CHC Listings

August 1996

CHC LISTINGS

August 1996

Contents:

Directory Amendments	1
CHC Publications	3
General Publications	8
Official Publications	13
Forthcoming Events	17
Information Wanted	18
ACHCEW Responses to Consultation Documents	20

directory amendments

Page i — Association of Welsh CHCs

Delete: Acting Secretary – Clive Barnby
Insert: Development Officer – Ms Sue Wilshire
Phone: 01222 681 307
Fax: 01222 756 000

Page ii — North Thames Region of CHCs

Phone: 01727 897 912/3
Fax: 01727 897912

Page 2 — North West Anglia CHC

Kings Lynn office: Phone: 01553 775 616

Page 3 — South Buckinghamshire CHC

Fax: 01494 474 856

Page 6 — Mid Essex CHC

Change of address
3-5 New Street
Chelmsford CM1 1NT
Phone and fax unchanged.

directory amendments

Page 7 — Newham CHC

Change of address:
128 the Grove
Stratford
London E15 1NS
Phone: 0181 534 4217/8
Fax: 0181 536 0091

Joint Chief Officers: Ms Jean Lowe & Ms Lesley Rogers

Page 12 — Oldham CHC

Chief Officer: Ms Patricia Sloss

Page 19 — York CHC

Change of address:
22 Hungate
York YO1 2PA

Page 20 — East Dorset CHC

Chief officer: Miss Denise Holden

Page 23 — Torbay & District CHC

Phone: 01626 201 241
Fax: 01626 201 243

Page 30 — North Derbyshire CHC

Change of address:
86 Saltergate
Chesterfield
S40 1LG
Phone and fax unchanged.

Page 32 — Cardiff CHC

Chief Officer: Mr Martyn Jenkins

Page 33 — Llanelli/Dinefwr CHC

Change of address:
2 Coleshill Terrace
Llanelli
Carmarthenshire
SA15 3DB
Phone & fax: 01554 749 418/9

Day surgery

Is it what patients want?

West Cumbria CHC, 50 pages

Questionnaires were sent to 291 adults who were expecting to have a procedure as a day case. There were 180 responses (62% response rate). 71% of respondents said they had not been given an opportunity to choose day surgery, and 6% said they would have preferred to stay in hospital for at least one night. The survey also covers waiting times, travel and discharge.

Respite care for the elderly

A survey of client and carer needs

Veronica Cuthbert for Wirral CHC, 55 pages

Questionnaires were sent to carers and those receiving respite care from local NHS trusts and the local social services department. Response rates were 33% for carers and 29% for clients. The questionnaire findings were supplemented by information gathered from representatives of both voluntary and statutory organisations and from a carers' meeting.

An analysis of purchasing intentions of GP fundholders in Merton & Sutton

Merton & Sutton CHC, 6 pages

The information in the "purchasing intentions" documents of GP fundholding practices was evaluated against official guidance. The extent to which they followed the guidance was variable, and often limited. For more information see *CHC News*, Issue 2, August 1996.

Extra contractual referrals (ECRs)

A survey of the policies and problems in London

Greater London Association of CHCs, 10 pages

Questionnaires were sent to Directors of Public Health in all 16 London health authorities. Another questionnaire was sent to the 30 CHCs in London. Response rates were 56% for health authorities and 70% for CHCs. Policies and procedures were very variable across the city. The report includes CHC recommendations for improvement.

Mixed sex wards in Bromley

The patient's perspective

Bromley CHC, 12 pages

A survey of 155 patients. Of the 49 patients on a mixed ward, 21 would have preferred a different arrangement, but only one had requested an alternative.

If you want to obtain a CHC publication, please contact the relevant CHC. See directory for contact details.

Access to health care

Staffordshire Moorlands District

North Staffordshire CHC, 13 pages

Findings of a survey in which 1540 questionnaires were returned from 13 parishes. The findings are presented by topic and by locality.

Local health services: where now?

Report of the views of the public

Bury CHC

Report of a consultation exercise involving six public meetings. The meetings had an open agenda, but participants were asked to express their views on seven key questions about the nature of the NHS.

