

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Champion Network
and Care Home Nurses Network meeting

SUMMARY

'Oral Care'

Tuesday 26 September 2023

2 - 3.30pm, via Zoom

#IPCChampions
#CareHomeNursing
@QNIIPC



1. Chair's Welcome

Dr Agnes Fanning, QN, Assistant Director of Nursing Programmes

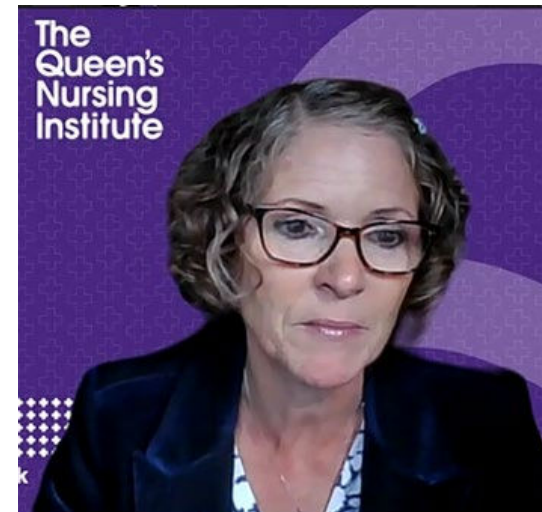
- Welcome to everyone, good to see you all. This is our fourth joint event: the IPC Champions Network and the Care Home Nurses Network
- A brief update on the QNI Adult Social Care Nursing Standards: these have been published and 7 universities have requested them with a view to developing an SPQ programme.
- To join the IPC Network, please go to: <https://qni.org.uk/nursing-in-the-community/infection-prevention-and-control-champions/>
- To join the Care Home Nurses Network, please visit: <https://qni.org.uk/nursing-in-the-community/care-home-nurses-network/>
- We have an excellent agenda today, thank you to all our speakers for giving their time and expertise
- For IPC resources visit: <https://qni.org.uk/news-and-events/events/infection-prevention-and-control-ipc-champions-meeting/>
- The International Community Nurse of the Year award is still seeking applications. Nominations for the award should be made by the registered nurse's line manager and the deadline is this Friday 29 September. Find out more and apply here: <https://qni.org.uk/explore-qni/qni-awards/international-community-nurse-award/>



2. QNI Innovation Nurse-led projects

Dr Amanda Young, Director of Nursing Programmes (Innovation & Policy), The QNI

- Pauline Rowle, a Community Services Matron (Care Homes) carried out an innovation project in 2021 aiming to improve the oral health for residents living in care homes in Leicester. Pauline was unable to join us today but the outcomes of her project were very promising: Strategic discussions were underway to secure a training offer with funding for LLR Care Homes; written information in the form of a flow chart was printed and circulated electronically to inform care home staff how to access the current dentistry offer. Lastly, 3 oral health promotion teaching sessions were delivered; the care home staff who attended the training sessions felt more confident to perform oral health care because of attending the oral health education sessions.
- A new cohort of innovation project applications are sought: this time from the NGS Elsie Wagg Innovation Scholarship, which is a joint programme between the National Garden Scheme and the QNI. We are looking for nurse-led projects in the community and social care that use gardens and gardening to benefit people's physical, mental or emotional health.
- Individual support and funding of up to £5000 for each successful project is available.
- Find out more here: <https://qni.org.uk/news-and-events/news/applications-sought-for-gardens-and-health-innovation-projects-in-the-community/> or email Amanda directly: amanda.young@qni.org.uk





3. CQC Smiling Matters report

Sam Banga, Deputy Director of Oral Health, CQC

- We work in the oral care health team and we regulate high street dental providers, NHS and private.
- Part of our regulatory remit is to drive improvement. We undertake what we call thematic probes into certain areas. For example sedation.
- We appreciate challenges people in care homes have in terms of accessing oral health. So we undertook a review of 100 care homes to comment on people's care homes' experience.
- We've refreshed that as we realised that with Covid, the care homes went through a very challenging time, and that may have resulted in oral health care recommendations not having stuck. So we undertook the review recently and my colleague Luke will tell you what we found.



