

# The All Party Parliamentary Group on Skin

58-60 Kensington Church Street, London W8 4DB

## Monthly Monitoring Report

November 2014

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### Recess Dates

- House of Commons 11<sup>th</sup> November – 17<sup>th</sup> November
- House of Lords 11<sup>th</sup> November – 17<sup>th</sup> November
- Northern Ireland Assembly 25<sup>th</sup> October – 2<sup>nd</sup> November
- Scottish Parliament NA
- Welsh Assembly 27<sup>th</sup> October – 2<sup>nd</sup> November

## Week 1

[03.11.2014](#)

### Scottish Government – News

#### Health Investment

Details of a multi-million pound package to fund new hospitals and health centres round the country were revealed today by Deputy First Minister Nicola Sturgeon. See more [here](#).

### Welsh Government – News

#### NHS: New Standards of Care

There will be one integrated Health Standards Framework, which streamlines the 26 Standards for Health Services in Wales and the 12 Fundamentals of Care standards. The new standards, which are subject to a 12-week public consultation, set out what NHS Wales needs to do to demonstrate it is doing the right thing, in the right way, in the right place, at the right time and with the right staff. See more [here](#).

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## NHS Funding: Primary Care

A £3.5 million funding boost to improve primary care services has been approved for schemes across Wales, the Health Minister Mark Drakeford announced today. See more [here](#).

## Welsh Government – Consultations

### Health Standards Framework

The Welsh Government is running a public consultation on the single Health Standards Framework with 7 Quality Themes and 24 Health Standards. See more [here](#).

## News and Press Releases

### MHRA: New Chair of MHRA

The Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency today announced the appointment of Professor Sir Michael Rawlins as its new Chair. He will take up post formally from 01 December 2014 and his appointment will be for three years. See more [here](#).

04.11.2014

## House of Commons - Written Answers

### Skin Cancer

**John Mann:** To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if he will make it his policy to introduce a screening programme for people who have previously had treatment for skin cancer.

**Jane Ellison:** The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has published cancer service guidance, which outlines how healthcare services for people with skin tumours, including melanoma, should be organised. In May 2010 NICE issued a partial update to the guidance, including new recommendations on the management of low-risk basal cell carcinomas in the community. See more [here](#).

### Cancer: Drugs

**Nic Dakin:** To ask the Secretary of State for Health, how many cancer drugs approved by the Cancer Drugs Fund have subsequently been (a) approved and (b) rejected by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence.

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**George Freeman:** The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has published final technology appraisal guidance for 27 treatment indications that have been approved by the Cancer Drugs Fund panel for inclusion on its national list. See more [here](#).

## **Scottish Government – News**

### GP and Primary Care

An additional £40m of Scottish Government funding is to be invested in GP and primary care services over the next year, Health Secretary Alex Neil announced today. See more [here](#).

## **News and Press Releases**

**Nuffield Trust: GPs – Staffing crunch and funding cuts**  
Drawing on analysis of the latest data on GP services and the results of a separate survey of over 100 influential health and social care leaders, the Nuffield Trust argues that general practice is in need of both more money and significant reform to enable it to meet the challenges set out by NHS England in its recent *Five Year Forward View*. See more [here](#).

### Nuffield Trust: Is General Practice in crisis?

Our policy briefing provides an evidence-based overview of the current state of general practice in England, and offers policy-makers some potential solutions. See more [here](#).

### Nuffield Trust: Health leaders' panel

Health & social care leaders share their views in the run-up to the 2015 General Election. See more [here](#).

[04.11.2014](#)

## **Welsh Government**

### Health and Social Care: New and Innovative Medicines

A new system to ensure patients have fair and equitable access to new and innovative, evidence-based treatments will be introduced in Wales, Health and Social Services Minister Mark Drakeford announced today.

The new system will apply to so-called “orphan” and “ultra-orphan” medicines and treatments for patients with rare diseases. See more [here](#).

