



Department
of Health &
Social Care



The
Queen's
Nursing
Institute

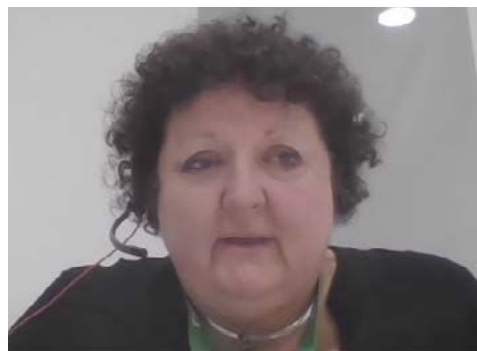
Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Champion Network meeting

SUMMARY

'National Policy & Guidance updates'

Tuesday 22 October 2024

2-4pm, via Zoom



1. Chair's Welcome

Charlotte Fry, RN, DN, QN, Expert Lead Nurse, IPC Champions Network; @cfry_

- Welcome to everyone, good to see you all.
- As you know the IPC Champions Network is for nurses and colleagues working in adult social care settings - we now have 2232 members of the IPC Network, if you would like to join, please go to: <https://qni.org.uk/nursing-in-the-community/infection-prevention-and-control-champions/>
- For IPC resources visit: <https://qni.org.uk/news-and-events/events/infection-prevention-and-control-ipc-champions-meeting/>
- We have an excellent agenda today, we are delighted that Professor Chris Whitty, England's Chief Medical Officer at the DHSC will be joining us as well as Deborah Sturdy CBE, Chief Nurse for Social Care and Dr Joanna Harris from the UKHSA.
- If you have any ideas or requests for themes for future meetings, please don't hesitate to email me at charlotte.fry@qni.org.uk



1. QNI update

Dr Crystal Oldman CBE, Chief Executive, The QNI

- It's great to see representation from all four countries on the call. Thank you, Charlotte, for leading the network for three years. Special thanks to Deborah for championing adult social care nursing.
- We're a charity, a professional organisation supporting nurses working in every sector of the community.
- Care homes with nurses are key to supporting our communities and the citizens in them.

QNI's Care Home network

- The QNI's Care Home network has been running for five years, and Deb has been key to this too. She was there championing when the funding ran out. Dr. Agnes Fanning leads that network.
- Standards for Adult social care: we have a number of universities that build on our standards and NMC standards, ensuring quality. Several universities have been validated, and I look forward to seeing SPO students graduate.
- Working in the community brings challenges and beauty, but we learn to thrive where the unexpected happens.

Influencing policy

- We are in a position to influence policy, and we always do that with data and evidence - never from a soapbox.. We listen to you and support policy development. The government is asking citizens to share solutions to current challenges through an online consultation process, [please get involved here](#).



1. QNI update

Dr Crystal Oldman CBE, Chief Executive, The QNI

Thank you

- A massive thank you to you all. I have a particular interest right now as my Mum has been in a care home for the past 9.5 months.
- She is being beautifully looked after. She has dementia and is quite frail. She's had a number of falls, but every time she's been beautifully cared for, by the nurses, the carers, cleaners and maintenance staff: everyone in that care home.
- A small anecdote: I came in to see her on Sunday, and we stopped to chat with one of the nurses. My Mum has a named nurse, and we were talking about my Mum's weight and what she's eating as she's been losing weight. When we left, my Mum looked at the nurse and said, 'Thank you so much, I love you.' The nurse responded, 'I love you too.' It was wonderful. And you know what? I think she meant it!

2. Adult Social Care update

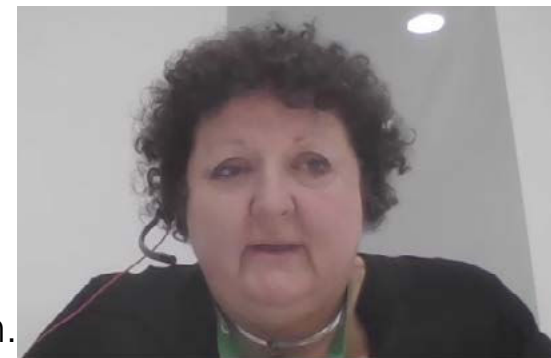
Deborah Sturdy CBE, Chief Nurse for Social Care, DHSC

Have your say

- Adult Social Care touches so many of us - please take the opportunity to give your thoughts about the new consultation: <https://change.nhs.uk/en-GB/> Don't moan about it afterwards, give your views, your solutions and be part of that.
- If student nurses don't gain experience in social care, how can we possibly promote it to them as a career?
- It would be great to see more of you join Social Care Nursing Advisory Councils (SCNACs); the voice of social care nursing needs to be at the table. We want to bring people together, sitting with NHS, regional, and ICS nurse directors. It's important to have dialogue with them.
- We've secured funding from the Foundation of Nursing Studies (FoNS) to support Resilience Based Clinical Supervision, this is a free programme for Adult Social Care Nurses, [find out more here](#).

