



**NHS Monthly Insight Report**

**July 2024**

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### Introduction

'The Internal Audit Network' (TIAN) comprises the seven NHS internal audit consortiums and in house teams operating across England. These organisations collaborate across a number of areas to leverage their collective knowledge and expertise and drive efficiency and effectiveness. This monthly insight report highlights key publications and is intended as a useful update and reference tool. This report is produced by TIAN and shared by 360 Assurance.

Developments in the NHS	
<b>Department of Health and Social Care - Independent investigation of NHS performance: terms of reference</b>	<p>The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Wes Streeting, has commissioned an immediate and independent investigation of the NHS across England. Professor Ara Darzi, Baron Darzi of Denham, has been appointed to lead the investigation, which will report in September 2024.</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-investigation-of-nhs-performance-terms-of-reference/independent-investigation-of-nhs-performance-terms-of-reference">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-investigation-of-nhs-performance-terms-of-reference/independent-investigation-of-nhs-performance-terms-of-reference</a></p> <p><i>For information</i></p>
<b>Department of Health and Social Care - UK Covid-19 Inquiry; Module 1: the resilience and preparedness of the United Kingdom</b>	<p>This report contains the results of the first investigation into the nation's resilience and preparedness for the Covid-19 pandemic. Key recommendations include a simplification of civil emergency preparedness and resilience systems, holding a UK-wide pandemic response exercise at least every three years, and the creation of a single, independent statutory body responsible for whole-system preparedness and response.</p> <p><a href="https://covid19.public-inquiry.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/18095012/UK-Covid-19-Inquiry-Module-1-Full-Report.pdf">https://covid19.public-inquiry.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/18095012/UK-Covid-19-Inquiry-Module-1-Full-Report.pdf</a></p> <p><i>For information</i></p>
<b>Department of Health and Social Care - Review of suicides and gender dysphoria at the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust: independent report</b>	<p>This is a review of data provided by NHS England (NHSE) on suicides by young patients of the gender services at the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust, based on an audit at the trust. The specific aim of the review (undertaken by Professor Louis Appleby) was to examine evidence for a large rise in suicides claimed by campaigners. Among other findings, it found that the data does not support the claim that there has been a large rise in suicide in young gender dysphoria patients at the Tavistock.</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-suicides-and-gender-dysphoria-at-the-tavistock-and-portman-nhs-foundation-trust/review-of-suicides-and-gender-dysphoria-at-the-tavistock-and-portman-nhs-foundation-trust-independent-report">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-suicides-and-gender-dysphoria-at-the-tavistock-and-portman-nhs-foundation-trust/review-of-suicides-and-gender-dysphoria-at-the-tavistock-and-portman-nhs-foundation-trust-independent-report</a></p> <p><i>For information</i></p>
<b>Department of Health and Social Care - Review into the operational effectiveness of the Care Quality Commission: interim report</b>	<p>In May 2024, Dr Penny Dash was asked to conduct a review into the operational effectiveness of the CQC. The purpose of the review was to examine the suitability of the CQC's new single assessment framework methodology for inspections and ratings of health and care providers. This interim report provides a high-level summary of the emerging findings of the review in order to inform the changes needed to start the process of improving the CQC. It makes five recommendations.</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-into-the-operational-effectiveness-of-the-care-quality-commission/review-into-the-operational-effectiveness-of-the-care-quality-commission-interim-report">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-into-the-operational-effectiveness-of-the-care-quality-commission/review-into-the-operational-effectiveness-of-the-care-quality-commission-interim-report</a></p> <p><i>For information</i></p>

