

Fewer topics

More detail

Slow Information Update

Summer 2019

This Update looks at recent papers designated practice-changing/worth a read by your peers and gives a more comprehensive overview of findings on these and various other topics of interest.

Where comments or opinions from health professionals and other sources are featured, it is for informative/discussion purposes only and not an endorsement of these opinions.

This issue's contents :

- [Irish Research](#)
- [NIHR](#)
- [Dynamed](#)
- [Aunt Minnie \(Radiology\)](#)
- [Medscape](#)
- [Health issues in the news](#)
- [Best of the blogs](#) (incl EBN, Mental Elf)
- [Research Roundup](#)

Irish reports, research & guidelines

[Final Report on the Enhanced Care Model](#)

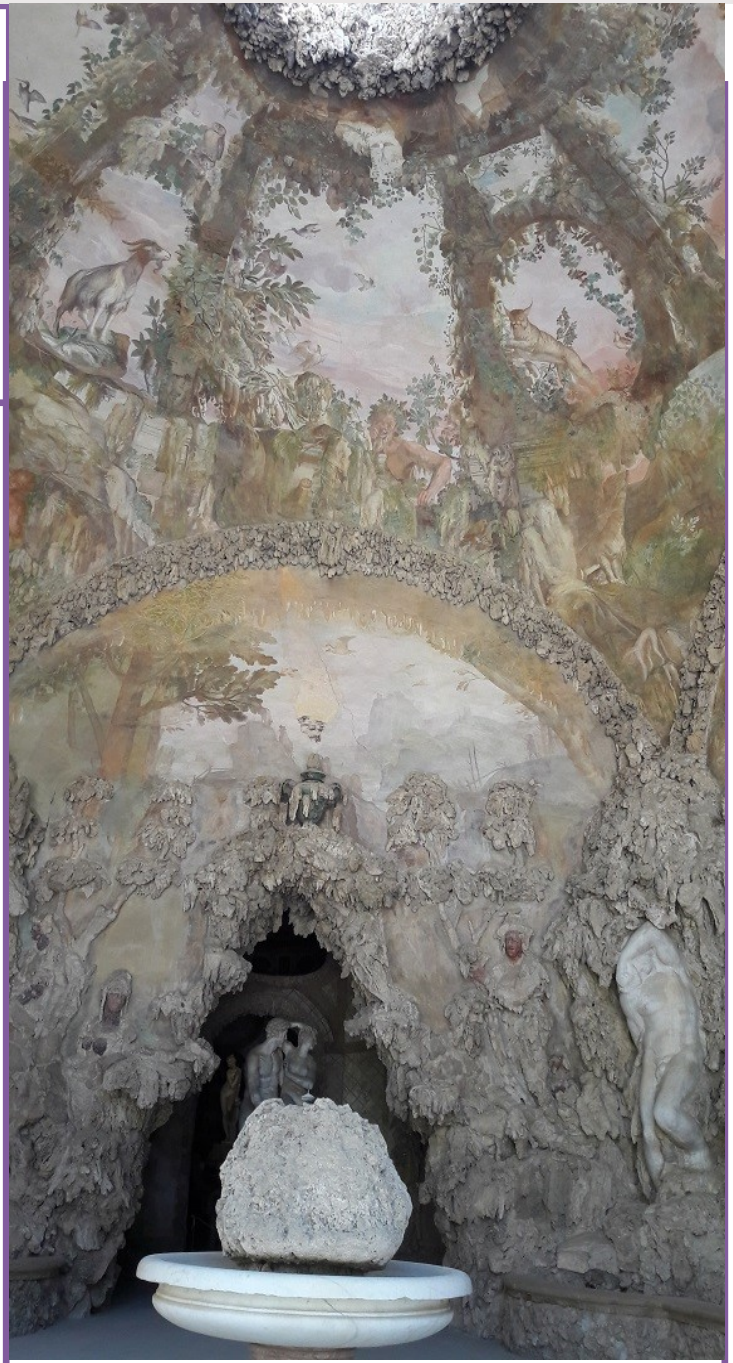
"The Enhanced Care Model was created using the evidence and learning arising from the implementation of the Framework for Safe Nurse Staffing and Skill Mix in General and Specialist Medical and Surgical Care Settings."

