



Registered Charity No. 292157

E-Bulletin from the National Association for Patient Participation: Issue 38: February 2010

267. Growing Patient Participation campaign update

The latest Growing Patient Participation [campaign update](#) has been issued, highlighting some of the techniques that can be used to secure greater publicity for the work of Patient Participation Groups. On a similar note, there has been a great deal of media interest in PPGs as a result of regional press releases that were issued across England during January - and Woman magazine included a full page spread featuring the Daybrook Health Centre PPG Nottingham. Finally on the campaign, the judging panel has completed its deliberations on the Making a Difference applications. All entrants will be notified of the outcome in February.

268. Self care in the East of England

NHS East of England has produced an impressive [newsletter](#) that raises the profile of self care and highlights some of the activities that are underway in that region. The newsletter includes testimonies and examples of work taking place at different levels across the system.

269. New British Medical Association campaign

The [BMA's campaign](#) to raise concerns about NHS commercialisation and its impact on patient care goes public in February. A range of materials has been produced to raise awareness of their view that commercialisation may not always be in the best interests of patients or the NHS. Key BMA messages centre around cost, the impact on current and future healthcare and why the valuable doctor/patient relationship may be at risk. Leaflets and posters will be distributed to all Practice Managers in England with the request that they be displayed in their surgeries. The public will be encouraged to get more involved in local health services including joining their PPG.

Note that the BMA has also produced an excellent [guide to the NHS](#). Although aimed at junior doctors, this is likely to be a valuable resource for lay people who want to understand how the NHS works. It covers the four countries of the United Kingdom.

270. Using the patient survey to improve patient care

Many PPGs work with their practices to analyse the patient survey results. This [publication](#) from the National Primary Care Research & Development Centre offers guidance on how the findings can be used to best effect.



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271. Mud, Sweat and Gears

In June 2010, the chairman (Danny Daniels) and chief executive of NAPP (Graham Box) are undertaking a national tour of PPGs and PPG networks. This will involve a visit to a location in each of the ten Strategic Health Authority areas in England. To raise interest, and perhaps sympathy, Graham will be cycling much of the journey (which runs from Stockton-on-Tees to Wincanton over five days). The aims of [Mud, Sweat and Gears](#) are to promote the PPG model and to raise some funds for the National Association for Patient Participation.

272. New Forums for PPGs and Primary Care Trusts on NAPP website

The members section of the NAPP website now has two new forums. One is for PPG members and the other is for PCT members. In each case, the objective is to allow affiliates to ask questions of each other, to share ideas and to comment on key policy issues. Such forums always take time to build up a network of users but we hope that it will be interest to a good number of people. The forum can also be used to allow discussion between PPGs in a particular area, although the PPGs will have to be members of NAPP. The member login details do change periodically - please contact audrey@napp.org.uk if you are a member and you are not able to access the [members' section](#) of our site.

273. Local Involvement Networks

A new campaign is under way in England to encourage patients to have their say via [Local Involvement Networks](#). The campaign highlights how frequently we use the NHS (apparently an average of 2,153 times during our lifetime, including 12 ambulance journeys!). It cites new research carried out by Ipsos Mori in January 2010 showing that only 22% of people have proactively had a say on how health and care services could better suit their needs. But the research also highlights that more people would like to have a say, with 6 out of 10 people stating they would like to input their views on how local health or social care services could be improved, if there was a simple way to do so.

Further information about LINKs can be found [here](#).

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