

## **Public Health Bulletin. 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

**Produced by NHS libraries in Thames Valley and Wessex**

Please find below a list of news items from the past fortnight that may be of interest to those involved in public health. This Bulletin provides topical news and reports of relevance to public health teams, community health practitioners and anyone with an interest in health promotion. All content and links are provided for information only and we do not sponsor, endorse or otherwise approve of any mentioned website or the contents of the news items. Please refer to the terms and conditions of the relevant website should you wish to reproduce any of the information.

Details of alternative current awareness services which cover more academic/specialist sources of information can be found in the section *Other Bulletins*. Your local NHS library service can assist you in accessing other current awareness services/tailored alerts, locating peer reviewed journal articles and answer any other queries you may have regarding finding information.

The information about each news item only gives a brief overview so we recommend you view the original source by clicking on the title (or Ctrl+Click in the word document).

Please contact your local NHS library service if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, or if you know of anyone else who would like to join the mailing list. The Bulletins are also available on the Thames Valley Public Health Network at: <http://www.oxsph.org/bulletins.html> and the Wessex Public Health Network at: <http://www.wessexphnetwork.org.uk/resources/public-health-updates.aspx>

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## Alcohol misuse

### [Drink price law could lead addicts to drugs, says charity](#)

20 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

Putting up the cost of alcohol could lead some homeless people to cheap and illegal drugs, a charity has warned.

### [Alcohol and drug prevention, treatment and recovery: why invest?](#)

12 February 2018

Source: Public Health England:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

Information for commissioners and providers of substance misuse services to help make the case for investing in drug and alcohol treatment and interventions.

### [Targeted training leads to significant increase in the delivery of alcohol interventions in primary care, new study shows](#)

8 February 2018

Source: Alcohol Research UK: <http://alcoholresearchuk.org/>

New research published today (8 February) shows a marked increase in the delivery of alcohol brief interventions in primary care settings where nurse mentors are specifically trained, bringing significant benefits to those at risk of alcohol harm.

### ['Alcoholism led me to live under bush'](#)

7 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

Almost half of units offering NHS or publicly funded detox have closed, despite high demand, the BBC finds.

## Children and young people

### [Minister launches online CSE threat assessment](#)

14 February 2018

Source: Home Office:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office>

A Global Threat Assessment, commissioned by the WePROTECT Global Alliance against child sexual exploitation, has highlighted the growing dangers posed to children by the growth of smart phone technology and an expanding online community of tech offenders.

### [Takeaways linked to increased cardiovascular risk factors and obesity in children](#)

13 February 2018

Source: National Institute for Health Research:

<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/>

Children who eat takeaways once or more each week have more body fat and higher low-density lipoprotein (LDL) “bad” cholesterol levels than those who never or hardly ever eat them. Their diets were also higher in fat and lower in protein and calcium.

### [A school-based lifestyle intervention didn't help children avoid unhealthy weight gain](#)

13 February 2018

Source: National Institute for Health Research:

<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/>

The Healthy Lifestyle Programme delivered to 9-10-year-old school children did not reduce their weight over the course of two years. Around a third remained overweight or obese, the same as in schools that followed the standard syllabus.

### [Take sick children to pharmacies first, parents told](#)

12 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

Parents of young children with minor illnesses should take them to pharmacies rather than GPs or A&E, a new NHS England campaign says. It follows a survey which found just 6% of parents with under-fives would go to a pharmacist first.

### [Is social media causing childhood depression?](#)

10 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

Rangan Chatterjee is a GP and says he has seen plenty of evidence of the link between mental ill-health in youngsters and their use of social media.

### [Schools struggle to get mental health help, says survey](#)

9 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

A survey of UK head teachers has found that nearly half are struggling to get mental health support for their pupils.