"The right to breathe fresh air and open a window"

A survey of people who live near Heathrow Airport on their views about their health

Hillingdon CHC, 24 pages

A survey of 802 local residents living in 313 households (response rate 60.5%). Respondents were asked about breathing difficulties and problems caused by noise from the airport and the M4 motorway. For more details see *CHC News*, Issue 2, August 1996.

Your health matters

A survey of the health needs of the people of Brookside, Stirchley and Randlay

Wrekin Health Partnership, of which Shropshire CHC is a founder member, 40 pages

Report of a survey of public attitudes towards and experience of health care provision. Focus group discussions were held with eight different groups of people and interviews were held with representatives of key agencies. A thousand questionnaires were distributed: 245 were returned.

Chiropody services

South West Surrey CHC, 23 pages

Report of a survey which looked at patient satisfaction with services at three clinics and tried to identify areas needing attention or further investigation. Of the 90 questionnaires distributed, 45 were returned.

Outpatient department survey

Victoria Infirmary, Northwich

Cheshire Central CHC, 20 pages

This survey aimed to monitor the function of the outpatient department at Victoria Infirmary in the light of Patient's Charter standards. Of 450 questionnaires given to patients who had been given an appointment 287 were returned (response rate 64%).

"Elephants never forget"

A study of outpatient non-attendance

Aylesbury Vale CHC, 22 pages

This study was carried out in two stages: a "desk survey" of DNAs in England and Wales and an investigation of the situation in Aylesbury Vale. The desk survey aimed: to define terms, to identify the extent of the problem and the reasons for DNAs, to assess the waste of resources and to propose remedies. During 1994/95 DNAs represented 8.8% of all outpatient appointments at Stoke Mandeville Hospital and its clinics – amounting to £869,660 in wasted time and resources.

Hospital at home

Survey of patient and carer satisfaction

Cheshire Central CHC, 9 pages

Report on satisfaction with a pilot Hospital at Home scheme run by Cheshire Community Healthcare Trust. Over the course of a year questionnaires designed for both patients and carers were given out by Hospital at Home staff at the end of a period of care. The response rate was about 40% (46 responses). The scheme was very highly praised.

Pathology department survey

Cheshire Central CHC, 20 pages

Report of a survey to monitor the function of the pathology department at Leighton Hospital from the perspective of patients attending to give blood samples. All patients were invited to respond to a questionnaire. Fewer than 1% declined and 773 questionnaires were returned.

"Changing childbirth": the Hillingdon experience

A survey of Hillingdon's maternity services

Hillingdon CHC, 26 pages

This survey aimed to find out if choices were being offered to women, whether women knew that they had to be given such choices and how women rated local maternity services. Midwives gave women a questionnaire at their first contact after the baby's birth. Of 490 questionnaires distributed, 109 were returned (response rate 22%).

Privacy, dignity and respect

The results of a survey of four outpatient clinics at Doncaster Royal Infirmary

Doncaster CHC, 23 pages

This survey concerned privacy, dignity and respect accorded to patients at the gynaecology, general surgery, trauma and orthopaedic outpatient departments at the Doncaster Royal Infirmary. Questionnaires were returned by 175 patients (53% response rate).

Focus group report

Minden Court, Bentley, Doncaster

Doncaster CHC on behalf of Bentley Health Forum, 8 pages

Report of a focus group discussion to assess the health needs of elderly people living in an elderly person's complex.

Women's experiences of hormone replacement therapy

Wakefield CHC, 20 pages, £1.20

A booklet produced by a group of local women including CHC members and staff. It includes two articles – one on the pros and cons of HRT and one on alternatives to HRT – and extracts from letters received from women nation-wide who want to share their experiences of HRT.

GP charters and information leaflets

Julia Grainger for Bradford CHC, 16 pages

Report of a project to compare information available in GP practices. The project assessed the quality and range of the information given in leaflets, the standard of service offered in charters and the presentation of both charters and leaflets. All GPs in the Bradford area were asked for copies of their charter and practice leaflet. There were replies from 58 of the 87 practices. Results are presented in a table which gives the breakdown of an overall "score" for practices, though the individual practices are not identified.