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ABPI: Comments on new arrangements for appraising drugs

The ABPI's Director Wales Cymru Rick Greville, comments on the Welsh Government's announcement of new arrangements for appraising orphan and ultra-orphan medicines. See more [here](#).

[06.11.14](#)

## Welsh Assembly – Record of Proceedings

Access to Cancer Drugs

**Darren Millar:** Thank you, Deputy Presiding Officer. Minister, today has been an historic moment for the Assembly. A petition signed by some 98,000 people has been presented on the Senedd steps, calling for equality in access to cancer drugs between England and Wales. What is your response to their request?

**Mark Drakeford:** The Welsh Government has no intention of introducing a cancer drugs fund in Wales, for a series of very good reasons, which have been extensively rehearsed here. It is a scheme that is not ethical, it lacks clinical support, it is unpopular with the public and would deliver a lesser service to cancer patients in Wales. See more [here](#).

Welsh Conservatives Debate: Cancer Treatments Fund

The following amendments have been selected: amendment 1 in the name of Aled Roberts, and amendment 2 in the name of Elin Jones. If amendment 1 is agreed, amendment 2 will be deselected.

**Peter Black:** I call on Darren Millar to move the motion. Motion NDM5608 Paul Davies To propose that the National Assembly for Wales: Calls upon the Welsh Government to establish a Cancer Treatments Fund for Wales. See more [here](#).

## Welsh Government

Health and Social Care: Improving primary care services  
Wales' primary care services will be enhanced so the vast majority of NHS care is planned and provided in the community, closer to people's homes, under a new four-year plan unveiled today by the Welsh Government. See more [here](#).

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## News and Press Releases

DH: Price of Branded Medicines

Clarification of the statutory scheme regulations for the price of branded medicines supplied to the NHS. See more [here](#).

## Week 2

[10.11.14](#)

### House of Lords – Written Answers

NHS Drugs: Specials

**Lord Lester of Herne Hill:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what safeguards exist to ensure that the pricing of "specials" drugs prescribed within the National Health Service is consistent and non-discriminatory, including when prescribed by general practitioners.

**Earl Howe:** The Drug Tariff sets out what National Health Service dispensing contractors will be paid for the products supplied as part of providing pharmaceutical services and the fees for providing those services in primary care. See more [here](#).

[11.11.14](#)

### News and Press Releases

NHS England: Video of Board meeting

For the video of the 6<sup>th</sup> November Board meeting see [here](#).

NHS England: Primary Care Commissioning

The *Next steps towards primary care co-commissioning* document has been published today (Monday 10 November). It has been developed by the joint CCG and NHS England primary care co-commissioning programme oversight group in partnership with NHS Clinical Commissioners. See more [here](#).

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[12.11.14](#)

## News and Press Releases

Department of Health: NICE review  
Announced in October by George Freeman MP, the minister responsible for NICE, the review will look in detail at the function, form and governance of NICE as a non-departmental public body. See more [here](#).

[13.11.14](#)

## News and Press Releases

Department of Health: Jeremy Hunt Speech  
Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt's speech to the King's Fund on Innovation and Efficiency. See more [here](#).

Public Health NI  
Annual Quality Report. See more [here](#).

[14.11.14](#)

## News and Press Releases

Scottish Government: Innovation Funding  
Patients across Scotland are to have greater access to original and pioneering treatments and services, supported by £1 million of Scottish Government funding. The Health Secretary announced today that additional funding would be used to support the work of the 'Innovation Fund' which aims to support the development of new ideas in NHS Scotland. See more [here](#).

## Week 3

[19.11.14](#)

## Consultations

NICE: Urticaria  
Urticaria (chronic spontaneous, previously treated) – omalizuman. See more [here](#).

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## News and Press Releases

DofH: Jeremy Hunt 'Four Pillar Plan'

Secretary of State for Health Jeremy Hunt talks about his Four Pillar Plan for the NHS and creating a transparent and accountable culture. See more [here](#).