### [School-based obesity prevention programme has disappointing results](#)

8 February 2018

Source: NHS Choices: <https://www.nhs.uk/pages/home.aspx>

"Schools are not the answer to childhood obesity epidemic, study shows," reports The Guardian. Researchers in the West Midlands designed a year-long school-based programme to improve children's diets and increase their activity. But those who took part were no less likely to be overweight or obese afterwards, and their diet and exercise levels did not improve.

### [LGA calls for compulsory independent mental health counselling roll-out in all secondary schools](#)

7 February 2018

Source: Local Government Association:

<https://www.local.gov.uk/>

Every secondary school in the country should be given the funding to offer independent mental health counselling to all pupils amid growing concerns that children and young people are being forced to wait up to 18 months for vital support.

### [Foundation launches programme for young people with long-term conditions](#)

7 February 2018

Source: Mental Health Foundation:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/>

Our new initiative to prevent mental health problems arising in children with long-term physical conditions has been successfully piloted across Scotland and is now available to schools and youth organisations nation-wide.

## **Chronic conditions**

### ['My sister died of lung cancer but never smoked'](#)

13 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

According to the leading medical charity [Cancer Research UK](#) (CRUK), 98 people die of lung cancer in the UK each day - making it the country's biggest cancer killer. In around 14% of cases, those who get the disease have never smoked.

### [Alternative treatments for people with thyroid cancer to be offered routinely on the NHS, says NICE](#)

15 February 2018

Source: NICE: <https://www.nice.org.uk/>

The new guidance recommends three drugs, treating two types of thyroid cancer to be made routinely available in the NHS.

### [GPs working hard to limit opioid use for patients, but need access to alternative treatments, says College](#)

13 February 2018

Source: Royal College of General Practitioners:

<http://www.rcgp.org.uk/>

Professor Helen Stokes-Lampard, Chair of the Royal College of GPs, has responded to a study from the BJGP about opioid use.

See also **Diet and Nutrition** section:

[Type 2 diabetes can be reversed with very low-calorie diet](#)

See also **Statistics** section:

[European Society of Cardiology: Cardiovascular Disease Statistics 2017](#)

See also **Women's health** section:

[Fathers may pass ovarian cancer risk to daughters](#)

[Ovarian cancer: Persistent tummy bloating can be sign, charity warns](#)

## **Communicable diseases**

### [WHO warns of soaring rates of measles in Europe](#)

20 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

Europe has seen a massive surge in measles cases in 2017, which the World Health Organization says is a tragedy after a record low of 5,273 cases in 2016.

### [Emerging infections: characteristics, epidemiology and global distribution](#)

12 February 2018

Source: Public Health England:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

Information on the reasons behind human infectious disease emergence, including a timeline and a global map.

See also **Statistics** section:

[Foodborne illness in humans: general outbreaks in England and Wales in 2018](#)

## **Diet & nutrition**

### [A third of UK adults 'underestimate calorie intake'](#)

19 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

A third of people in the UK underestimate how many calories they are eating, according to an analysis of Office of National Statistics data.

### [Ultra-processed foods linked to cancer](#)

15 February 2018

Source: NHS Choices: <https://www.nhs.uk/pages/home.aspx>

"Ultra-processed foods may be linked to cancer, says study," The Guardian reports... Researchers in France studied the diets of more than 100,000 people for 7 years. They found small increases in the overall rate of cancer and breast cancer after the menopause in those who had the highest proportion of ultra-processed food in their diet. But because of the wide range of foods included in the ultra-processed category, it's difficult to establish which specific foods might be responsible for the increased cancer risk, and why.

### [Type 2 diabetes can be reversed with very low-calorie diet](#)

13 February 2018

Source: National Institute for Health Research:

<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/>

Nearly half of people given a formula replacement diet of 830 calories per day for three to five months, followed by food reintroduction, went into remission from type 2 diabetes. They were supported to achieve and maintain weight reduction by primary care nurses or dieticians.

### [LGA: use Brexit to make traffic light food and drink labelling mandatory](#)

10 February 2018

Source: Local Government Association:

<https://www.local.gov.uk/>

Councils, which have responsibility for public health, say the [traffic light system](#) should become a legal requirement for all products once EU laws are transferred into British law after Brexit.