Continuing health care services in Merton & Sutton

A report on users' and carers' views

Merton & Sutton CHC, 15 pages

In response to a consultation document from the health authority on its policy and eligibility criteria for continuing health care services, Merton & Sutton CHC ran a series of small workshops to discuss the issues. It placed adverts in local papers and invited people with day-to-day experiences of continuing health care needs to attend. The report provides an account of participants' opinions and experiences.

Asking people about mental health services

Views on Bury & Rochdale Health Authorities' strategy for people with severe mental illness

Rochdale and Bury CHCs, 10 pages

Bury and Rochdale CHCs had held a forum in June 1995 which had informed the strategy for people with severe mental illness developed by the Bury and Rochdale Health Authorities. This report is of a second forum held in February 1996. Participants took part in one of six group discussions at which they had an opportunity to comment on the strategy and to discuss how the broad proposals it contained could be translated into effective services.

Changing childbirth

Are maternity services in north Cumbria meeting the 10 indicators of success?

Do changes in maternity service provision reflected by the 10 indicators represent the wishes of north Cumbrian women

East and West Cumbria CHCs, 70 pages

This study sought the views of women through a postal questionnaire. It concludes that improvement is needed to achieve certain indicators and that some indictors require more specific guidance on their interpretation.

Acute mental health services

What are the patients' views of their service?

West Cumbria CHC, 70 pages

A report based on face to face interviews with 10 people who have used the services provided by a local acute psychiatric ward.

"Food ... glorious food?"

The Patient's Charter and catering services – is this standard fare?

West Cumbria CHC, 40 pages

The study aimed to review how well the catering service at West Cumberland Hospital is meeting the Patient's Charter catering standards from the perspectives of patients and catering managers. A postal questionnaire was designed after interviews had been held with catering managers. Of 103 questionnaires sent out, 24 were returned (23% response rate).

What are the benefits of the day hospital service for older people in West Cumbria?

West Cumbria CHC, 60 pages

This study aimed to identify the needs of patients and carers in relation to services at three local day hospitals and to identify the main benefits of the service from a consumer perspective. It concludes that users of the service reported improvements in physical and mental health and carers appreciated the break from looking after often very dependent relatives.

Correction

Southport and Formby CHC was very concerned that the listing for *Priorities for patients* in the June 1996 listings gave the misleading impression that the document was poorly received. This was the unintentional result of focusing on the methodological difficulties posed by the research project and of over-hurried editing. The report is, indeed, impressive.

The CHC wishes to make it clear that the report was very carefully thought out piece of work with a great deal of professional support. It has had a profound influence on local decision making.

Position statement on clinical supervision for nursing and health visiting

United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting, 5 pages

Availability: *UKCC, 23 Portland Place, London W1N 4JT; phone: 0171 637 7181; fax: 0171 436 2924*

This document sets out six "key statements" on clinical supervision, which the UKCC believes should be established in the interests of maintaining and improving standards of care. The UKCC calls on those negotiating health care contracts to take note of the initiative.

Code of best practice for members

United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting, 15 pages

Availability: *UKCC, 23 Portland Place, London W1N 4JT; phone: 0171 637 7181; fax: 0171 436 2924*

A code to assist Council members in carrying out their responsibility to ensure that the functions of the UKCC are effectively discharged in the interests of the public.

Fair shares for rural areas?

An assessment of public resource allocation systems

The Rural Development Commission, 92 pages

Availability: *RDC, 141 Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3TP, £17*

The RDC commissioned an assessment of resource allocation systems for local authority services (through Standard Spending Assessments), NHS Expenditure, capital spending on social housing and for Training and Enterprise Councils. The study sought to assess whether indicators worked to the advantage or disadvantage of rural areas. The study concludes that the costs of delivering services to sparsely populated areas are rarely recognised in allocation systems.