QNI

- Huge thanks to Charlotte, Agnes, and Crystal for their leadership and support. These are crucial spaces where we come together as social care nurses. We are very specialized, and having a place to connect, grow, develop, share, and learn is vital. QNI has been instrumental in leading that charge.
- The standards QNI has led are massively important for our profession.



2. Adult Social Care update

Deborah Sturdy CBE, Chief Nurse for Social Care, DHSC

- I have an opportunity to meet with Wes Streeting on Monday evening for a one-on-one discussion. There's a lot I plan to share with him.

Inclusion

- We're seeing advanced practice become more inclusive, considering social care perspectives. Next year, with the revision of the NMC Code of Conduct, I hope we'll gain more traction for social care.
- Tomorrow, I'm heading to Liverpool for Nursing Live. Social care nursing will have a mainstage presence, alongside other parallel sessions. There's a shift toward being more inclusive, and I'm pleased to champion the roles and diversity within social care nursing.

Skills for Care

- Skills for Care is doing significant work around careers in social care. Please get in touch with [me](#) or [Lucy](#) to share your story—it's so important to tell these stories. People need to see the diversity of roles and how we're influencing undergraduate placements. [Find out more here.](#)

CNO ASC Awards

- The Adult Social Care CNO Awards are for individuals and teams. We're eager to see more frontline workers nominated—not just registered nurses but also carers, hospitality and ancillary staff. It would be great to give out more awards, recognizing the phenomenal work social care workers do.
- [Find out more and nominate here.](#)

3. Global Infection update

Professor Chris Whitty, Chief Medical Officer, DHSC

- Professor Whitty gave an overview of epidemics and major outbreaks including current issues.
- The presentation provided a summary of the factors guiding epidemic response, including: mortality, severity, age structure of severe disease, treatment and vaccine availability, the force and route and duration of transmission.
- Examples of responses to epidemics via the five main routes of transmission were discussed – touch (Ebola), sexual (HIV/AIDS), vector (Malaria, Zika), faeco-oral (cholera), respiratory (H1N1 ‘Spanish flu’)
- Professor Whitty gave a brief update on three current outbreaks of concern – Marburg, Mpox and H5N1 influenza in USA cattle.



3. UKHSA Policy Update

Dr Joanna Harris, UKHSA Head of Infection Prevention and Control

UKHSA

- The UKHSA was established in October 2021 as an executive agency sponsored by the Department of Health and Social Care.
- Its goal is to prevent, prepare for, and respond to infectious diseases and environmental, radiological, and chemical hazards to keep communities safe, save lives, and protect livelihoods.
- The UKHSA offers scientific and operational leadership, collaborating with local, national, and international partners to safeguard public health and build the nation's health security capabilities.

Priorities

- Prepare: Be ready for and prevent future health hazards. Respond: Save lives and reduce harm through effective responses. Build: Strengthen the UK's health security capacity.
- Improving health outcomes via vaccines.
- Reducing the impact of infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance.
- Protecting health from environmental threats.
- Enhancing health security through data and insights.
- Developing UKHSA into a high-performing agency.

Function

- IPC will go beyond healthcare-associated infections and antimicrobial resistance, applying its principles to all infectious pathogens.



3. UKHSA Policy Update

Dr Joanna Harris, UKHSA Head of Infection Prevention and Control

Vision

- Provide credible, expert leadership by interpreting data, evidence and science in IPC practice, to empower and enable communities to prevent and control infections

Adult Social Care Team

- Works to understand and minimise the impacts of infection and other hazards on lives of residents, clients, staff and their families
- Global strategy on infection prevention and control report by WHO, [read it here](#)

Major workstreams

- AMR qualitative research and implementing a plan with IPC team and other stakeholders
- IPC qualitative research with Libby Eastwood and implementation with IPC team
- RSV study, burden of disease in care home residents
- IPD study - pneumococcal illness risk
- Guidance input into the IPC resource include ARI, scabies, norovirus
- MMR vaccination coverage
- AMR is a global challenge - new project aims to ID opportunities to raise awareness of AMR (antimicrobial resistance) and contribute to its stewardship amongst care workers
Winter approaching: guidance has been created, [see here for more](#).

Contact

- UKHSA IPC team: IPC@ukhsa.gov.uk; UKHSA ASC team: ASCTeam@ukhsa.gov.uk

Thank you to all 200 delegates who attended today's meeting. Here are some comments:

An excellent and highly informative meeting, thank you to everyone's contribution.

Thank you for a very inciteful network, very informative.

Really informative meeting. Looking forward to the next one.

Very interesting and useful update for LA teams too

Thank you to all the speakers and the QNI for all the work in hosting these events, I look forward to seeing the summary and any new updates

Really enjoyed this session, great speakers and presentations

Thank you to Sir Chris Whitty, Prof. Deb Sturdy, Dr Joanna Harris, Charlotte and Team QNI for an amazing network meeting

Thank you all so much. Very informative.

The next meeting will take place 27 February 2025, theme and speakers to be confirmed soon.

More information will be available here:

<https://qni.org.uk/news-and-events/events/infection-prevention-and-control-ipc-champions-meeting/>