3. CQC Smiling Matters report

Luke Jones, Oral Health Inspector, North Team

- I have been a dental nurse for a long time
- The Smiling Matters report : we accompanied adult social care inspectors on 100 routine inspections.
- The report was published in June 2019 and found that: in most had no policy to promote and protect people's oral health (52%); nearly half were not training staff to support daily oral healthcare (47%); 73% of care plans reviewed only partly covered or did not cover oral health; it could be difficult for residents to access dental care; 10% of homes had no way to access emergency dental treatment for residents.
- The report outlined six recommendations across the health and social care landscape
- During the Covid pandemic, everything changed and slowed down. The care home sector was hugely affected which is why we went back to review again.
- 3.5 years on we've found that care homes are much more aware of NICE oral health guidelines (91%)
- 60% now give staff specific training in oral health care (compared to 30% in 2019)



3. CQC Smiling Matters report

Luke Jones, Oral Health Inspector, North Team

- Since the report we've seen an increase in awareness of NG48, oral health training, oral health policies and the number of homes assessing oral health on admission.
- However barriers that still persist include: access, workforce turnover, competing priorities and lack of time, guidance on managing care resistant behaviour.
- Our recommendations: include a cohort of care home residents in adult oral health surveys; commission a specific oral health survey in care homes; oral health should be reinstated in the training for the care certificate; promote cross sector integration between care home and dental professionals.
- Use funding to improve oral health in care homes; summary care records should be made available to all dental teams; consider automatic exemption from NHS dental charges when people move into care homes; ensure oral work is included in the evidence categories in the single assessment framework as it applies in adult social care; CQC monitoring of ICS should include oral health as part of the assurance that all health inequalities are being addressed.
- Find out more here: Twitter: @CQCProf; youtube.com/user/cqcdigitalcomms; facebook.com/CareQualityCommission
- One great resource is the mythbusters, find it here:
<https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/dentists/mythbusters-tips-dentists>

4. IPC update from UKSHA

Sarah Gigg, Professional Lead Nursing, Midwifery & AHP, UKHSA

- UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) prevents prepares for and responds to infectious diseases and environmental, radiological and chemical hazards to keep all communities safe, save lives and protect livelihoods. It prevents threats to health and is broad in its remit.
- UKHSA is an executive agency, sponsored by the Department of Health and Social Care.
- We've got 3 key goals: prepare, respond and build on knowledge



4. IPC update from UKSHA

Sarah Gigg, Professional Lead Nursing, Midwifery & AHP, UKHSA

- There are 9 groups delivering health security through clinical and public health expertise, health protection science, health protections operations, data analytics and surveillance and policy advice.
- It's very science-led and there is lots of analysis, modelling and forward thinking.
- People have become more familiar with health protection teams particularly through the pandemic. The brilliant work they do was brought more into focus.
- For example in 2022, we responded to more than 25,000 health security incidents. The range is very varied, the remit very large. It can be about weather change or climate change or due to infection.
- The Adult Social Care team works in collaboration with NHSE, DHSC and academic collaborators and policy makers. They focus on health equality for care homes and other rASC settings including domiciliary care. They share emerging regional and national trends in infectious and other hazards. They identify data and evidence gaps and data quality challenges.
- Areas of focus include testing, vaccination, outbreak management.
- Recent incident responses include scabies: <https://tinyurl.com/dk7k7uh7>;
Covid: <https://tinyurl.com/4dwht8b8> ; TB: <https://tinyurl.com/mbj8d9uf>

We had close to 100 delegates join us for today's meeting, thank you.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 16 November, another joint IPC / Care Home Nurse meeting.

Please check www.qni.org.uk/events for details.

