

NPAG News

March 2022

Edition 185

Welcome to the March edition of NPAG News.

As we go to print we are entering another period of great uncertainty for Europe and the world, and experiencing a scenario none of us imagined we would see in our lifetimes. We have all been horrified by the news of the invasion of Ukraine on 24 February, as you must have been.

Our thoughts and solidarity must be with the people of Ukraine and, closer to home, those of our colleagues who have friends and family currently living in Ukraine.

Similarly, as the UK takes steps to strengthen the presence of our armed forces in eastern Europe, we know this will affect those of us who have friends and family who work in all branches of the military.

At times like these it is important we come together and look after one another, regardless of our personal beliefs or opinions.

If you have been affected by recent events there are several agencies that may be able to offer support, for example:

[Contact Us](#) | [Samaritans](#)

[How to seek help for a mental health problem - Mind](#)

In the meantime at NPAG we are in the midst of a very busy period with a number of our national groups renewing. Our Resilience Network is being relaunched this spring with a new name—Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR), which is the way this area of work is generally referred to in healthcare and it better reflects the group's agenda. Please see Page 3.

Also renewing is our recently re-launched Transport and Logistics Best Practice Group—Page 2.

The NPAG Network has been busy again and this month it's pleasing to see a greater variety of enquiries than of late. But continue to let us know, if you are not a regular Network user, what we can do to make the service more relevant to you.

We hope that you all have a good month and stay safe everyone!

The NPAG Team

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"It has been a pleasure to chair the group over the last year. The commitment and input of the group's members is of an exceptional standard where exchanging ideas, discussing lessons learnt, sharing organisational challenges as well as good practice makes it an invaluable learning opportunity."
Chair EPRR Network

NHS Transport & Logistics Best Practice Group 2022-23

Meeting 1: Tuesday 5th April 2022, Via Microsoft Teams

The NHS Transport & Logistics Best Practice Group combines two main essentials: decades of in-house experience and quality presenters from within and outside the NHS. That way we build on proven good practice whilst having an eye to new systems and developments!

NPAG's focus is to innovate and support continuous improvement in the face of ever increasing pressure to save money and increase efficiency. Members proactively network discussing and sharing documents on the delivery of fleet management, logistics, parking and associated services.

Members drive the meeting agendas. They include established standing items which are addressed through knowledge and experience from the members and carefully selected guest speakers. Items include:

- Covid implications & issues
- Fleet: Grey, Green & Courier
- Pool Car Management
- Trust Policies and Procedures: impact on Transport, Waste & ADR
- Medical Records
- Driver Handbooks
- Management of Taxi services
- Vehicle procurement & management
- Legislation

Members come from a variety of Trust types from across England & Wales. Members from NHS Wales have provided invaluable insight into how 'things' are done differently in the devolved nations, particularly over the last couple of years responding to Covid-19 and the vaccination programme. It would be good to have members join from the other devolved nations of Scotland & Northern Ireland to further widen the knowledge base.

The 2021 round of 4 meetings were held via Microsoft Teams primarily due to the Covid restrictions in order to attract a diverse range of members from across the Country. Guest speakers were invited from relevant Industry companies including Highways England, Crown Commercial Services, Flockmobility & The Mileage Consultancy.

Such collaborations hold great potential for all involved sharing innovations across the whole spectrum of NHS Transport & Logistics.

The Group will continue to apply itself to keeping abreast of rapidly-emerging vehicle, infrastructure and software technologies and their potential for enhancing capabilities within the NHS.

The Group have agreed to run 4 meetings once again across 2022 with the first taking place via MS Teams on 5 April 2022 with a further 3 meetings to be held in July, October & January 2023, one of which is hoped to be the first face to face meeting since pre-Covid.

"Having been a member of this group for 6 years, it is clear that the group provides an excellent platform for those in Logistics and Fleet Management. The scope of the group embraces all aspects of Logistics, vehicle usage, parking and new ways of tackling issues. More importantly the NPAG networking facility has enabled colleagues to share problems and get advice. It is shaped by its members and their professions."