### [Fizz Free February](#)

7 February 2018

Source: UK Health Forum: <http://www.ukhealthforum.org.uk/>

Southwark Council has introduced the Fizz Free February campaign, which aims to encourage all our residents, and especially children, to give up fizzy drinks for 28 days.

See also **Children and young people** section:

[Takeaways linked to increased cardiovascular risk factors and obesity in children](#)

See also **Obesity** section:

[Going vegan may help prevent diabetes in overweight people](#)

## **Disability**

### [New blood test for autism a long way off](#)

19 February 2018

Source: NHS Choices: <https://www.nhs.uk/pages/home.aspx>

"Autism blood discovery promises earlier tests and treatment," claims The Daily Telegraph, reporting on research into a potential new diagnostic test for autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

### [New research finds undiagnosed adult ADHD could cost billions every year](#)

15 February 2018

Source: Demos: <https://www.demos.co.uk/>

A new report from Demos think tank estimates that the hidden costs of undiagnosed Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) to the economy could amount to billions of pounds every year, and calls for urgent action to uncover the true economic costs.

## Drug Misuse

### [Statistics on Drug Misuse: England, 2018](#)

7 February 2018

Source: NHS Digital: <https://digital.nhs.uk/home>

This statistical report presents a range of information on drug use by adults and children drawn together from a variety of sources.

See also **Alcohol Misuse** section:

[Alcohol and drug prevention, treatment and recovery: why invest?](#)

[Drink price law could lead addicts to drugs, says charity](#)

## Emergency planning

### [Climate change means more frequent flooding, warns Environment Agency](#)

16 February 2018

Source: Environment Agency:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency>

The Environment Agency has warned people to be prepared for flooding as it launches its Flood Action Campaign.

## Environmental health

### [Thriving places index](#)

20 February 2018

Source: UK Health Forum: <http://www.ukhealthforum.org.uk/>

Until now there has been no consistent and accessible framework that uses local level indicators to measure and inform progress towards supporting the wellbeing of all citizens, now and in the future. Happy City's Index of Thriving Places is designed to fill this gap – to provide a robust reporting framework to support decision-makers in local areas to improve lives on the ground and to help shift the focus, place by place, towards measuring what matters.

### [‘Far too many serious pollution incidents’ says Environment Agency water quality report](#)

19 February 2018

Source: Environment Agency:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency>

Environment Agency Chair, Emma Howard Boyd has called on water companies and farmers to cut the amount of pollution incidents harming England's waters and for penalties to be made tougher, as the EA publishes [The State of the Environment: Water Quality](#) report today.

### [Cleaning products linked to poorer lung function](#)

16 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

Regular exposure to cleaning products significantly affects lung function, research has suggested. The study of 6,000 people by a team from Norway's University of Bergen, found women appeared to be more badly affected than men.

## Health promotion

### Local authorities should offer NHS Health Check to all eligible

8 February 2018

Source: Public Health England:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

Speaking at Public Health England 's Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) Prevention Conference today (Thursday 8 February 2018), Chief Executive Duncan Selbie has called on local authorities to ensure that all local residents eligible for a free NHS Health Check get an invite – to help tackle the one in four premature deaths in the country caused by CVD.

## Health protection

### Public can expect 'gold standard' protection against flu next year

12 February 2018

Source: NHS England: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/>

The NHS is asking GPs and pharmacists to ensure their influenza vaccine orders for the 2018 to 2019 season use the most effective vaccines for the population.

## Health services administration

### New research into options for funding social care published

15 February 2018

Source: The Health Foundation: <http://www.health.org.uk/>

The Health Foundation and [The King's Fund](#) have published a [working paper](#) setting out interim findings from their project looking at the funding options for social care in England.