Developments in the NHS	
<b>NHS England - Improving the management of physical deterioration following implementation of Martha's Rule</b>	<p>This new approach, 'prevention, identification, escalation, response' (PIER), views deterioration as a whole pathway which is supported by systems rather than advocating a single strategy for identification. It will apply to all conditions, clinical settings and specialities and will be essential to ensure that Martha's Rule is effective. Read about the PIER approach.</p> <p><a href="https://www.england.nhs.uk/patient-safety/managing-acute-physical-deterioration-through-the-prevention-identification-escalation-response-pier-approach/">https://www.england.nhs.uk/patient-safety/managing-acute-physical-deterioration-through-the-prevention-identification-escalation-response-pier-approach/</a></p> <p><b><i>For information and implementation by all NHS bodies</i></b></p>
<b>NHS England - Emergency preparedness, resilience and response (EPRR)</b>	<p>The EPRR assurance process for 2024/25 asks organisations to complete the assurance process <u>by Friday 27 December</u>. It provides information about the theme of this year's deep dive questions and highlights changes from 2025/26. Following recent incidents and common health risks raised as part of last year's annual assurance process, the 2024/25 EPRR annual deep dive will focus on responses to cyber security and IT related incidents.</p> <p><a href="https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/emergency-preparedness-resilience-and-response-epr-annual-assurance-process-for-2024-25/">https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/emergency-preparedness-resilience-and-response-epr-annual-assurance-process-for-2024-25/</a></p> <p><b><i>For information and implementation by all NHS bodies</i></b></p>
<b>NHS England - Framework for managing the response to pandemic diseases</b>	<p>This document provides a framework for NHS England when managing the response to a pandemic. Its purpose is to outline the pandemic-specific roles and responsibilities of NHS England, with a focus on the command, control, co-ordination, communication and governance arrangements for the NHS.</p> <p><a href="https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/framework-for-managing-the-response-to-pandemic-diseases/">https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/framework-for-managing-the-response-to-pandemic-diseases/</a></p> <p><b><i>For information</i></b></p>
<b>NHS England - Updated Integrated Care Board constitution and governance guidance</b>	<p>This guidance, with the ICB model constitution, has been updated to reflect developments since the establishment of ICBs. It removes establishment-specific content, includes requirements for managing conflicts of interest and supports ICBs to update their constitutions.</p> <p><a href="https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/guidance-on-integrated-care-board-constitutions-and-governance/">https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/guidance-on-integrated-care-board-constitutions-and-governance/</a></p> <p><b><i>For information and guidance of ICBs</i></b></p>
<b>Financial Reporting Council - market study into the NHS audit market</b>	<p>The FRC has announced the launch of a comprehensive market study into the audit market for NHS providers and integrated care boards (ICBs) in response to concerns over the difficulties NHS bodies are facing appointing and retaining auditors. The study will explore: the supply of auditors, including barriers to entry and expansion for audit firms; demand for audit, including the audit tendering process and engagement by NHS bodies; the regulatory framework, including unique features of NHS provider and ICB audits; and capacity constraints and potential impacts on the wider local audit market. Comments for the study should be submitted <u>by 17 October</u>.</p> <p><a href="https://www.frc.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2024/07/frc-launches-market-study-on-nhs-audit-market/">https://www.frc.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2024/07/frc-launches-market-study-on-nhs-audit-market/</a></p> <p><b><i>For information of all NHS Audit Committees</i></b></p>
<b>NHS Employers - New legal duty to prevent sexual harassment</b>	<p>From October there will be a new duty on employers to take reasonable steps to prevent sexual harassment. NHS Employers provides further detail and signposts to further resources.</p> <p><a href="https://www.nhsemployers.org/news/new-legal-duty-prevent-sexual-harassment">https://www.nhsemployers.org/news/new-legal-duty-prevent-sexual-harassment</a></p> <p><b><i>For information and guidance</i></b></p>
<b>Patient Safety Commissioner - Annual Report 2023/24</b>	<p>This report summarises the work of the Patient Safety Commissioner during the 2023/24 financial year. It is aimed at all those with an interest in patient safety.</p>