"The Royal College's own case against electric shock treatment in British hospitals"

Issued by Breakthrough, Citizens Commission on Human rights, ECT Anonymous, UK Advocacy Network and Victims of Tranquillisers, 8 pages

Availability: *contact Breakthrough (formerly Patient Power), 5 Trevelyan Place, High Arm Crook, Co. Durham DU5 9UY; phone 01388 676 404*

An angry 8-page campaign booklet against ECT. It gives information on the risks of the practice and calls on all readers to take action to force a public enquiry.

Working for dentistry

British Dental Association policy

British Dental Association, 29 pages

Availability: *BDA, 64 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8AL; phone: 0171 935 0875*

This policy paper is divided into eight chapters on: targets; services organisation; prevention of oral ill health; education quality and standards; ethical issues; improving dentists' working lives; the dental team; and the role of the BDA.

A holistic guide to healthcare for drug users

Hillingdon Drug Services, 8 pages

Availability: *Holistic Guide, Hillingdon Drug Services, Fountains Mill, 31 High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1JR; fax: 01895 232850, 60p*

A guide produced in response to demands from clients and drug workers for more information about herbal remedies for drug users. Gives instructions for making various teas and brief information on the herbs/oils it recommends.

How does the NHS measure up?

Assessing the performance of health authorities

NAHAT, 24 pages

Availability: *NAHAT, Birmingham Research park, Vincent Drive, Birmingham B15 2SQ; phone: 0121 471 4444; fax: 0121 414 1120.*

A report outlining proposals for performance indicators to be included in health authority annual reports. More details given in *CHC News*, Issue 2, August 1996.

User involvement in audit and quality improvement, patient satisfaction and patient focused care

Clinical Audit Information Service, Bibliography Series No 7

Royal College of Nursing & Royal College of Midwives

Availability: *RCN, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1M 0AB; phone: 0171 409 3333; fax: 0171 355 1379.*

A bibliography listing books and journal articles, including abstracts in some cases.

Residents' money

A guide to good practice in care homes

Age Concern, 112 pages

Availability: *Age Concern England, 1268 London road, London SW16 4ER; phone: 0181 679 8000, £6.95*

The guide covers England and Wales. It outlines legal requirements and offers advice to owners, home managers and care workers on good practice, including advice on practical policies that help individuals manage their own money. It also gives details of social security benefits that may be available to residents.

Complementary medicine and the law

Julie Stone and Joan Matthews, 250 pages

Availability: *Oxford University Press, £30 hardback, £12.99 paperback*

This book explores the effect of the law on the practice of complementary medicine. It also challenges the notion that mechanisms which govern orthodox medicine are appropriate for the regulation of most complementary therapies.

Sustaining collaboration between general practitioners and social workers

UK Centre for the Advancement of Interprofessional Education (CAIPE), 50 pages

Availability: *CAIPE, 344 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8BP; phone: 0171 278 1083*

Report of a project which collated the experiences and views of those involved in a selection of local projects which have run during the 1990s to provide joint training for health and social services staff and so promote collaboration between them.

Clinical guidelines: involving patients and service users

Seminar report

Royal College of Nursing, 26 pages

Availability: *RCN, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1M 0AB; phone: 0171 409 3333; fax: 0171 355 1379.*

This report aims to draw together the results of a seminar to develop key guidance points for the collaborative development of national clinical guidelines by patients, service users and health care professionals, and to generate further discussion.

Responding to diversity

A study of commissioning issues and good practice in purchasing minority ethnic health

Office for Public Management, 40 pages

Availability: *OPM, 252b Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8JT.*

This report presents responses from DHA and FHSA managers to a series of questions about the status of minority ethnic health in their commissioning activities and gathers and presents examples of good practice.

The report of the Glidewell Panel

The Asylum and Immigration Bill 1995 and related social security measures

The Glidewell Panel, 85 pages

Availability: *Copies can be obtained through JUSTICE, 59 Carter Lane, London EC4V 5AQ; 0171 329 5100.*

This is the report of an independent enquiry into the implications and effects of the Asylum and Immigration Bill 1995 and related social security measures. Hillingdon CHC submitted evidence for the enquiry through ACHCEW – its evidence is summarised in the report.