### Organ donations rising across the UK

15 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

A record 170 organ donations took place across the UK in January, resulting in more than 400 life-saving transplants. The rise in numbers comes as the NHS is running a public consultation into whether England should follow Wales and introduce an opt-out donation scheme.

### Latest GP workforce figures are 'very disappointing', says College

15 February 2018

Source: Royal College of General Practitioners:

<http://www.rcgp.org.uk/>

Professor Helen Stokes-Lampard, Chair of the Royal College of GPs, has responded to news that GP numbers are down 0.6% from September 2017 to December 2017, to 33,872.

### Shared GP appointments have potential but not suitable for all patients says College

12 February 2018

Source: Royal College of General Practitioners:

<http://www.rcgp.org.uk/>

In response to pilots being explored on shared medical appointments Professor Helen Stokes-Lampard, Chair of the Royal College of GPs, said:..."The idea certainly has potential, but shared appointments won't be for everyone or every condition and if the scheme is adopted by a practice, patients must be given the choice as to whether to participate, or continue with more traditional GP services."

### Care sector: 'Short of nurses and other key staff'

8 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

Low rates of pay and workload pressures mean care services can no longer fill key posts in England, a watchdog says. The [National Audit Office](#) said a lack of government planning and funding had undermined the "Cinderella" service and its 1.34 million staff.

## **HIV & AIDS**

### Self-testing kits increase overall HIV testing uptake in men who have sex with men

6 February 2018

Source: National Institute for Health Research:

<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/>

Frequency of HIV testing in men who have sex with men may be increased by one additional test in a six month period when self-testing kits are used.

## **Mental health**

### NI mental health charities urge action over 'crisis'

20 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

A group of mental health charities is due to meet MPs to call for action on what they describe as the worsening mental health crisis in NI.

### New Plan to transform dementia care in Wales

14 February 2018

Source: Welsh Government: <http://gov.wales/?lang=en>

Supported by an extra £10m a year, the Dementia Action Plan aims to create new ways of caring, training and increasing the number of support workers, increasing rates of diagnoses and strengthening collaborative working between social care and housing.

### Is loneliness affecting your health?

14 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

[BBC Radio 4's All in the Mind](#) have launched the [BBC Loneliness Experiment](#), an online survey to increase understanding of a major issue facing society today. Presenter Claudia Hammond says they want everyone to take part, whether or not they feel lonely at the moment.

### How can we support people with dementia to live well?

14 February 2018

Source: Age UK: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/>

Age UK started looking at what 'living well' meant to people with dementia and their carers, and from there we branched out to find an array of services and approaches that could help them achieve this. Our findings are published in a new report, '[Promising Approaches to Living Well with Dementia](#).'

### What makes us happy?

13 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

Researchers from Liverpool University are launching an online survey to explore links between how we deal with life's ups and downs and our mental health. They believe that untangling different strands that make up our sense of happiness could stop mental health problems from developing.

### 'It's good to talk,' dementia study finds

7 February 2018

Source: NHS Choices: <https://www.nhs.uk/pages/home.aspx>

"Just one hour a week of social interaction helps dementia patients," reports The Guardian. Researchers working with care homes found that training staff to deliver personalised care reduced people's distress and improved their quality of life.

### Improving physical healthcare for people living with severe mental illness (SMI) in primary care: guidance for CCGs

February 2018

Source: NHS England: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/>

This guidance highlights the responsibilities of CCGs to commission services that deliver comprehensive physical health assessments and follow up care to people on the SMI register in primary care, addressing the premature mortality compared to the general population.

See also **Children and young people** section:

[Foundation launches programme for young people with long-term conditions](#)  
[Is social media causing childhood depression?](#)

[LGA calls for compulsory independent mental health counselling roll-out in all secondary schools](#)

[Schools struggle to get mental health help, says survey](#)

See also **Prison health** section:

[Mental health of adults in contact with the criminal justice system- quality standard \(QS163\)](#)

## **Obesity**

### Going vegan may help prevent diabetes in overweight people

15 February 2018

Source: NHS Choices: <https://www.nhs.uk/pages/home.aspx>

"Going vegan can prevent overweight adults from developing type 2 diabetes, an 'important' new study has concluded," reports the Mail Online. Researchers in the US investigated the effects of a 16-week vegan diet on a group of overweight people compared with a group that continued their usual diet.