Kelly E, Richards JB. [Medical education: giving feedback to doctors in training.](#) BMJ 2019; 366:l4523

O'Neill, J.P., Sexton, D.J., O'Leary, E., O'Kelly, P., Murray, S., Deady, S., Daly, F., Williams, Y., Dean, B., Fitzgerald, C. and Murad, A., [Post-transplant malignancy in solid organ transplant recipients in Ireland The Irish Transplant Cancer Group. Clinical Transplantation](#), p.e13669.

DoH July 2019: [A Policy on the Development of Graduate to Advanced Nursing and Midwifery Practice](#) "This is the first national standardised data tool to help measure and demonstrate the impact of the direct and indirect Advanced Practice Nursing and Midwifery interventions."

NPSO: [National Healthcare Quality Reporting System Reports 2016 – 2019](#)



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NIHR Signals

National quality improvement programmes need time and resources to have an impact

“This NIHR-funded study included a process evaluation showing that the intervention wasn’t fully implemented in all the 93 participating hospitals. There was good engagement from clinical staff with the programme, but busy staff had limited time and resources to implement change.

To be successful, more attention needs to be paid to the practicalities and time required to implement such programmes.”

Steps to better understanding resistant behaviours and the culture of bedside dementia care in hospitals

“In this thought-provoking study of resistance to care among people with dementia, the authors carried out an extensive ethnographic study of people with dementia on acute medical admissions units and trauma and orthopaedic wards.

The particularly striking finding was of how the mobility of people with dementia around the ward is frequently restricted, using strategies such as placing patient trollies in front of the patient’s chair.

This can lead to a cycle of immobility and loss of independence. A change in ward culture is needed, and the authors are developing simple, no-cost interventions to improve the situation.”

Louise Allan, Professor of Geriatric Medicine

New insights into how fatigue affects the lives of people on dialysis

“Feelings of profound and relentless exhaustion while undergoing haemodialysis impact on patients’ ability to lead a normal life. This overwhelming fatigue is different from the immediate symptoms of post-dialysis fatigue observable in a clinical setting and can pervade all aspects of a patient’s life.”

Insights into the transfer between children’s and adults’ services for young people with selected long-term conditions

Transition from paediatric to adult care is a critical stage for young people with long-term conditions such as type 1 diabetes. A positive transition experience can lead to better outcomes in the long-term.

(Elizabeth Robertson, Director of Research, Diabetes UK).

“This study identifies three key features that services need to offer, namely meeting a member of the adult team, having parental involvement and encouraging health self-efficacy. These, combined with better collaboration between services, can help ease the transition for young people. “

Treating asymptomatic MRSA on discharge from hospital reduces risk of later infection

“This is a high-quality study from a well-established group. The use of MRSA suppression for a prolonged period post discharge was effective in reducing MRSA infections in a large cohort.

If delivered effectively there should be a good cost benefit, and surprisingly resistance was not a problem in the outpatient setting.”

Professor Peter Wilson, Consultant Microbiologist, Clinical Microbiology and Virology, UCLH NHS Foundation Trust

Telephone or internet delivered talking therapy can alleviate irritable bowel symptoms

“This NIHR-funded trial involved 558 people with symptoms that were not responding to usual treatment such as medication.

The reductions in symptoms were thought to be clinically important, suggesting that they are worth exploring as a cost-effective and accessible way to help people manage their condition.”

Providing pressurised air through a mask may improve outcomes for people with deteriorating heart failure

“This review evaluated 24 trials of 2,664 adults comparing a group who received air under pressure through a mask, to a group receiving standard medical care. These types of masks are not routinely used for all people with deteriorating heart failure currently. However, this review found that they may be beneficial earlier in the progression of the condition, and this can avoid escalation of care to more invasive ventilation.”

