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| **August 2023 – General Articles** |
| **Visit - UK Parliament** |  **Health and Social Care Committee - Prevention in health and social care: vaccination**This report calls for urgent action to tackle declining vaccination rates among children, citing concern that England did not meet the 95 per cent target for any routine childhood immunisations in 2021/22. It also states that the United Kingdom lags behind international competitors on support for clinical research, in particular in the clinical trials system, and calls for urgent reform. The report also calls for immediate action to ensure the readiness of NHS England, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulation Agency (MHRA) and the Joint Committee on  |
| Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) to support innovations around preventive health care, such as personalised cancer vaccine, given an uncertain time frame.<https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/81/health-and-social-care-committee/news/196780/uks-worldleading-role-on-vaccination-at-risk-warn-mps/?utm_source=The%20King%27s%20Fund%20newsletters%20%28main%20account%29&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=14044618_NEWSL_HMP_Library%202023-08-01&dm_i=21A8,8D0WA,2NYYES,YH4CX,1>  |
| **The Health Foundation Logo** | Public open to virtual care, but lack of understanding a barrier to progress, new research war‘Virtual wards’ – which allow patients to get hospital-level care at home, while still being in regular contact with health professionals – are a key element of NHS England’s plan for tackling the backlog of care. They can be used instead of admitting people to hospital or to enable patients to be discharged sooner, and in some cases are supported by technologies that help people monitor their health at home. |
| But new analysis suggests that while the UK public is on balance supportive of virtual wards, a lack of understanding of the term may be holding back public support for them.<https://www.health.org.uk/news-and-comment/news/public-open-to-virtual-care-but-lack-of-understanding-a-barrier-to-progress-new-research-warns?utm_source=The%20King%27s%20Fund%20newsletters%20%28main%20account%29&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=14044618_NEWSL_HMP_Library%202023-08-01&dm_i=21A8,8D0WA,2NYYES,YH1Z3,1>  |
|  | **The NHS in crisis – evaluating the radical alternatives.**With the NHS facing challenges from every angle, are there any other options for structuring the system? From health insurance to hypothecation, Charlotte Wickens and Toby Brown unpick some of the arguments for and against the 'radical' alternatives to the NHS. <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/nhs-crisis-evaluating-radical-alternatives>  |
|  | **NHS Race and Health Observatory -** We deserve better: ethnic minorities with a learning disability and access to healthcareThis five-part review examines two decades of research looking into discriminatory barriers preventing equitable health care treatment. It finds that people with a learning disability from Black, South Asian (Indian, Pakistani or Bangladeshi heritage) and minority ethnic backgrounds face shorter life expectancy triggered by poorer health care access, experience and outcomes.  |
| It also captures the lack of reasonable adjustments and failure to recognise individual needs. Other obstacles identified include language barriers, cultural and religious insensitivity, a lack of information in easy-read format, and a lack of information during transitional care in hospital and home.<https://www.nhsrho.org/publications/we-deserve-better-ethnic-minorities-with-a-learning-disability-and-access-to-healthcare/?utm_source=The%20King%27s%20Fund%20newsletters%20%28main%20account%29&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=14038059_NEWSL_HWB_2023-08-07&dm_i=21A8,8CVU3,2NYYES,YH3M9,1>  |

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| **Other Topics - updates** |

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| 1 August 23 | Government guidance**Cost of Living Payments 2023 to 2024**Guidance on getting extra payments to help with the cost of living if you’re entitled to certain benefits or tax credits.Update: You can now report a missing Disability Cost of Living Payment by telephone. | <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cost-of-living-payment?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=9a5adb7a-9624-403f-adf2-7e074d4fcbfc&utm_content=daily#full-publication-update-history>  |
| 1 August | Government guidance**CE marking**How a product complies with EU safety, health and environmental requirements, and how to place a CE marking on your product.Updated the 'call to action' banner before the main body of text, to list the sectors the CE marking will continue to apply to. This is because the UK government intends to continue to recognise the CE marking across England, Wales and Scotland, indefinitely, beyond December 2024. | <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ce-marking?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=f724fc64-1d65-4953-9e9c-1840ad0f0eeb&utm_content=daily#full-publication-update-history>  |
| 8 August | Department of Health and Social Care Guidance new publication**Adult social care intervention framework for local authorities**Sets out the government’s approach to intervention in adult social care in England. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adult-social-care-intervention-framework-for-local-authorities?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=1f299233-3aba-4ca9-8a21-658a7df677b7&utm_content=daily>  |
| 8 August | UK Health Security Agency Guidance**Flu vaccines: 2023 to 2024 flu season**Updated for the 2023 to 2024 flu vaccination season and added poster. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flu-vaccines-for-the-current-season?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=20f42684-70a3-4564-a309-08daeb06f54f&utm_content=daily#full-publication-update-history>  |
| 10 August | Government Guidance**Shingles vaccination guide**Information on shingles and the benefits of vaccination for adults and a postcard to invite eligible patients. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/shingles-vaccination-programme>  |
| 11 August | Government Promotional material**A guide to the 3 in 1 teenage booster (Td/IPV)**A guide to the booster given in school Year 9 or at age 14. It explains the 3 in 1 teenage booster dose of vaccine that prevents tetanus, diphtheria and polio. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-guide-to-the-3-in-1-teenage-booster-tdipv/a-guide-to-the-3-in-1-teenage-booster-tdipv-vaccine>  |