NHS handbook 1996/97

NAHAT, 328 pages

Availability: *JMH Publishing, 7 Stafford Road, Cornford Lane, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 4QZ, £36.95 NAHAT members, £39.95 non-members*

For the eleventh edition, the contents of the handbook have been reviewed and amended and some new contributions have been added. The four main themes are: organisation, management and finance; health policy and health services; working with others; and the international perspective.

Community health care nursing

Principles for practice

Edited by Sheila Twinn, Barbara Roberts and Sarah Andrews, 527 pages

Availability: Butterworth Heinemann, £25

This book is aimed at nurses working in the community. It covers the common core of knowledge they need and focuses on the applications of principles to community care.

Health authorities

Organisational standards and criteria

The King's Fund Organisational Audit, 39 pages

Availability: The King's Fund Organisational Audit, 11-13 Cavendish Square, London W1M 0AN.

A manual containing organisational standards for health authorities.

Financing the NHS

A discussion paper

Health Policy and Economic Research Unit, BMA

Availability: HPERU, BMA, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP.

A paper reviewing the future demand for health care and the level of resources, methods of funding the NHS, and how to use resources more effectively. For more details see *CHC News*, Issue 2, August 1996.

How to provide information well

A good practice guide

National Information Forum, 46 pages

Availability: Free of charge from The National Information Forum, Post Point 228, BT Procter House, 100-110 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LD; Fax: 0171 404 3849

A guide offering advice and guidance about: access, meeting the unspoken need; privacy; respect; confidentiality; dealing with troublesome clients and complaints; how and when to refer; how to publicise your service; alternative formats and media.

The provision of services for acute postoperative pain in Scotland

Scottish Office Department of Health, 37 pages

Availability: HMSO, £5.50

The report outlines the role of an acute pain service, which it recommends as the most effective way of ensuring that postoperative pain is properly managed. Particular emphasis is placed on the needs of children. There is a section on managing acute postoperative pain in the community.

Clinical guidelines

Using clinical guidelines to improve patient care in the NHS

NHS Executive, 30 pages

Availability: Health Publications Unit, Two-Ten Communications; phone: 01937 540 250.

Covers the development of clinical guidelines as well as their appraisal and application.

The new funding system for research and development in the NHS

An outline

NHS Executive, 18 pages

Availability: Health Publications Unit, PO Box 410, Wetherby, Yorkshire LS23 7LN

A document outlining the main elements of the new funding system for R&D in the NHS which the NHS Executive plans to introduce over the next two years.

NHS support for non-commercial externally funded research and development

Consultation document

NHS Executive, 52 pages

Availability: Health Publications Unit, PO Box 410, Wetherby, Yorkshire LS23 7LN

Document inviting comments on proposals for the way in which the NHS supports non-commercial R&D funded by external fundholders.

Seeing the wood, sparing the trees

Efficiency Scrutiny into the burdens of paperwork in NHS trusts and health authorities

NHS Executive, full report 62 pages, summary 9 pages

Availability: Phone 0800 555 777

This document contains some potentially important recommendations, for example on the system for Extra Contractual Referrals. One recommendation is that the system of prior authorisation for elective ECRs should be replaced by agreed local protocols. Another – to **"reduce the total number of ECRs"** – strays beyond a scrutiny of paperwork and into issues of clinical decision making.

Priorities and planning guidance for the NHS: 1997/98

NHS Executive, 34 pages

Availability: Phone 0800 555 777

Guidance which aims to provide an overall context for the planning and delivery of health services for the coming year, and to focus the NHS on the most important national priorities.

Mental health review tribunals for England and Wales

Annual report 1995

Mental Health Review Tribunal and Department of Health, 80 pages

Availability: Steve Denford/Jan Farenden, Department of Health, 0171 972 2000

Report providing an overview of mental health review tribunals during 1995. It also includes a discussion about the implications for the tribunal service of the Mental Health (Patients in the Community) Act 1996.

A guide to health services for women

Department of Health, 32 pages

Availability: Free of charge from 0800 555 777.