Developments in the NHS	
	<a href="https://www.patientsafetycommissioner.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/E03113141_PSC-Annual-Report-23-24_v10.pdf">https://www.patientsafetycommissioner.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/E03113141_PSC-Annual-Report-23-24_v10.pdf</a> <b>For information</b>
<b>National Guardian - Listening to the silence: what does the Staff Survey tell us about speaking up in the NHS?</b>	<p>Analysis of the 2023 NHS Staff Survey by the National Guardian's office reveals a decline in workers feeling secure raising concerns about unsafe clinical practice for the second consecutive year.</p> <p><a href="https://nationalguardian.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/2024-NSS-2023-report.pdf">https://nationalguardian.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/2024-NSS-2023-report.pdf</a></p> <p><b>For information and guidance of all NHS organisations</b></p>
<b>The Guardian Service - Ambulances running on adrenaline: speaking up in ambulance trusts</b>	<p>This report makes recommendations to ambulance services to help transform their organisational culture through speaking up. It was written in response to NHS England's Culture review of ambulance trusts, which was published in February 2024.</p> <p><a href="https://www.theguardianservice.co.uk/user_uploads/ambulances_running_on_adrenaline_report_july_2024.pdf">https://www.theguardianservice.co.uk/user_uploads/ambulances_running_on_adrenaline_report_july_2024.pdf</a></p> <p><b>For information and guidance - of Ambulance Trusts in particular</b></p>
<b>National Audit Office - NHS financial management and sustainability</b>	<p>This report sets out: the NHS's current financial position and operating context; whether NHS England's financial management processes allow accurate and timely decision-making and support for NHS bodies that are struggling; the relationship between financial management and NHS performance, productivity and efficiency; and the challenges to the NHS's financial sustainability in the longer term.</p> <p><a href="https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/nhs-financial-management-and-sustainability.pdf">https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/nhs-financial-management-and-sustainability.pdf</a></p> <p><b>For information</b></p>
<b>The King's Fund - Realising the Potential of Integrated Care Systems</b>	<p>This report assesses ICSs' efforts to develop system-wide approaches to recruitment, training and retention of staff, suggesting clear progress is being made but raising concern that ICSs may not achieve their full potential unless more is done to create an environment conducive to their success. Read the report.</p> <p><a href="https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/insight-and-analysis/reports/integrated-care-systems-workforce">https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/insight-and-analysis/reports/integrated-care-systems-workforce</a></p> <p><b>For information and guidance of ICS/ICBs</b></p>
<b>The Health Foundation - Priorities for an AI in health care strategy</b>	<p>This long read argues that a dedicated strategy for artificial intelligence (AI) in health care is needed to co-ordinate current fragmented efforts in the NHS in England. It sets out six priorities this strategy should address and some of the steps to do so.</p> <p><a href="https://www.health.org.uk/publications/long-reads/priorities-for-an-ai-in-health-care-strategy">https://www.health.org.uk/publications/long-reads/priorities-for-an-ai-in-health-care-strategy</a></p> <p><b>For information</b></p>
<b>NHS Providers - Making sense of health inequalities</b>	<p>This resource, produced as part of NHS Providers' Health Inequalities programme, looks at the current state of the nation in relation to health inequalities and the role that NHS trusts have to play in addressing them.</p> <p><a href="https://nhsproviders.org/media/698891/making-sense-of-health-inequalities.pdf">https://nhsproviders.org/media/698891/making-sense-of-health-inequalities.pdf</a></p> <p><b>For information</b></p>
<b>NHS Providers - System working in the NHS: how trusts work in partnership to improve care and outcomes for people</b>	<p>This resource looks at the role of system working in the NHS and how trusts can work in partnerships to improve outcomes.</p> <p><a href="https://nhsproviders.org/media/698899/systems-explainer-briefing-july-2024.pdf">https://nhsproviders.org/media/698899/systems-explainer-briefing-july-2024.pdf</a></p> <p><b>For information</b></p>

Developments in the NHS	
<b>NHS Providers - Keeping your integrated care system safer from cyber attacks</b>	<p>This briefing, from NHS Providers' Digital Integrated Care System (ICS) programme, shares five top tips and poses a series of questions to help ICS leaders ensure that they are prepared and able to respond to cyber threats.</p> <p><a href="https://nhsproviders.org/media/698900/digital-ics-insights-briefing-july-2024.pdf">https://nhsproviders.org/media/698900/digital-ics-insights-briefing-july-2024.pdf</a></p> <p><i>For information and guidance of ICS/ICBs</i></p>
<b>Rise Associates - The Nursing and Midwifery Council independent culture review</b>	<p>The NMC commissioned Nazir Afzal OBE and Rise Associates to carry out this review after concerns were raised about the organisation's culture, including racism and fear of speaking up. More than 1,000 current and former NMC colleagues, and more than 200 panel members who sit on fitness to practise hearings, shared their lived experiences as part of the review. The NMC accepts the report's recommendations.</p> <p><a href="https://www.nmc.org.uk/globalassets/sitedocuments/independent-reviews/2024/nmc-independent-culture-review-july-2024.pdf">https://www.nmc.org.uk/globalassets/sitedocuments/independent-reviews/2024/nmc-independent-culture-review-july-2024.pdf</a></p> <p><i>For information</i></p>
<b>The Patients Association - Beyond the breaking point: patient survey highlights NHS challenges</b>	<p>A survey of a sample of 1,000 nationally representative UK respondents (aged 16+) and 210 respondents from the Patients Association's newsletter (conducted by Censuswide and commissioned by the Patients Association) revealed significant challenges in accessing care, reinforcing the charity's calls to fix the crisis in health care and improve patients' access to the services they need to live well.</p> <p><a href="https://www.patients-association.org.uk/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=b74624a0-d172-40ad-bf46-202b5b5e8621">https://www.patients-association.org.uk/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=b74624a0-d172-40ad-bf46-202b5b5e8621</a></p> <p><i>For information</i></p>

Disclaimer: This briefing paper is intended to highlight recent developments and issues within the NHS that may be of interest to non-executive directors, lay members and NHS managers. It is not exhaustive and TIAN cannot be held responsible for any omission.