Operations Manager, Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Why join? Our Facilitator says:

"The NHS Transport & Logistics BPG has been running for many years with great success. I have been proud to facilitate this group for the last 2 rounds, the knowledge the members have and are willing to share is phenomenal and I can only see the group going from strength to strength for many years to come. The first meeting of the 2022/23 round will take place via MS Teams on the 5th April 2022. Come along and see for yourself what a great resource this group can be to you and your organisation."

Interested?

Please contact **Marie Cherry** for further details
e: marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk
Try Before You Buy places are available. Please contact Marie for details.

EPRR Network 2022-23

Wednesday 4th May 2022, The Royal National Hotel, London

EPRR (Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response) has always been an extremely important function in the NHS. As it becomes even more important (as evidenced during the COVID-19 outbreak for example) so, therefore, does the role of the EPRR Network. The EPRR Network is a very well-established group (*previously known as the Resilience Development Network*) and is a very well-respected forum which has been serving NHS EPRR staff for several years.

The following are some of the comments that members have had to say about this group:

"Excellent forum for exchanging information on all emergency planning and resilience related issues"

"Really good value for money"

"Excellent for professional development"

"I strongly recommend others take advantage of the opportunities that NPAG presents. They will not be disappointed."

Whilst there may be several local forums where EPRR staff come together, one of the major benefits of the EPRR Network is that it is a **national group** with members coming from across the country – thereby offering a greater range of **sharing** and **learning**. It also facilitates a more extensive range of benchmarking / comparisons between organisations.

- Covid 19 (including Public Enquiry)
- EPRR Assurance
- Hazmat / CBRNe
- Learning from Local Incidents and Exercises
- Sharing Good Practice
- Lockdown guidance and procedures
- Disease Outbreaks
- National Occupational Standards for Civil Contingencies
- Dynamic Risk Assessment
- National Risk Register
- Resilient Telecommunications
- Business Continuity Management
- Major Incident Planning / Mass Casualty
- Learning from Major Incidents e.g., Grenfell, Manchester, Westminster Bridge, etc
- Responders + Victims Welfare
- CQC Inspections
- Industrial Action

As well as the above, and many other subjects, each meeting also has a **'Hot Topics'** slot where members can raise ad hoc issues that are of immediate concern to them or that they need help and advice with. Outside of the meetings themselves members continue **networking** with each other via regular email and telephone communications facilitated by the NPAG Facilitator and the overall NPAG team.

To support its work this network receives external expert input from: Member of the Executive Council - The Institute of Civil Protection and Emergency Management, NHS Digital, NHS England and Improvement - plus other expert speakers in the overall field of EPRR. All of this, of course, complimented by the significant and wide-ranging knowledge and expertise of the network members themselves.

Who would benefit from joining?

Anyone in the NHS who has a lead role in EPRR (Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response) - including Emergency Planning Officers, Business Continuity Managers, Site Operations Managers, Resilience Managers, etc.

If you want to find out more please feel free to contact either:

Dale Atkins, NPAG Facilitator e: Dale.Atkins@hotmail.com

Neil Furness, EPRR Network Chair e: Neil.Furness@lscft.nhs.uk

Interested?

Meeting 1 will take place on **4th May** at [The Royal National Hotel, London](#), followed by 3 further meetings. Please contact Laura Howe for further info: e: laura.howe@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

NPAG and Sustainability

National Ambition

The NHS has recently set two targets in relation to a more sustainable health service:

For the emissions we control directly (the NHS Carbon Footprint), we will reach net zero by 2040, with an ambition to reach an 80% reduction by 2028 to 2032

For the emissions we can influence (our NHS Carbon Footprint Plus), we will reach net zero by 2045, with an ambition to reach an 80% reduction by 2036 to 2039.

To support the national net zero ambition, each trust and integrated care system should have a *Green Plan* which sets out their aims, objectives, and delivery plans for carbon reduction. In each case, this should be signed off by the Trust Board, with a board-level 'net zero lead' responsible for overseeing its delivery.

NPAG's Approach to Sustainability

NPAG has always been conscious of the need to minimise the environmental impact of its activities.

As long ago as 2007, NPAG began to offer national workshops and events exploring sustainability in the NHS. Initially these were individual themed events. In 2012 NPAG launched a new BVG, the NHS Sustainability Leads Network, which has become one of our most successful national groups, with a current membership of 40 plus.