NHS Confederation

A panel of MPs has heeded a stark warning from the NHS Confederation that the health service has reached a point at which finances could collapse quickly. See more [here](#).

20.11.14

## Scottish Parliament – Official Report

Health Budget 2015-16

**Gavin Brown** (Lothian) (Con): To ask the Scottish Government what the priorities are for the health budget in 2015-16. (S4O-03703)

**The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing (Alex Neil)**: The 2020 vision for health and social care sets out the Scottish Government's vision that by 2020 everyone will be able to live longer, healthier lives at home or in a homely setting. The 2020 vision provides a focus for the priorities for the health budget in 2015-16, with three central aims: improving the quality of the care that we provide; improving the health of the population; and securing the value and financial sustainability of health and care services. See more [here](#).

## News and Press Releases

Investment in Life Sciences and Innovative Medicines  
Review

New investment into life sciences announced alongside a review into how we develop medicines and medical technology. See more [here](#).

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21.11.14

## House of Commons – Written Statements

Innovative Medicines and Med-Tech Review

**The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health (George Freeman):** I am today announcing an external review of the pathways for the development, assessment, and adoption of innovative medicines and medical technology.

Technological advances including digital diagnostics, cell therapy, genomics and stratified medicines are fundamentally changing the health care landscape and the way in which these advances are developed and utilised. These advances have real potential to transform prevention and treatment, improving patient outcomes. Yet they are increasingly challenging traditional systems of regulation, assessment and adoption, the subject of growing public and professional debate. See more [here](#).

## Scottish Parliament – News

Scottish Reshuffle

New Parliament Revealed. See more [here](#).

NHS England: Long Term Conditions Alliance

A major new alliance committed to improving care and support for people with long-term conditions has been launched in London today (Friday 21 November). See more [here](#).

## Week 4

24.11.14

## News and Press Releases

NICE: Access to new drugs

NICE has joined a global group of organisations whose goal is to speed up the development and delivery of new, effective and affordable drugs to patients. See more [here](#).



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[26.11.14](#)

## House of Commons - Written Answers

Cancer: Drugs

**John Baron:** To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps his Department is taking to develop a long-term replacement for the Cancer Drugs Fund.

**George Freeman:** We are committed to maintaining the Cancer Drugs Fund (CDF) until the end of March 2016. We will carefully consider with NHS England what arrangements should be put in place in the longer term for the CDF and the assessment and commissioning of specialist and innovative medicines. See more [here](#).

## News and Press Releases

MRC: New Director

A new Director has been appointed to run the Medical Research Council's Institute of Hearing Research (IHR) at [The University of Nottingham opens in new window](#). Dr Michael Akeroyd is currently the Scottish Director of the MRC/CSO IHR Scottish Section in Glasgow, where he has been for the past seven years. As Section Director, he is responsible for scientific work and recently led the move into new state of the art laboratories. See more [here](#).

[27.11.14](#)

## Scottish Parliament – Written Answer Report

Health: Skin Cancer

**Ken Macintosh** (Eastwood) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on the findings of the research paper, Scottish adolescents' sun-related behaviours, tanning attitudes and associations with skin cancer awareness: a cross-sectional study, that (a) "urgent action is required to promote positive sun-related behaviour and increase skin cancer awareness among Scottish adolescents" and (b) "further research is needed to inform the development of effective sunsafe interventions."

**Shona Robison:** The Scottish Government welcomes the research which was supported though the

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Scottish Government funded Detect Cancer Early programme partnership with the Teenage Cancer Trust and we applaud the work that the charity does in raising awareness of the importance of early detection of cancer. The Scottish Government has worked with a number of partners and charities on previous and ongoing awareness raising campaigns which aim to educate young people and adults about the risk and harms of sun exposure and sunbed use. See more [here](#).

## **News and Press Releases**

DH: Transferring powers from NHSE to CCGs

A consultation on arrangements for the transfer of commissioning responsibility from NHS England to CCG has been launched today. The consultation closes on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 11:30pm. See [here](#).

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**END**