DynaMed

“Expert opinion and low-quality evidence still drive many strong recommendations in cardiology” (This EBM Focus was written by Carina Brown, MD, Faculty Development and Information Mastery Fellow and Clinical Instructor at the University of Virginia.) “This study examined 26 AHA/ACC guidelines and 25 ESC guidelines published from 2008-2018, which together provide over 6,000 recommendation statements from the AHA/ACC, 43.4% receive a Class I (strongest) recommendation, yet only 14.2% of these Class I recommendations were based on level A (high-quality) evidence “ Level A evidence isn’t always available, however “... it appears



that although the literature has grown, guideline authors continue to base many strong recommendations on expert opinion alone.” Source paper is Fanaroff, A.C., Califf, R.M., Windecker, S., Smith, S.C. and Lopes, R.D., 2019. [Levels of evidence supporting American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association and European Society of Cardiology guidelines, 2008-2018.](#) *Jama*, 321(11), p1069-1080.

Pushing the needle: tPA for wake up strokes, or beyond 4.5 hours after ischemic stroke symptom onset, may improve function at 90 days

“This trial suggests that tPA may provide benefit for patients with wake-up strokes or with symptom onset 4.5-9 hours before presentation. As both the WAKE-UP trial and this trial were stopped early, it is difficult to draw absolute conclusions from the data. The tPA group in the WAKE-UP trial had a higher rate of mortality compared to placebo (4.1% vs. 1.2%), but this difference was not statistically significant when the trial was stopped due to loss of funding. Several other caveats are worth noting. Not all institutions have the technology available to quantify salvageable tissue, which affects the generalizability of the results. This trial combined patients with wake up strokes and patients with symptoms 4.5-9 hours after symptom onset and this may obscure where any benefit truly lies.” Source paper: Ma, H., Campbell, B.C., Parsons, M.W., Churilov, L., Levi, C.R., Hsu, C., Kleinig, T.J., Wijeratne, T., Curtze, S., Dewey, H.M. and Miteff, F., 2019. [Thrombolysis guided by perfusion imaging up to 9 hours after onset of stroke.](#) *New England Journal of Medicine*, 380(19), pp.1795-1803. Also the “[Wake-Up](#)” trial.

Once again, MMR vaccination does not increase risk of autism, even among high-risk children

“This large real-world dataset demonstrates that even among children at the highest risk for autism spectrum disorder, MMR vaccination does not increase their risk of developing autism. For parents who are hesitant about vaccinating their child, bringing fresh data to the table and discussing the facts may help temper the emotions in the room. This study adds to robust data demonstrating that MMR vaccination is not associated with autism. While scientists and researchers may wonder why we need yet another publication to further debunk the myth linking MMR vaccination to autism, for some parents, seeing new data may help them move a bit closer to seeing the truth.” Source study: Hviid, A., Hansen, J.V., Frisch, M. and Melbye, M., 2019. [Measles, mumps, rubella vaccination and autism: A nationwide cohort study.](#) *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 170(8), pp.513-520.

Highlighted papers—“most accessed”:

Corl KA, Prodromou M, Merchant RC, et al. [The Restrictive IV Fluid Trial in Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock \(RIFTS\): A Randomized Pilot Study.](#) *Crit Care Med*. 2019 Jul;47(7):951-959. doi: 10.1097/CCM.0000000000003779

Machmutow K, Meister R, Jansen A, et al. [Comparative effectiveness of continuation and maintenance treatments for persistent depressive disorder in adults.](#) *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2019 May 20;5:CD012855. doi: 10.1002/14651858.CD012855.pub2.

Aunt Minnie highlights

GBCA-enhanced MRI does not influence MS progression By Wayne Forrest, AuntMinnie.com staff writer. July 11, 2019 -- "Researchers found evidence of gadolinium accumulation in the brains of multiple sclerosis (MS) patients after MRI scans using a gadolinium-based contrast agent (GBCA), but the patients' conditions did not worsen by the five-year follow-up in a new study, [published online July 5 in Neurology](#). The group did note, however, one caveat to the findings. While the team found no discernible clinical outcome, patients who received more than eight GBCA doses had more brain lesions and more advanced atrophy of gray matter, compared with MS patients who had fewer than eight doses. Therefore, Zivadinov and colleagues could not definitively rule out that gadolinium deposition may have an adverse effect on disease progression or clinical outcome."

Could a metabolic test revamp CT lung cancer screening? By Abraham Kim, [AuntMinnie.com](#) staff writer: July 18, 2019 -- "A low-cost metabolic test that uses MR spectroscopy to analyze blood and tissue samples may complement the early detection of lung cancer and help clinicians identify individuals who would benefit most from CT lung screening, according to an article published online July 16 in [Scientific Reports](#)."