### 'Non-stick' chemicals linked to weight gain

14 February 2018

Source: NHS Choices: <https://www.nhs.uk/pages/home.aspx>

"Chemicals found in fast food wrappers and clothes are linked [to] weight gain in women," reports the Mail Online. Researchers in the US found that women who regained most weight after dieting in a weight-loss study had higher levels of a group of chemicals called perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in their blood.

### Slower eating may help prevent weight gain

13 February 2018

Source: NHS Choices: <https://www.nhs.uk/pages/home.aspx>

"Eating slowly may help prevent obesity, say researchers," reports The Guardian. Researchers in Japan found that people who said they ate slowly or at normal speed were less likely to be obese at the end of a 6-year study, than those who said they ate quickly.

See also **Children and young people** section:

[A school-based lifestyle intervention didn't help children avoid unhealthy weight gain](#)

[School-based obesity prevention programme has disappointing results](#)

[Takeaways linked to increased cardiovascular risk factors and obesity in children](#)

See also **Diet and Nutrition** section:

[A third of UK adults 'underestimate calorie intake'](#)

[Fizz Free February](#)

[Type 2 diabetes can be reversed with very low-calorie diet](#)

## Older people

### [Falls prevention: cost-effective commissioning](#)

15 February 2018

Source: Public Health England:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

A resource to help commissioners and communities provide cost-effective falls prevention activities.

### [LGA responds to Housing for Older People report](#)

9 February 2018

Source: Local Government Association:

<https://www.local.gov.uk/>

Responding to a report on Housing for Older People by the Communities and Local Government Committee, Cllr Martin Tett, the Local Government Association's Housing spokesman, said:.. "There is a clear link between housing, health and social care, and this needs to be considered in the Government's forthcoming social care green paper. Decent, quality housing for older people will include adaptations that enables them to live at home independently and for longer, keeping them fit and well and out of hospital."

### [The Ageing Process and Health](#)

9 February 2018

Source: UK Parliament: <https://www.parliament.uk//>

This POST note examines the biological basis of ageing, the potential to manipulate the ageing process and to use such knowledge to promote better health later in life.

See also **Mental Health** section:

[How can we support people with dementia to live well?](#)

['It's good to talk,' dementia study finds](#)

[New Plan to transform dementia care in Wales](#)

## Physical activity

### [Getting people on low incomes active](#)

15 February 2018

Source: Sport England: <https://www.sportengland.org/>

From 'dad dancing' exercise to sports sessions for rough sleepers, we're investing in a number of new projects...to help people on low incomes become more active and healthier.

### [Everybody Active, Every Day: Stakeholder Survey](#)

7 February 2018

Source: UK Health Forum: <http://www.ukhealthforum.org.uk/>

Public Health England (PHE) has commissioned ICF Consulting to undertake an evaluation of the implementation of the Everybody Active, Every Day (EAED) framework. PHE are inviting all professionals with an interest in physical activity to complete this survey.

## **Prison health**

### [Mental health of adults in contact with the criminal justice system- quality standard \(QS163\)](#)

February 2018

Source: NICE: <https://www.nice.org.uk/>

This quality standard is expected to contribute to improvements in numbers of adults with mental health problems in prison, and reoffending, premature mortality and morbidity rates of adults with mental health problems.

## **Safety**

### [LGA responds to Which? report on product safety](#)

15 February 2018

Source: Local Government Association:

<https://www.local.gov.uk/>

Cllr Simon Blackburn, Chair of the Local Government Association's Safer and Stronger Communities Board, responds to Which?'s report on the number of house fires a week caused by faulty white goods and calling for a 90 day action plan for the new Office for Product Safety.