A booklet outlining the help and services available for conditions which exclusively or mostly affect women.

Well women: today and tomorrow

Health tips for the over 35s

Department of Health, 27 pages

Availability: Phone 0800 555 777

A booklet giving advice on simple steps to feel and stay healthy now and in the future.

National Health Service supplies in England

National Audit Office, 66 pages

Availability: HMSO, £9.85

A report detailing changes made in supplies arrangements in the NHS in England since the NHS Supplies Authority was set up in 1991 and pointing out areas for improvement.

Primary care: the future

Main report, 62 pages; Summary, 7 pages, The debate, 7 pages

NHS Executive

Availability: *Phone 0800 555 777*

A consultation document setting out principles of primary care and presenting views from professionals and the public about seven possible areas for action. For more details see *CHC News*, Issue 2, August 1996.

The NHS performance guide 1995-96

NHS Executive, 264 pages

Availability: *Up to five copies of full tables and 50 of regional summaries from NHS Performance Tables, 100 Victoria, Bristol BS1 6HE.*

Performance tables for hospitals and NHS trusts, health authorities and ambulance services. Separate regional tables have also been published.

Health survey for England 1994

Summary of key findings

Survey by the Joint Health Services Unit of Social and Community Planning Research and the Department of Epidemiology and Pubic health , University College London, on behalf of the Department of Health

Availability: HMSO. *The back cover says "Price" then nothing. Perhaps its free!*

The Health Survey for England is an annual series of surveys of the population living in private households. For the first four years (1991-94) its emphasis has been on cardiovascular disease and related conditions. This booklet presents a selection of findings from the 1994 survey, mainly in the form of graphs.

What the doctor ordered

A study of GP fundholders in England and Wales

Audit Commission, 136 pages

Availability: HMSO, £17

This reports assesses the costs of the GP fundholding and looks at the progress practices are making. One of the conclusions is that although some fundholding practices are well managed and achieve a lot for their patients, most do not do particularly well in either of these areas. It recommends that fundholders should invest in high calibre management within the practice and involve their patients and the local community in decision making.

Fundholding facts

Audit commission, 40 pages

Availability: HMSO, £8

A digest of information about practices within the scheme during the first five years.

The doctors' tale continued

The audits of hospital medical staffing

Audit Commission, 51 pages

Availability: HMSO, £10

Since the publication of *The doctors' tale* in 1995, the Audit Commission has conducted audits in most acute hospitals in England and Wales. This bulletin presents the findings of these audits.

A guide to the work of the Health Service Ombudsman

Office of the Health Service Commissioner for England, 14 pages

Availability: Enquiries to The Office of the Health Service Commissioner for England, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QP; phone: 0171 217 4051; text telephone: 0171 217 4066; fax: 0171 217 4000

A guide directed particularly towards those who provide and those who use family health services.

Report of the Health Service Ombudsman for 1994-95

Third Report of the Select Committee of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration

Extract distributed by NHS Executive (under covering letter EL(96)43)

Availability: This extract has been sent to CHCs

This is the Select Committee's report on the Ombudsman's report. As well as considering general issues, the Select Committee took evidence on some of the more serious cases identified by the Ombudsman.

Health Service Commissioner

Fourth report for session 1995-96

Annual Report for 1995-96

Health Service Commissioner for England, for Scotland and for Wales, 92 pages

Availability: HMSO, £16.30

The main topics investigated by the Ombudsman were: handling complaints; language issues; consent to treatment; delay in A&E departments; supervision of patients at risk and private treatment.

Health related behaviour

An epidemiological overview

Department of Health, 129 pages

Availability: HMSO, £12.95

An overview bringing together information on health related behaviour. It concentrates on behaviour relevant to the five Health of the Nation key areas, giving statistics for England as a whole with summarised data by region.

Questions to answer

Data protection and the EU Directive 95/46/EC

The Data Protection Registrar, 133 pages

Availability: The Data Protection Registrar, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF, Information line: 01625 545745

This document has been prepared to stimulate debate about data protection legislation. It has been triggered by the new EU Data Protection Legislation and is intended to provide background information for those wishing to respond to the Home Office consultation on the issue.