Also by Abraham Kim: July 18, 2019 -- "[Integrating 3D printing technology into presurgical planning for hip joint fracture repair can significantly reduce operating times and blood loss, compared with conventional methods](#), according to an article published online July 9 in [Orthopaedics and Traumatology: Surgery and Research](#)." "3D printing technology is a highly clinically relevant technology, especially in the treatment of complex acetabular fractures," they wrote. "A patient-specific precontoured plate can indeed reduce the operative time and blood loss to improve the accuracy and preciseness of surgical implant preparation in a real sense."

PET, MRI show physical activity aids brain health By Wayne Forrest, AuntMinnie.com staff writer. July 17, 2019 -- "PET and MR images show that older adults who are physically active have significantly less beta-amyloid accumulation and gray matter volume loss, which results in more stable cognitive skills, according to a study published online July 16 in [JAMA Neurology](#). The researchers also found that regular activity superseded the negative effects of vascular risk factors, such as hypertension, obesity, diabetes, and smoking, in preventing neurodegeneration and the potential onset of dementia."

[Low-field MRI ensures safe scans with implanted devices](#)

By Wayne Forrest, AuntMinnie.com staff writer. July 12, 2019 -- "How low can clinicians go with MRI magnet strength to ensure the safety of patients with implanted cardiac rhythm management (CRM) devices and maintain diagnostic-quality images? The answer is 0.2 tesla, according to an Austrian study published July 4 in the [European Journal of Radiology](#)."

"While low-field MRI scanners with a magnetic strength of less than 0.5 tesla have proved safe for patients with pacemakers, research is sorely lacking on the safety of patients with ICDs, especially if the devices are not MR conditional, the authors noted.

To fill this research void, Schukro and Puchner looked at four years of routine 0.2-tesla MRI scans (Magnetom Concerto, Siemens Healthineers) on 338 consecutive patients (mean age, 76.1 ± 9.2 years; range, 19-98 years)... "Except for one scan, which was interrupted due to nausea, all 446 MR images were of "good quality and could be interpreted efficiently by the responsible radiologist," the researchers concluded."

The science behind the "young people growing horns" story: [BBC: X-rays show signs of young adults growing 'horns'](#)

By Brian Casey, AuntMinnie.com staff writer. June 21, 2019 - "The internet exploded this week after the [BBC published an article](#) that used x-ray images to back claims that young adults who used smartphones extensively were growing bony protuberances -- basically, horns -- on their skulls. This was based on a [study by Shahar & Sayers](#) in "Scientific Reports". Not everyone was disturbed by this--according to "DoctorDalai" "*It's called an "Inion" and we've all seen many of them, even before cellphones were a thing.*"



Medscape

The following papers were discussed by Medscape contributors, or highlighted as potentially affecting current practices. You will need to sign up to [Medscape](#) (free) to access the Medscape commentaries.

Laird Harrison May 2019: "[Timing of Colorectal Cancer Screening Disputed](#)". "SAN DIEGO — A recommendation to lower the age of colorectal cancer screening to 45 years in adults at average risk, issued by the American Cancer Society (ACS) last year, could result in a waste of healthcare resources, specialists warn. Robert Schoen, MD, from the University of Pittsburgh: "Even though the incidence of the cancer is increasing in people younger than 50 years, the addition of this new 5-year cohort of people would absorb so many resources it, could "crowd out" older people who need it more," he explained. See also Evans I, Thornton H, Chalmers I and Glasziou P (2011). Testing Treatments, 2nd Edition; London: Pinter and Martin. - see "Earlier is not necessarily better." Ch 4. PDF of book available to download [here](#)."

[Meta-analysis Confirms Late Thrombolysis Benefits in Stroke](#) Sue Hughes May 22, 2019. "Further results have confirmed the benefit of thrombolysis up to 9 hours after onset of ischemic stroke, or in cases of wake-up stroke, for selected patients with potentially salvageable brain tissue, as identified by mismatch on CT perfusion imaging.... The current report is a [meta-analysis of the EXTEND trial with two previous trials \(ECASS4-EXTEND and EPITHET\)](#) that evaluated a similar strategy but showed nonsignificant results. The meta-analysis showed significant positive results for all outcomes evaluated — excellent outcome (mRS 0–1), good outcome (mRS 0–2), and mRS shift analysis."