### [Warning hundreds of fire deaths may be linked to skin creams](#)

11 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

Hundreds of fire deaths may be linked to the use of skin creams containing paraffin, a senior firefighter warns. If people use the creams regularly but do not often change clothes or bedding, paraffin residue can soak into the fabric and act as an accelerant when it comes into contact with a cigarette or a flame from a heater.

## **Sexual health**

### [Challenging stigma: Northern Ireland Sexual Health Week 2018 launched in Stormont](#)

12 February 2018

Source: Family Planning Association: <https://www.fpa.org.uk/>

Northern Ireland politicians attended the launch of the annual Sexual Health Week in Stormont this morning. The week is centred on the theme of challenging stigma and was launched by Paula Bradshaw MLA at a thought-provoking event attended by politicians, healthcare professionals, and community and voluntary sector workers.

## Smoking

### [Health and cost impacts of tobacco taxation in the Ukraine](#)

7 February 2018

Source: UK Health Forum: <http://www.ukhealthforum.org.uk/>

Laura Webber, Director of Public Health Modelling, presented at the Institute of Global Health Innovation findings from a study carried out in the Ukraine on the health and cost impacts of tobacco taxation on Tuesday 6th February 2018.

### [PHE publishes independent expert e-cigarettes evidence review](#)

6 February 2018

Source: Public Health England:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

The report covers e-cigarette use among young people and adults, public attitudes, the impact on quitting smoking, an update on risks to health and the role of nicotine. It also reviews heated tobacco products.

### [Making sense of the latest evidence on electronic cigarettes](#)

6 February 2018

Source: The Lancet: <http://www.thelancet.com>

The Lancet has published a comment based on Public Health England's evidence review of e-cigarettes and heated tobacco products.

## Social & economic issues

### [Life expectancy gap between rich and poor widens](#)

15 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

The life expectancy gap between England's richest and poorest neighbourhoods has widened since 2001, a report says.

### [The A-Z of homelessness resources](#)

12 February 2018

Source: Homeless Link: <https://www.homeless.org.uk/>

Looking for good practice guidance to support you in your work? Patrick Duce, Homeless Link's IGP Project Manager, outlines the A-Z of homelessness and where you can find the necessary tools and resources from Homeless Link.

### [Homeless adults with complex needs: evidence review](#)

9 February 2018

Source: Public Health England:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

Overview of the homeless situation across England with insights into the current evidence base to support action to prevent and reduce homelessness.

### [11th Report - Homeless households](#)

7 February 2018

Source: UK Health Forum: <http://www.ukhealthforum.org.uk/>

The Public Accounts Committee has published their findings from the oral evidence presented. The Committee has concluded that the extent of homelessness across England is a national crisis.

### [Policing, Health and Social Care consensus: working together to protect and prevent harm to vulnerable people](#)

7 February 2018

Source: UK Health Forum: <http://www.ukhealthforum.org.uk/>

This consensus statement...provides a focus for the police service, health and social care services and voluntary and community sector to work together to improve people's health and wellbeing, prevent crime and protect the most vulnerable people in England.

## **Health equity**

7 February 2018

Source: UK Health Forum: <http://www.ukhealthforum.org.uk/>

Evidence, resources and guidance from Public Health England and partners to help support national, regional and local areas to reduce health inequalities.

See also **Environmental health** section:

**Thriving places index**

See also **Older people** section:

**LGA responds to Housing for Older People report**

## **Statistics**

### **European Society of Cardiology: Cardiovascular Disease Statistics 2017**

14 February 2018

Source: European Heart Journal:

<https://academic.oup.com/eurheartj>

The European Society of Cardiology (ESC) Atlas has been compiled by the European Heart Agency to document cardiovascular disease (CVD) statistics of the 56 ESC member countries. A major aim of this 2017 data presentation has been to compare high-income and middle-income ESC member countries to identify inequalities in disease burden, outcomes, and service provision.

