Medicines Newsletter

Health Innovation East Midlands

July 2026

Welcome to our Medicines Newsletter

We are one of a network of 15 organisations across England supporting adoption and spread of proven, nationally recognised medicines optimisation programmes. We also work on local projects to facilitate collaboration, share learning and improve quality.

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Preventing Problematic Polypharmacy: Getting the balance right in frail and older people

The new *Preventing Problematic Polypharmacy: Getting the balance right in frail and older people programme* supports local systems and primary care to identify patients at risk of harm from medicines, and support better conversations and shared decision making.

The programme offers a range of support including Action Learning Sets, Masterclasses, Data webinars, the Polypharmacy Shared Learning Network, clinical toolkits and patient-facing resources such as *Me and My Medicines*. See below for event registration details:

When	Event title	What is it
22 July, 12pm – 1:15pm	**NHSBSA Polypharmacy Prescribing Comparators: Getting the Balance Right webinar**	How the NHS BSA polypharmacy prescribing comparators can help understand variation in prescribing of multiple medicines, and identify patients more at risk.
29 July, 12pm – 1:30pm	**Polypharmacy Masterclass: Implementation of the PCN DES**	26/27 PCN DES and its guidance related to addressing problematic polypharmacy.
Polypharmacy Action Learning Set Cluster Cohorts 2-4 (sold out – but you can join the waiting list via the links below) • **Polypharmacy Action Learning Set Cluster Cohort 2** - 16 September • **Polypharmacy Action Learning Set Cluster Cohort 3** - 4 November • **Polypharmacy Action Learning Set Cluster Cohort 4** - 27 Jan 2027		

The East Midlands Polypharmacy Community of Practice this month, brought colleagues together to discuss the British Geriatrics Society guidance on pragmatic prescribing for older people living with frailty. A recording of the discussion featuring Dr Ben Pearson, Dr Anna Kirby and Kishan Karia, is now available.

Register for our next Community of Practice takes place on 15 September 2026, from 12 - 2pm, which will focus on *Polypharmacy in Diabetes and NICE Guideline Changes.*

You can find out more about the programme; follow us on LinkedIn or get in touch.

Structured medication reviews in care homes – funding opportunity

We are supporting a funding opportunity with the University of Leeds to test and evaluate care home Structured Medication Review resources developed with care home residents, relatives and staff. Funding of up to £1,000 per PCN is available for a small number of East Midlands PCNs. Contact katy.griffin@nottingham.ac.uk to find out more or request an application form. Applications close on 7 August 2026.

Medicines safety improvement programme (MedSIP)

In the second year of the Helping people with learning disability, at risk of behaviour that challenges, to avoid harm from psychotropic medicines programme, we continue to work with Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) ICS and with Northamptonshire ICS to take a 'whole system approach to change'. Following successful action planning events, improvement work has begun, with collaboration where possible across both systems.

If you work in these ICS areas and would like to be involved, please email healthinnovation-em@nottingham.ac.uk For more information visit our website or NHS Futures .

Delivering specialist kidney care at scale in partnership with primary care - The LUCID Programme

The LUCID programme is now being scaled nationally via the Health Innovation Network. It is being led by Health Innovation East Midlands.

LUCID improves patient outcomes through early detection of chronic kidney disease (CKD), early intervention and optimisation, maximising productivity and value for money. It integrates condition management, bridging the gap between primary and secondary care. To find out more and/or indicate your interest in being part of the programme, please visit our website or contact us.

Successful funding bids announced for weight management services

We supported Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Lincolnshire ICB to receive funding from the national Obesity Pathway Innovation Programme (OPIP). The OPIP is being delivered through Innovate UK. Twelve pilot programmes across the country will run for three years, and the findings will be used to influence national services in the future, to make weight loss services more accessible and more effective. We are continuing to support the East Midlands' teams to implement and evaluate their transformation projects.

Two new programmes for 2026-2027

We are also working on two new programmes relating to Tobacco dependency and to hybrid closed loop technology for diabetes; visit the links to our website for more information.