[Venous Thromboembolism Clinical Practice Guidelines \(2019\)](#) American Society of Hematology

This is a quick summary of the guidelines without analysis or commentary. For more information, go directly to the guidelines by clicking [the link in the reference](#). June 05, 2019

"D-dimer testing alone should not be used to rule in or diagnose a PE, and a positive D-dimer alone should not be used to diagnose DVT."

Nutrition in Chronic Kidney Disease: Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation Notable Advances in 2018 (Available from journal site [here](#)). "Prescription of a restrictive diet in dialysis patients is no longer the best option when we consider new data, new technologies and medication. The nutritional approach to long-term transplanted patients is also changing. In 2008, Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation (NDT) published reviews and clinical studies recommending better nutritional care for CKD patients."

Identifying Patients' Support Needs Following Critical Illness: A Scoping Review of the Qualitative Literature ([Journal link here](#))

"Conclusions: This review is the first to identify the change in social support needs among intensive care survivors as they transition from intensive care to the home environment. An understanding of needs at different transition periods would help inform health service provision and support for survivors."

[Researchers Try to Make ICU Less Traumatic for Patients, Families](#) By Linda Carroll, July 17, 2019
"(Reuters Health) - Intensive care units (ICUs) can be extremely stressful for patients and families. Changes in the way ICUs are run may help mitigate that stress, two new studies suggest." Both studies were published in JAMA looking at "[Psychological Consequences of Admission to the ICU Helping Patients and Families](#)" and can be accessed [here \(longer visiting hours\)](#) and [here \(keeping an ICU diary\)](#)

[Surgical Safety Checklist Reduces Post-Op Deaths](#). Diana Swift, June 28, 2019

"Implementation of the World Health Organization (WHO) Surgical Safety Checklist at surgical centers in England led to a 37.2% relative reduction (from 1.21 to 0.76) in inpatient postoperative mortality during the years after implementation, [a study](#) has found."

[The Genetics of Anorexia: A Disorder of Metabolism?](#) F. Perry Wilson, MD, MSCE, July 16, 2019 (Video commentary)

"This is *genetic* information. This says that individuals who are born predisposed to anorexia are also *born* predisposed to being constitutionally thin. This runs counter to the prevailing wisdom of the etiology of the disease...As the genetics of anorexia become more clear, the hope is that new therapies—perhaps targeting the nonpsychiatric components—will emerge."

[Dropping Aspirin After PCI: New Studies Published](#) Sue Hughes, July 01, 2019

"Two new Asian studies ([STOPDAPT-2](#), [SMART-CHOICE](#)) have shown that short durations of dual antiplatelet therapy (DAPT) followed by longer treatment with P2Y12 inhibitor monotherapy alone may be a safe and effective regimen for patients undergoing percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) with second-generation drug-eluting stents."

Health Issues in the news

'Music medicine' can help calm nerves - research (RTE1, Updated / Friday, 19 Jul 2019 08:36)

"The drug midazolam is sometimes prescribed as a sedative for patients undergoing a range of procedures. But a [clinical trial in the US](#) found that music may be just as good at calming nerves."

"18 July 2019. **[Around one in 20 patients are affected by preventable harm](#)**" (University of Manchester news blog) Based on the article: [Prevalence, severity, and nature of preventable patient harm across medical care settings: systematic review and meta-analysis](#). BMJ 2019;366:l4185. As expected from the U of M, their portrayal of findings is correct: "Around one in 20 (6%) of patients are affected by preventable harm in medical care a new led by researchers at The University of Manchester has found. The study, published by The BMJ today, also found around 12% of those cases cause permanent disability or death."

05 July 2019. **[Surgery restores arm function in some paralysed patients](#)** (RTE Health News) Once again, accurate reporting—based on: van Zyl, N., Hill, B., Cooper, C., Hahn, J. and Galea, M.P., 2019. [Expanding traditional tendon-based techniques with nerve transfers for the restoration of upper limb function in tetraplegia: a prospective case series](#). The Lancet. However, it was a small trial and "(w)hether function and strength in muscles reanimated by nerve transfer continues to improve beyond 24 months remains to be shown."

