



News Headlines: 11 June 2015

March 2015 was the last Telecare LIN [newsletter](#) supported by Innovate UK, KTN Ltd and the Assisted Living Innovation Platform and we would like to thank them for their support in recent years.

There were over 1200 links of interest during May 2015 with over 100 journal articles – sadly, we are unable to bring them to you in a curated format at this time.

Going forward we need your support. To maintain a comprehensive monthly news summary going out to over 48,000 people, we are looking to crowdsource funding to support the website, content and hundreds of links and [journal article references](#) each month. We are currently looking for a number of organisations to support continuing production (including [supplements](#), [Twitter stream](#), [archive](#)) at around the £5k level per year. The news service, currently in its tenth year is recognised as an authoritative source and valuable resource in the UK and in other parts of the world working on digital health, telehealth, mHealth, telemedicine and telecare.

Many people also value the extensive coverage of UK health and care policy as well as regular [site listings](#) and supplements (eg [telehealth](#), [dementia](#), [long term conditions](#)). This is, therefore, an opportunity not to be missed if your organisation would like to be associated with the sector-leading newsletter and our successful brand. You can email j.porteus@telecarelin.org.uk for details.

In the meantime, we will be providing a limited 'headline only' service for registered members of the website whilst we establish whether or not the crowdfunding approach is successful over the next three months. You can still follow Mike Clark on Twitter (@clarkmike - together with summaries on [Storify](#) and [Rebelmouse](#)) or Jeremy at @HousingLIN or on the Housing LIN [homepage](#).

Some UK News Headlines this week

(i) The recent NHS Confederation Conference saw a range of announcements on the NHS and social care:

- There is no additional NHS money for 2015-2016 beyond what has already been announced last Autumn
- It is not yet clear when the additional £8bn funding for the NHS will commence and whether it will be enough
- Jeremy Hunt and Simons Stevens have stressed that work needs to commence quickly on the £22bn of efficiencies in the Five Year Forward View - activities will take place over the next four months to map this out
- There will be a clampdown on agency spend for nurses and doctors - identified as a major operational risk (£3.3bn spent on agency staffing in 2014-15)
- ADASS has announced that local social care authorities have been expected to reduce costs by £1.1bn this year (in addition, it appears that local authorities may have lost £200m of public health funding for 2015/16 - 7.4% of total budget)
- Work on staffing levels for nurses in hospitals will be discontinued by NICE and picked up by NHS England
- Updates on the four hour target for A&E will move to monthly publication

- Two headline waiting times targets for planned care are being dropped by the NHS on the basis they are creating ‘perverse incentives’
- Plans are being developed for CCG traffic light ratings similar to those already being published for NHS providers on NHS Choices
- The NHS has been ordered to act on unacceptable variations in how much it spends on essential equipment – including syringes, surgical gloves and toilet rolls

Links:

[Health secretary unveils four-part action plan](#)

[Jeremy Hunt orders hospitals to rein in spending](#)

[Have cuts to social care affected services?](#)

[Money, money, money - those NHS finances](#)

[NHS patient safety fears as health watchdog scraps staffing guidelines](#)

[NHS Confederation ‘Watch Again’ Sessions](#)

[Jeremy Hunt Speech](#)

[NHS facing ‘very, very big challenge’](#)

[Rob Webster: ‘If we preserve the NHS in aspic, it will die’](#)

[Emergency care to be ‘completely redesigned’ within three years, says Stevens](#)

[ADASS calls on government to ‘protect essential care and support services to our most vulnerable citizens’](#)

[Social workers forced to cut care packages as £1bn wiped off social care budgets](#)

[In case you missed it: Ten must-knows from a pivotal week \(HSJ subs\)](#)

(ii) The Welsh government is [investing](#) £6.7 million to develop an IT system to link health and social care services.

(iii) The need to cut down healthcare costs has driven the telehealth patient population upward to [increase](#) six times in North America. Increasing number of multiple chronic disease patients along with quickly rising population of aging baby boomers, shortage of disease management, and healthcare facilities are anticipated to drive the market for remote monitoring of patients.

(iv) There is a new [report](#) from the fifteen Academic Health Science Networks in England called – ‘*AHSNs Impact Report 2015: spreading innovation, improving health, promoting economic growth*’

(v) Around seven in 10 of the global population will be using a smartphone by the year 2020, with 90 per cent of those aged over 6 years old owning a mobile. Smartphone subscriptions are set to more than double to 6.1 billion from around 2.6bn. Currently around 4.9 billion people in the world own some 7.2 billion mobile subscriptions, thanks to owning multiple devices and inactive accounts. It is predicted that there will be 26 billion connected devices by 2020 across the globe, with watching video to account for 60 per cent of global mobile data traffic by this time. Many first-time internet users in developing countries will browse using a mobile device due to limited access to fixed broadband ([Telegraph article](#)).

(vi) At its annual meeting beginning Sunday 7 June, the American Medical Association's policy-making House of Delegates were voting on policy guidance to doctors on issues related to telehealth, [according to Forbes](#).

(vii) Domestic abuse victims and vulnerable people have made more than 220,000 calls for help using a safer-living scheme running across Hull. Kingston Care Lifeline Service responded to SOS calls from pendants worn by 5,134 people, including 70 victims of domestic abuse and those at risk of

hate crimes. Teams also answered 2,610 calls as part of the 24/7 Telecare service, which links fall sensors, medication dispensers, smoke and cold alarms to a telecommunications network, allowing remote monitoring of people's health. ([Hull Daily Mail](#)).

(viii) From NHS England's new [report](#) (Page 8) – 'Five Year Forward View – Time to Deliver' – "...The new Vanguards will help us design this differentiated approach in a way that can be replicated elsewhere, with a particular focus on developing convenient and technologically-enabled out of hospital services for people with urgent but non-life threatening needs".

Upcoming Telecare/Telehealth/Digital Health events:

June 2015

Caring Together to transform health and wellbeing... delivered through TECS 12 June, Macclesfield <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/caring-together-to-transform-health-and-wellbeing-delivered-through-tecs-tickets-16749351762>

International Digital Health and Care Congress – The King's Fund 16/17 June 2015 – <http://www.kingsfund.org.uk/events/digital-health-and-care-congress-2015>

Health and Care 2015, London, 24-25 June 2015 <http://www.healthpluscare.co.uk/>

Note: Telecare LIN is not responsible for the content and accuracy of external links