Directory of ethnic minority initiatives

Department of Health, 92 pages

Availability: DoH, PO Box 410, Wetherby LS 23 7LN.

This directory provides information on ethnic minority initiatives under four main headings: Patient's Charter, Health of the Nation, NHS reforms and purchaser development, and Voluntary sector development.

Improving health care referral in Wales

Paper 1: Action summary, 21 pages

Paper 2: Description of the project and detailed comments in support of the recommendations, 37 pages

Paper 3: Literature review, 37 pages

Welsh Office

Availability: *Copies have been sent to Welsh CHCs*

Three elements of the referral process were examined: between primary and secondary health care; within primary health care and between health and non-NHS services. The 40 recommendations concern the referral process itself; service provision; the discharge process; the provision of local information; and interagency working.

Welsh Health Survey 1995

Government Statistical Service for the Welsh Office, 240 pages half Welsh, half English

Availability: £10. *No availability details given in the publication. The Health Information Wales freephone number is 0800 66 55 44.*

Report of a very large survey (28,000 returned questionnaires) on health status, the NHS and other services, lifestyle, carers and first aid. A parallel survey on learning disability received responses from over 2000 people. Full of interesting facts and figures. For more details see *CHC News*, Issue 2, August 1996.

achcew responses to consultations

Mentally disordered offenders sentencing and discharge arrangements
NHS Executive *26/06/96*

Supplies procurement and materials management in NHS trusts
Audit Commission *21/06/96*

A new partnership for care in old age
Department of Health *14/06/96*

A better place to work: retaining staff in NHS trusts
Audit Commission *12/06/96*

Ethics committee review of multi centre research
Department of Health *11/06/96*

Value for money studies - anaesthetic services
Audit Commission *10/6/96*

Accountability checklist
Consumer Congress *29/05/96*

Maternity services liaison committees: guidelines for working effectively
NHS Executive/Changing Childbirth Implementation *28/05/96*

Audit Commission strategy
Audit Commission *02/05/96*

Damages for personal injury: non-pecuniary loss
Law Commission *30/04/96*

Constitution of fitness to practise committees: proposals for change
General Medical Council *29/04/96*

forthcoming events

Black elders mental health:
the next rising tide?

- conference organised by Care Matters
- Tuesday 24 September 1996
- Martineau Education Centre, Birmingham
- £149 statutory/independent sector
- £99 voluntary sector/charity

Further information from:

Care Matters
The Old Vicarage
Market Place, Castle Donington
Derbyshire DE74 7JB
Phone: 01332 810 900
Fax: 01332 810 769
Answerphone: 01332 799 358

Children in crisis

- multi-disciplinary conference to examine our response to the needs of children
- organised by CRITEC (Crisis Training Education Counselling)
- Queen's Hotel, City Square, Leeds
- Thursday 14 November 1996
- £80

Further information from:

Critec Office
A&E Department
Leeds General Infirmary
Leeds LS1 3EX

Structured support for dementia carers
a person-centred approach

- two-day course organised for those who support carers of people with dementia
- organised by the University of Bradford
- Ashfield Building, University of Bradford
- 16-17 September 1996
- £225

Further information from:

Errollyn Bruce on 01274 385 196
or Linda Fox on 01274 383 996

Older and bolder
Involving older people in health and community care

- organised by Labyrinth Training and Consultancy
- Wortley Hall, Near Sheffield
- 16-17 September 1996
- Residential/statutory organisation £225 + £39.37 VAT
- Non-residential/statutory organisation £175 + £30.62 VAT
- Residential/voluntary organisation £140 + £24.50 VAT
- Non-residential/voluntary organisation £110 + £19.25 VAT

Further information from:

Labyrinth Training & Consultancy
7-9 Prince Street, Haworth
West Yorkshire BD22 8LL
Phone: 01535 647 443
Fax: 01535 647 482

King's Fund workshops

Primary care and frail elderly people

- Friday 6 September 1996

Primary care and mental health

- Monday 9 September 1996

Primary care and vulnerable adolescents

- Monday 21 October 1996

Primary care at 3 a.m. – emergency and out-of-hours care

- Friday 25 October 1996

- £100 each

Further information from:

Madeleine Rooke-Ley
King's Fund
0171 307 2677

information wanted

The CHC Regulations require health authorities to provide **reasonable information** to CHCs about the planning and operation of health services. If any CHCs have had problems obtaining such information, or have exercised their right of appeal to the Secretary of State in relation to obtaining "reasonable information", could they please contact ACHCEW.