### **Foodborne illness in humans: general outbreaks in England and Wales in 2018**

9 February 2018

Source: Public Health England:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

Reporting of general outbreaks of foodborne illness week by week including organism and number of people ill.

See also **Drug Misuse** section:

**Statistics on Drug Misuse: England, 2018**

## **Women's health**

### **Ovarian cancer: Persistent tummy bloating can be sign, charity warns**

20 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

Only a third of women would see a doctor when they experience a major symptom of ovarian cancer, according to the charity Target Ovarian Cancer.

### **New clinic for victims of sexual violence**

19 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

Scotland's first clinic for victims of sexual violence is to open at the end of the month. Experts said women who had experienced sexual violence often could not face going to the doctors for smear tests and other intimate examinations. The new clinic will also provide specialist medical care and support for victims.

### Miscarriage: 'I just felt like it was my fault'

16 February 2018

Source: BBC News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

An estimated one in four pregnancies ends in miscarriage - although there are no official statistics and the true figure could be lower or even higher. Many couples will never reveal they have had a miscarriage, but here, three women and one man describe the shock, guilt and distress they felt after losing their babies.

### Paternal genes may influence ovarian cancer risk

16 February 2018

Source: NHS Choices: <https://www.nhs.uk/pages/home.aspx>

"Fathers may pass ovarian cancer risk to daughters," reports BBC News after research found a possible new cancer gene on the X chromosome.

### Diabetes drug aids fertility in women with polycystic ovaries

15 February 2018

Source: National Institute for Health Research:

<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/>

The diabetes drug metformin may help women with polycystic ovarian syndrome who are having problems getting pregnant, but it is unclear whether it works better than an alternative fertility drug that stimulates the ovaries.

### Human eggs developed in lab for first time ever

9 February 2018

Source: NHS Choices: <https://www.nhs.uk/pages/home.aspx>

"Breakthrough as human eggs developed in the lab for first time," The Guardian reports... The researchers showed that it was possible to take the earliest stage follicles and mature some of them right through to the point where they could produce fully developed egg cells. This is a valuable breakthrough and could have great potential in the future, particularly to preserve fertility in young girls who need to have cancer treatment.

**Local news: []**

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<b>Other Bulletins</b>
<p><b>Super Six Bulletin</b>            This is a weekly Bulletin that details original articles in the BMJ, JAMA, New England Journal of Medicine and The Lancet, Annals of Internal Medicine and Annals of Emergency Medicine  <a href="http://cash.libraryservices.nhs.uk/subject-a-z/m/medicine/major-research/">http://cash.libraryservices.nhs.uk/subject-a-z/m/medicine/major-research/</a></p>
<p><b>Daily Health News</b>            The Daily Health Bulletin is produced by the Knowledge Service from the EMBED Health Consortium  <a href="http://cash.libraryservices.nhs.uk/subject-a-z/d/daily-health-news/">http://cash.libraryservices.nhs.uk/subject-a-z/d/daily-health-news/</a></p>
<p><b>Healthcare Public Health</b>            Monthly bulletin containing news and information about key public health issues including health service commissioning, updates from Public Health England, local authorities, Faculty of Public Health and others agencies, resources and good practice.  <a href="http://www.healthcarepublichealth.net/newsletters.php">http://www.healthcarepublichealth.net/newsletters.php</a></p>
<p><b>PHE Bulletin (Public Health England)</b>            The PHE Bulletin is issued monthly and contains public health news and information.  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/phe-bulletin">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/phe-bulletin</a></p>
<p><b>Public Health and Social Care Bulletin</b>            This is published weekly and created by Kent &amp; Medway Public Health Observatory. It provides an update on what is new in public health and social care, both nationally and locally.  <a href="http://www.kpho.org.uk/library-services/keeping-up-to-date/e-bulletin-archive">http://www.kpho.org.uk/library-services/keeping-up-to-date/e-bulletin-archive</a></p>



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