Looking internally at our own organisation, NPAG has undertaken a number measures over the years aimed at creating a greener service:

- ✓ Reducing the amount of paper used for our national events by providing electronic copies of documents, presentations, etc.
- ✓ Selecting venues for our meetings and events that facilitate travel by train
- ✓ Where possible and appropriate, employing staff who live local to the NPAG office, to minimise travel
- ✓ Encouraging working from home where appropriate
- ✓ Minimising waste by using Trust recycling facilities where possible.

Action We are Taking

However, without a formal sustainability plan it has been difficult to gauge how successful all our efforts have been in terms of carbon reduction. Clearly Covid has provided an opportunity to review all of our practices and the national guidance gives us a good starting point to develop a Green Plan. The work is in its infancy but we have drawn up a list of key areas to focus on:

- Workforce
- Models of service delivery
- Digital transformation
- Travel and Transport
- Supply chain and procurement
- Adaptation to Climate Change.

More to follow next time.



FOR A GREENER **NHS**

Helping our Members - NPAG Network

The NPAG Network continues to provide a very welcome service to all NPAG Best Value Group and Network members.

The service was developed by NPAG, recognising the need for a forum for healthcare providers to ask questions, request assistance and information, share documents, and get professional and practical advice from their peers throughout the UK, saving time and money in not re-inventing the wheel.

Members of the NPAG's Best Value and National Networking Groups form the nucleus of the Network – providing over 600 contacts throughout the UK. People remain very keen to share their experiences for the benefit of all.



These are some of the varied requests received in recent days:

"If you carry out an evening snack service – how/when is this ordered, when served & by whom and what options are given to patients?"

Facilities South Member

"Would anyone (particularly in the South East of England) be able to share their car parking charges for both visitor car parks and staff. A national guide on this would also be useful to see whereabouts we are currently at with our charges due to recent criticisms in the local press."

NHS Car Parking and Sustainable Transport Network Member

"Please could members share the following statistic from their departments:

- Average number of work requests (jobs) completed per technician per year."***

Clinical Engineering South

"Slightly outside of the norm, but would it be possible to ask the group if anyone has introduced tiered parking charges within their setting, and would they be willing to share their process, feedback etc?"

Violence Reduction and Security Management Network Member

"I would like to benchmark the banding of Switchboard operators and confirm if they manage an emergency phone."

Telecoms Network Member

"Regarding anesthetic gas - there is Sevoflurane and Desflurane, How can these be disposed of? and under what ewc?"

Waste Management Member

"We intend to purchase and operate a drone ourselves. To be used for missing patients, evidence gathering, building surveys, emergency planning etc. I wondered if anyone has already been down this route in term of procurement and licensing."

Violence Reduction and Security Management Network Member

If you don't currently use the service, please do so. You will not be disappointed! Please send your NPAG Network requests to: e: npagnetwork@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

(Please note: You need to be an NPAG member to submit an enquiry).



National Performance
Advisory Group

Theatres and Decontamination Conference

19th May 2022

Coventry Building Society Arena

This conference will provide delegates with the opportunity to hear from key speakers on a variety of subjects affecting theatres and decontamination science personnel. The programme will inform and educate delegates on subjects that affect their everyday life all of which will help contribute to the safety and care of our patients.

Why Attend? This annual one-day conference provides new insights into issues that are being talked about in real-time, today. The conference agenda has been developed by Theatre Managers and Decontamination Leads.

There will be plenty of networking opportunities throughout the day with the chance to meet with NPAG Theatres and Decontamination members who have achieved success and savings through productive benchmarking.

In 2020, delegate feedback was extremely positive with 100% of respondents recording they would recommend this conference to a colleague.

Who Should Attend? This conference is open to all NHS and non-NHS, Theatres, Clinical, Surgical and Decontamination Managers/ Leads.

Message from Trevor Garcia, Chair:

"This conference will give you the opportunity to hear updates in decontamination science and from our colleagues from theatre, with some sessions providing an insight into how the same situation affects us differently."

2020 Conference Delegate Feedback:

"Really informative conference with some common themes around benchmarking and quality improvements. Mark Campbell's presentation at the cutting edge of Sterilisation was fascinating."

