co.uk

The National Care Home Open Day 2015 is being held on 19th June and the website is open for homes to register. This is a great opportunity for you to open your doors to the local community, showcase the care you provide and also gain some positive media coverage. The website page for registering your home and creating an account is located at -

<http://www.nationalcarehomeopenday.org.uk/user/login>

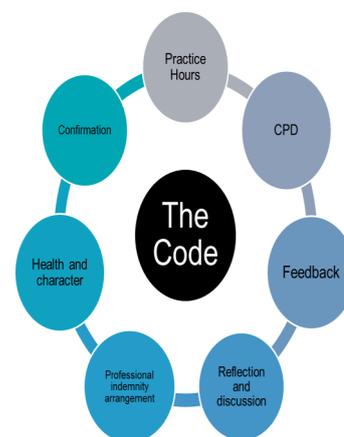


Proposed revalidation model and the draft revised Code

The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC), the professional regulator for nurses and midwives in the UK, is introducing revalidation and revising the Code.

The Code is the foundation of good nursing and midwifery practice. It sets out how nurses and midwives should conduct themselves in every area of their practice and applies to all nurses and midwives on the NMC register.

Revalidation will be the new process in which registered nurses and midwives must participate in so they can show they remain fit to practise by following the values and principles in the Code. The implementation date has now moved to April 2016. Details of information seminars have been issued to members and further information is available on the ihcp website. The issue will also be on the agenda for future Special Interest Group meetings.



New directors and new members

We are delighted that there was a lot of interest shown in the role of ihcp director and after an election process at the recent AGM we have 2 new members to the board of directors. Ciaran Sheehan from Care Circle and Maureen McKeague from Derg Valley Care have both taken up posts on the board. Further details on Ciaran and Maureen can be found on the website along with background information on all of the ihcp directors. We also welcome the following new members to ihcp.

New Members

Domiciliary Care Providers : Peninsula, North West Care, Advanced Community Care, Lydian Care, Bryson Care and Quality Care Services,

Care Home Providers: Clanrye, Care Circle and Macklin Group

Associate: Safe 2 Share.

NIASP and PSNI

Ihcp has been engaged in meetings with the PSNI and NIASP to develop a best practice guide to help providers of care homes and domiciliary care services to reduce the risk of crime. Crime Prevention Branch of the PSNI are continuing a programme of work with employers across many sectors in Northern Ireland. The code when finalised will be an aid to employers in both the independent and statutory care services.



The ihcp Annual General Meeting was held on 13th May and the guest speaker was Dr Alan Lennon, RQIA Chairman.

Alan gave a very refreshing and motivating presentation which is summarized as follows:

'RQIA has operated in the care home sector for a number of years on the basis of seeking compliance with minimum care standards, largely through inspection. Done well, this can provide assurance of basic standards to service users and their families and wider stakeholders alike. What inspection based quality assurance doesn't do well is to encourage systematic quality improvement. Neither does it adequately recognise those service providers engaged in systematic quality improvement, who go beyond externally developed minimum standards to seek excellence in service delivery.

RQIA has just published its 2015/2016 business plan and seeks to do 3 things exceptionally well with the care home sector:

- To deliver competent, cost effective quality assurance to protect the lives and dignity of vulnerable service users, and thus to create sound foundations as a springboard for change in those service providers who want to lead their sector.
- To look more strategically at the social care sector, as well as individual organisations within it. For example looking at how system level care pathways work for service users.
- Thirdly, to support, encourage, and celebrate those engaged in quality improvement and to seek to persuade those who are not. That is the systematic continuous improvement of service delivery, which impacts on the experience of service users in the areas of: safe, effective and compassionate care.

In encouraging systematic quality improvement RQIA is seeking to develop a regulatory regime focussing on both quality assurance and quality improvement – two quite distinct aspects of quality performance. Important elements of this plan will include focussing compliance inspection effort on the most problematic service providers, based on better intelligence, whilst fully recognising superior performance by others.

