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 have been over 5000 links of interest since June 2015 – 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 crowdfund sourcing to fund 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 King’s Fund has published its quarterly report to July 2015.

“A continuation of limited growth in national funding, increased demand, rising costs, real price cuts and the prospect of large cash transfers to the Better Care Fund make 2015/16 the most difficult year for the NHS this century. With 114 providers ending 2014/15 in deficit and with a net overspend of more than £800 million, our survey suggests that 66 per cent of all provider organisations are forecasting a deficit this year – with an unprecedented 89 per cent of acute trusts expecting to overspend. Estimates by NHS Providers indicate that overspending by all trusts could amount to more than £2 billion by April 2016”.

(ii) The number of amputations carried out due to diabetes has reached an all-time high of 135 a week. Diabetes UK has calculated the figure using new Public Health England data, which show the annual number of diabetes-related amputations in England is now more than 7,000 compared to the previous 6,677, equating to seven more amputations each week. The charity believes that up to 80% of these amputations can be avoided if people with diabetes were given the necessary care. (Independent article).
(iii) Jeremy Hunt has delivered an important speech on 16 July 2015 outlining future NHS vision:

“...But alongside a plan, we need a vision. That vision encompasses many things: the move from a narrow focus on access targets to a broader vision of what high quality care entails; the change from disjointed episodic care to holistic integrated care; the move to prevention not cure with a much bigger focus on public health and more personal responsibility for our well-being’.

The vision includes 7 day working and patient power 2.0...

“...if we are to embrace the potential for technology to shift power to patients, we need patients to be willing and able to harness that technology. Digital inclusion is as vital in healthcare as everywhere else - not least because some of the greatest impacts of new technology in health is with the most vulnerable patients. I have therefore asked Martha Lane-Fox to develop some practical proposals for the NHS National Information Board before the end of the year as to how we can increase take-up of new digital innovations in health by those who will benefit from them the most”.

Links:
Health Secretary sets out ambition for a 21st century NHS
Making healthcare more human-centred and not system-centred
Jeremy Hunt heralds NHS 'Reformation' as he heads for showdown with doctors

(iv) ‘Finally, the NHS goes digital. Or does it?’ – BMJ subscription article.

(v) New report from the International Longevity Centre - Opportunity Knocks: Designing Solutions for an Ageing Society'.

(vi) Nesta is launching a major new initiative - Health Lab - to create a people powered health system.

(vii) techUK has launched its Interoperability Charter, which sets out key principles for the IT industry, NHS and Local Government to commit to, in order to enable the change needed to deliver better integrated health and social care.

(viii) More than £150,000 will be awarded to new ideas to address England’s biggest healthcare challenges in the first wave of this year’s NHS Innovation Challenge Prizes.

(ix) In development: The World’s First Tablet for Blind People – Big Think article.

(x) From the U.S.: Uber Cofounder's 'Uber For Healthcare' Startup Raises $14 Million (Forbes article).

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