Presentations on the day will include:

- **Covid-19 Experiences and Learning**, Mark Rigby, Head of Theatre Services, Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- **Procurement CIPs in theatres / New Hospital Project / Theatres Utilisation and Efficiency**, Ajay Sooknah, Head of Operations SHCG, The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust
- **Year 3 of Protein Residue Removal Study – University Hospital of Wales**, Mark Campbell, Decontamination Service Manager, Cardiff and Vale Health Board
- **Career Pathway for Decontamination**, Helen Campbell, IDSc Director of Education, & Consultant, Decontamination Education & Consulting
- **Human Factors**, Chris Gale, Training Academy Manager, Avenysys
- **Utilising RFID within Sterile Services**, speaker TBC
- **Black Box Culture**, Damien Cottle, Managing Director, Pegasus Resource Management
- **Presentation title tbc**, Steve Peak, Chief Operating Officer, Vanguard Healthcare

Interested?

Please contact us for details or to secure your delegate place:

e: info@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

Sponsorship Packages:

Please contact Marie Cherry for sponsorship packages and exhibition stand availability.

e: marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

Tweet us! #NPAGTheatresAndDecon2022 @NPAGUK

Theatres and Decontamination Conference

19th May 2022

Coventry Building Society Arena

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Theatres and Decontamination Conference

19th May 2022

Coventry Building Society Arena

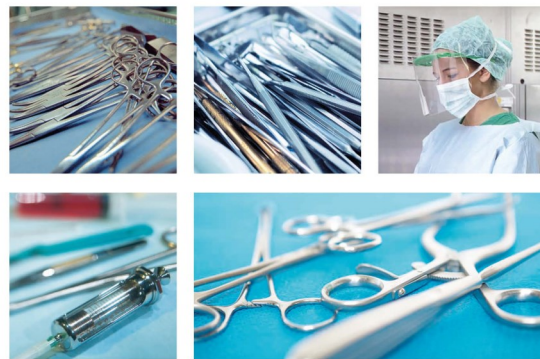
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Clinical Professional Development for Occupational Health Nurses

NPAG's Clinical Professional Development for Occupational Health Nurses training programme is suitable for clinicians at all levels and experience within Occupational Health. The teaching provided within these modules provides opportunities for professional preceptorship and mentoring, differentiating the training at all levels. The intention is to provide nurses with the daily clinical and professional skills and experience that they require to undertake their duties. Those attending will gain clinical skills, which will serve to support further academic qualifications and training. Remaining course dates as follows:

- **Sickness Absence Management Referrals, Friday 11th March 2022, Coventry**
- **Occupational Health Condition Management, Friday 25th March 2022, Coventry**
- **Health Surveillance: History Taking & Case Management, Friday 1st April 2022, Coventry**

Interested? Please contact Marie Cherry for details e: marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

What's hot for the coming months

National Networking Group Meetings

March

- Clinical Engineering—North and South
- Health Visiting and School Health Services
- NHS Car Parking & Sustainable Transport
- Nursing and Temporary Staffing
- Telecoms
- Waste Management
- Decontamination

April

- Facilities North
- IT & Connectivity
- National District Nurses Network
- NHS Sustainability Leads
- Violence Reduction & Security Management
- NHS Transport & Logistics

Workshops & Events

Clinical Professional Development for Occupational Health Nurses 2022

Human Factor Onsite Training

Introduction to Resilience in the NHS, Onsite Training Workshop

Putting the Patient First Onsite Training Workshops

Equality and Diversity Onsite Training Workshops

Assertiveness & Self-Management Training Workshops

For details of the above please contact [Marie Cherry](mailto:marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk)

Conference Dates

Theatres and Decontamination Conference: 19th May 2022, Coventry

Register your interest with:

[Marie Cherry](mailto:marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk).

Clinical Engineering Conference: 15th September 2022, Coventry

Register your interest with:

[Marie Cherry](mailto:marie.cherry@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk).

NDNN Conference 22nd November 2022

Register your interest with:

[Laure Howe](mailto:laure.howe@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk).

Contact Us

e: npagnews@npag.eastamb.nhs.uk

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