We are therefore seeking changes to the Fees and Frequencies of Inspections regulations which currently require care homes to be inspected on the same frequency, regardless of performance track record. If successful this will allow us to tailor our efforts appropriately. We are also planning to trial the idea of a transparent rating system for care homes, to recognise performance across the full range, from excellent to problematic, and to better communicate findings to the wider public. We also plan to improve the inspection and reporting processes themselves, including shorter easier to understand inspection reports and faster compliance follow-up.

Key to improving quality across the sector will be to develop a common view as to what excellence in quality improvement looks like for care home services. RQIA welcomes engagement on this, both from individual service providers and IHCP.'

Five Nations Care Forum

Ihcp is a member of the 5 Nations Care Forum which is an alliance of the professional associations representing the care sector across the UK and Ireland. Through a collective commitment to information sharing, joint lobbying, shared learning and support, the aim of the 5 Nations Care Forum is to add value to members' activity by promoting the interests of service recipients, staff and service providers. The Forum seeks to encourage the development of a joined-up approach to matters which have a UK-wide or European dimension. The 5 Nations Care Forum met on 23 and 24 April and had a number of key issues on the agenda the main issue being the challenge of recruiting and retaining nurses. It is planned to take this issue up at government level with each of the 5 Nations.



Eversheds Law Firm —Procurement/ TUPE information seminar

Ihcp in partnership with Eversheds, the Law Firm will be running an information seminar before the end of June on public procurement and TUPE legislation. This is of particular relevance to our Domiciliary Care Provider members in light of the WHSCT notice to tender domiciliary care services. Further information will be issued in the next week.

SDLP Conference March 2015 - 'Care for the Future, Looking after our Older People'

The ihcp CEO was invited to present at the SDLP conference on the subject of the challenges for the independent sector. Other presenters included the Pensioners' Parliament, AgeNI, RCN, RQIA and COPNI. The slides for Pauline's presentation are available on the ihcp website. Fearghal McKinney MLA, SDLP has collated the information from this event into a formal report which will be sent to the Health Minister and the Assembly Health Committee.

My home life

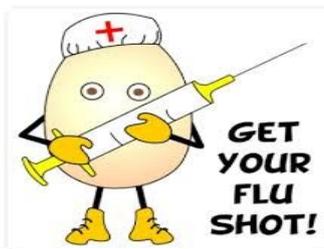
My Home Life is a UK-wide initiative that promotes quality of life and delivers positive change in care homes for older people. The programme works with care homes, statutory bodies, community organisations and others to co-create new ways of working to better meet the needs of older people, relatives and staff. The My Home Life vision is a world where care homes are great places to live, die, visit and work; where care homes are:

Supported to deliver to their potential

- Valued and trusted by those who work with them
- Cherished by their local communities

My Home Life is supported by all the national providers of residential care and the Relatives and Residents Association. Ihcp is working in partnership with My Home Life and AgeNI to support a leadership development programme in NI. The first stage of this development programme has been running as a pilot in the WHSCT and is due to be rolled out across NI in Autumn 2015. Further information will be communicated over the next few months through our weekly updates.

Flu vaccinations



Ihcp has met with the PHA on a number of occasions to discuss how we can work together to improve the process for having employees in care homes and domiciliary care vaccinated against the flu. We are currently looking at what changes need to take place to allow the nursing staff employed by members provide the vaccine to other employees. This may be trialled in a number of the larger organisations first before being rolled out across all—if you wish to volunteer in this pilot please let us know.

Consultation on the Donaldson Report and Belfast Trust Procurement Policy - ihcp responded on behalf of members—copies on our website.



First Choice Purchasing

Not all ihcp members have yet taken up the opportunity to engage with our strategic procurement partner First Choice Purchasing. Working with FCP has the potential to transform your business environment and bring significant savings and value for money exclusively to IHCP members, with no cost to members. Please contact Bryan Hill at bhill@firstchoicepurchasing.com or find out more information on the ihcp website.

Contact us please !

Thank you for taking the time to read our e-newsletter. We are keen to engage with members and to receive feedback and ideas so please email Pauline or Liz with your suggestions. Or feel free to pick up the phone and speak to Pauline.

Contact Pauline at Pauline.shepherd@ihcp.co.uk or mobile—07703754574

Or Liz at Liz@ihcp.co.uk