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| **Other Topics – updates continued…….** |

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| 11 August | Government Guidance**Flu vaccination: who should have it this winter and why.**This explains the importance of the influenza (flu) vaccination this winter: 2023 to 2024. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flu-vaccination-who-should-have-it-this-winter-and-why>  |
| 18 August | UK Health Protection Agency Collection**Pertussis: guidance, data and analysis**The symptoms, diagnosis, management, surveillance and epidemiology of pertussis (whooping cough).Added 'Pertussis outbreaks in nurseries and educational settings'. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/pertussis-guidance-data-and-analysis?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=b499f689-8317-4b1f-a119-8d9de01213bd&utm_content=daily>  |

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| **COVID-19 guidance and updates**  |
| 8 August  | Department of health & Social Care Independent report**COVID-19 autumn 2023 vaccination programme: JCVI advice, 26 May 2023**Statement setting out the advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) on the COVID-19 vaccination programme for autumn 2023. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-autumn-2023-vaccination-programme-jcvi-advice-26-may-2023?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=c3db5209-7b48-412b-8398-61e10876cbbe&utm_content=daily>  |
| 18 August | UK Health Security Agency News story**COVID-19 variants identified in the UK – latest updates**Latest updates on SARS-CoV-2 variants detected in the UK.UKHSA publishes risk assessment for BA.2.86The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has published an initial risk assessment of the SARS-CoV-2 variant BA.2.86. This variant was detected in the UK on Friday 18 August, and has also been identified in Israel, Denmark and the US. It has been designated as V-23AUG-01 for the purpose of UKHSA monitoring. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-variants-identified-in-the-uk-latest-updates?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=441feaf1-5990-440b-9319-3140042d6103&utm_content=daily#full-publication-update-history>  |
| 30 August  | Department of Health and Security Press release**Flu and COVID autumn vaccine programmes brought forward**Precautionary measure taken to protect those most vulnerable from illness during winter following the identification of COVID-19 variant BA.2.86. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/flu-and-covid-autumn-vaccine-programmes-brought-forward?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=f8d28cb9-e339-407e-87cc-21e71b96a9bd&utm_content=daily>   |

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| **COVID-19 guidance and updates**  |
| 30 August | Independent report new publication**COVID-19 autumn 2023 vaccination programme: JCVI update, 7 July 2023**Statement updating the advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) on the COVID-19 vaccination programme for autumn 2023.Independent report**COVID-19 autumn 2023 vaccination programme: JCVI advice, 26 May 2023**Statement setting out the advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) on the COVID-19 vaccination programme for autumn 2023. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-autumn-2023-vaccination-programme-jcvi-update-7-july-2023?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=8362a868-b1d7-422e-90c6-383fa5d19ce8&utm_content=daily> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-autumn-2023-vaccination-programme-jcvi-advice-26-may-2023?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=ca64bc84-d564-457a-9b0c-b8575b34a89b&utm_content=daily> |
| 31 August | UK Health Security Agency Official Statistics**National flu and COVID-19 surveillance reports: 2023 to 2024 season**National influenza and COVID-19 report: monitoring COVID-19 activity, seasonal flu and other seasonal respiratory illnesses.Added report, graphs and data for week 35. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/national-flu-and-covid-19-surveillance-reports-2023-to-2024-season?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=af18a52a-a59e-4107-822b-856b5197a54b&utm_content=daily>  |
| 31 August | UK Health Security Agency Research and analysis**Notifiable diseases: last 52 weeks**Notifications of infectious diseases (NOIDs) for the last 52 weeks.Added latest update. | <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/notifiable-diseases-last-52-weeks?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=1c9f5d61-2091-4774-bcf7-554df38b77fd&utm_content=daily#full-publication-update-history>  |