Do any CHCs with **open cast mining** in their areas have evidence linking open cast mining to health hazards? Martin Haughey, Secretary to Ayrshire & Arran Local Health Council has heard of research conducted at Glynneath in West Glamorgan on the incidence of new asthma episodes. He would welcome any details of this or of research conducted elsewhere. Ayrshire & Arran LHC, 301 Bridgegate House, Irvine, Ayrshire KA12 8BD; phone: 01294 271 541.

Warrington CHC would like to hear from any CHC which has examples of **costs (or no costs) for copies of x-rays** accessed under the Access to Health Records Act 1990.

East Cumbria CHC would like to:

- hear from any CHCs which have produced audio tapes describing the role and work of CHCs;
- see examples of complaints leaflets relating to the new NHS procedure which have been produced by individual CHCs.

The South & West Regional Association of CHCs is looking at ways of identifying and promoting **good practice in CHC/purchaser relations.** The Association would be very interested in hearing from CHCs about any of the following:

- joint activity between purchasers and CHCs
- purchaser-funded CHC projects
- innovative ways of developing CHC/purchaser relationships
- CHC activity leading to significant shifts in purchasers' attitudes to specific issues.

If you have any examples of the above or any ideas or comments on the CHC/purchaser relationship please contact Howard Lawes at Bristol & District CHC.

Liz Powell at Liverpool Central & Southern CHC would like to hear from CHCs which:

- have experience of regular **joint meetings with their Local Medical Committee;**
- are aware of **routine screening of newborn infants for cystic fibrosis** being carried out by their local health authority.

ACHCEW would like to hear from CHCs which:

- have come across **problems with the new NHS complaints procedures.** We are particularly interested in examples of trusts/health authorities refusing to handle complaints on the basis that litigation has been considered, even though it has not be initiated;
- received complaints from members of the public who had problems getting adequate pain relief for **postoperative pain.**

Brenda Currie, Communications Project Worker at Southend CHC is looking for information on **communications strategies.** She would like to know how CHCs pass information:

- among staff,
- from staff to members,
- from members to staff, and
- among members.

She would also like to know if CHCs have tried to formalise the passing of information and whether any methods are notably successful or unsuccessful.

Southampton & South West Hampshire CHC would like to hear from other CHCs which are concerned about the **removal of the mobility component of disability living allowance** for people in hospital. In the CHC's area, members of the disability working group have agreed with the local health trust a client moneys policy that makes use of the mobility allowance for taking patients out. However, the CHC aware of correspondence indicating that the government interpretation of social security regulations means that people with a learning disability living in long-term healthcare establishments will be deemed ineligible for the mobility component of DLA.

information wanted

Southport & Formby CHC would like to know if health authorities in other districts provide an **occupational health department.** If so, is it accessible to the public.

Salford CHC would like to hear from any CHCs which are involved in applications for funding from the **National Lottery or NHS Lotto.**

For our files:

ACHCEW would be grateful if any CHCs sending information to another CHC in response to a request for information could also send a copy to ACHCEW.

Newcastle CHC is planning to visit all of its **community mental health services**, focusing on issues surrounding community mental health teams. Tanya O'Neil, joint Training and Development officer with North Tyneside and Newcastle CHCs, would welcome any information on this topic. Issues seem to centre around access to services, the Care Programme Approach and the effect of the Supervision Register. There appears to be little information about the exact type and level of service offered. The deadline for the CHC preparations for the visits is 1 September. Tanya is based at North Tyneside CHC.

Deadline for next issue: 12 August