[Up to 25 cups of coffee a day still safe for heart health](#)," study says. By Amy Woodyatt, CNN Updated 1534 GMT (2334 HKT) June 3, 2019

"CNN quoted one of the researchers:

*"The main message for people to take away from this is that coffee can be enjoyed as part of a healthy lifestyle, and coffee lovers can be reassured by this result **in terms of blood vessel stiffness outcomes**. (emphasis added). Note that they didn't report fewer heart attacks or fewer cases of heart disease. "In terms of blood vessel stiffness" was the endpoint. A surrogate endpoint, which, as our helpful primer points out, often doesn't tell the whole story."*

[Doctors should prescribe statins to patients at a younger age to slash their odds of heart disease in later life, a study suggests.](#)" reports The Sun.

[Researchers in the US](#) modelled the risk factors of 36,030 people who took part in 6 long-running studies. They estimated the effects of high cholesterol and high blood pressure in young adulthood (from the age of 18 to 39) on people's risk of heart attack, stroke or heart failure in later adulthood. ... This does not mean that everyone necessarily needs to be attending health checks or needs to be on statins at a young age to reduce their cardiovascular risk."

[Does more leg fat protect women against heart attack and stroke?](#) BBC News, Tuesday 2 July 2019

[Researchers looked at the body composition of 2,683 women in the US](#) who were a healthy weight and had been through the menopause. They found women who had a higher percentage of fat around their trunk were more likely to have a heart attack or stroke than women who had more fat on their legs, but less around their upper body. Because of the nature of the study, we cannot be sure that body fat distribution directly caused the differences in risk of having a heart attack and stroke.

[Women exposed to a 'gender-bending' chemical found in some anti-bacterial soaps and tooth-](#)

[pastes 'are more likely to break their bones'](#) (The Mail Online, 25th June 2019)

Chinese researchers used **[data from US surveys](#)** to look for a link between levels of the chemical triclosan in the body and bone strength (bone mass density). ... If you're at risk of osteoporosis, you might choose to avoid products that contain triclosan. But this study does not provide particularly strong evidence to make any changes to the products you choose. (From NHS **[Behind the Headlines, 26th June 2019](#)**)



Blogs & other sources

From the **Rare and Genetic Diseases** blog, a look at diagnosis and treatment of these rare conditions:

[Typical Physical Features Across All SubTypes of Mucopolysaccharidoses \(MPSs\)](#)

“Heather A. Lau, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Neurology; Associate Director, Division of Neurogenetics; Director, Lysosomal Storage Disease Program at NYU Langone Health, discusses some of the typical patient features across all subtypes of mucopolysaccharidoses (MPSs), a group of rare, inherited lysosomal storage disorders that are clinically characterized by abnormalities in multiple organ systems and reduced life expectancy.”

[Tenosynovial Giant Cell Tumor \(TGCT\)](#)

Tenosynovial giant cell tumor (TGCT) is a non-malignant tumor involving the joint synovium, bursae, and tendon sheath. These rare tumors are sometimes referred to as giant cell tumor of the tendon sheath (GCT-TS) and/or pigmented villonodular synovitis (PVNS).”

From the **Alberta College of Family Physicians**, “Tools for Practice” collection:

Clinical Question: [In Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease \(COPD\) patients on Long-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist \(LAMA\) and Long-Acting Beta-Agonist \(LABA\) dual therapy, does adding inhaled corticosteroids \(ICS\) improve outcomes?](#) *Bottom Line: In COPD patients with ≥ 1 exacerbation per year, triple therapy reduces the risk of future exacerbations compared to LAMA/LABA dual therapy (one less in 36 patients/year) but increases the risk of pneumonia (one more in 34 patients/year) and costs. It is possible that higher blood eosinophil counts ($>150-300$ cells/ μL) may help target adding ICS.*

Clinical Question: [How do biosimilar medications compare to their corresponding originator biologic medications in treating patients with conditions like rheumatoid arthritis or inflammatory bowel disease?](#) *Bottom Line: For patients with rheumatoid arthritis, other inflammatory arthropathies, or inflammatory bowel disease, biosimilars and biologics have similar clinical outcomes and adverse events. Given the cost differences, starting patients with or switching to biosimilars should be encouraged.*

From **The Mental Elf**:

[Intranasal esketamine for treatment-resistant depression: the first clinical study](#)

“Spravato is the first antidepressant to show a decrease in depressive symptoms after just 7 days. It is the first N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) antagonist approved for depression. And, it is the first antidepressant with a novel mechanism of action since Prozac was approved in 1986.”

[Life after leaving hospital: when does a duty of care end?](#)

“The paper that’s the focus of this blog (Walter et al, 2019) describes the likelihood of certain adverse experiences for people in the years after they were discharged from inpatient psychiatric care. While previous research has addressed similar aims, few covered so many different aspects of life, with such a large sample, over so many years.”

From the **Evidence-Based Nursing** blog:

[Nurses must be aware of the potential for causing distress when recruiting vulnerable populations to research projects](#) (Commentary on: Alexander S, Pillay R, Smith B. [A systematic review of the experiences of vulnerable people participating in research on sensitive topic](#). Int J Nurs Stud 2018;88:85–96.)

Implications for practice and research:

- Nurses can confidently recommend a research study to patients from vulnerable populations because the overall impact on their well-being is generally modest and most patients with research-induced distress are still glad they participated.

- Vulnerable patients value their role as research participants and, even if there is some distress caused by participating, most patients still feel their participation is worth it.

[First-career and second-career nurses’ experiences of stress, presenteeism and burn-out during transition to practice](#) (Commentary on: Rainbow JG, Steege LM. [Transition to practice experiences of first and second career nurses: a mixed method study](#). J Clin Nurs 2018;00:1-12.)

Implications for practice and research

- First-career and second-career nurses face stressors, presenteeism and burn-out during transition to nursing practice.

- The nursing working environment is filled with different stressors and coping strategies that should be paid attention to in the development of transition to practice programmes.

Research roundup

[New preprint server allows earlier sharing of research methods and findings](#)

(Published 06 June 2019) BMJ 2019;365:l4110

“A new free online service for archiving and distribution of research article preprints in the medical and health sciences has been announced.

Called medRxiv (pronounced “med-archive”), the preprint server (medRxiv.org) is being launched by The BMJ, Yale University, and Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, a private, non-profit research institution in Long Island, New York. It is expected to begin accepting manuscripts on 6 June and will be overseen by the three organisations”

The most downloaded paper in 2018 from the Psychiatric Bulletin was: Moncrieff, J., 2018. [Against the stream: Antidepressants are not antidepressants—an alternative approach to drug action and implications for the use of antidepressants.](#) *BJPsych bulletin*, 42(1), pp.42-44. This is from the series which “... tackle(s) controversial issues of relevance to psychiatrists and mental health professionals. The position taken by the authors will be contrary to received wisdom on the subjects, hence the title of the series – *Against the stream.*”

Researcher Paul Pharaoh in: “[Interpreting the results of two non-inferiority trials](#)” explores non-inferiority margins and interpretation of clinical trials. “*The trials were addressing the same clinical question and reported almost identical hazard ratios for the primary outcome. Despite the similar results the conclusions in terms of the implications for clinical practice were the opposite.*”

Ward, M. et al, 2019. [The co-design, implementation and evaluation of a serious board game ‘PlayDecide patient safety’ to educate junior doctors about patient safety and the importance of reporting safety concerns.](#) *BMC medical education*, 19(1), p.232.

[Towards a Model of Integrated Person-centred Care Findings from the Public Consultation on Geographic Alignment of Hospital Groups and Community Healthcare Organisations](#) (DoH, 2019)

[Impact of time to surgery in upper femoral fracture in orthogeriatrics.](#)

“Time to surgery” frequently appears in recent literature. “*Time to surgery seems to be an important factor in the care pathway, but remains controversial. Conclusion: Within a dedicated orthogeriatric department, time to surgery is a significant factor in the management of hip fractures in the elderly. Patients should be prioritized for theater and ideally receive “early” surgery within 24 hours of admission to A&E. The potential benefit of “ultra-early” surgery (time to surgery < 6 hours) requires robust assessment.*”

The [Wellcome Global Monitor 2018](#) is now available and provides important insights into attitudes to science and health.

