



ASSOCIATION FOR CONTINENCE ADVICE

ContinenceMatters

Driving Excellence in Bladder and Bowel Care

In this edition:

**NEW RESEARCH ON
MEATAL CLEANSING
WITH CHLORHEXIDINE**

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CONTINENCE CARE
AWARD

LAUNCH OF
CHILDREN'S CONTINENCE
COMMISSIONING GUIDE

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Launch of Children's Continence Commissioning Guide



The Paediatric Continence Forum, a multi-disciplinary national campaign group, has updated and re-published its Commissioning Guide for NHS community children's continence services. This 2019 Guide gives commissioners and clinicians running services a comprehensive account of how a service should be set up and managed, with clear service outcomes and indicators to help measure service delivery. Based upon the most up-to-date research, it also gives the reader helpful links to a range of other resources.

The Guide's lead author is Davina Richardson, Children's Nurse Specialist, Bladder & Bowel UK, and the update was overseen by a sixteen strong Guide Development Group where I was the editor.

Do please make your commissioners aware of the Guide. The PCF is happy to answer any questions or feedback that you may have.

I know that many of you running and working for community paediatric continence services at Level/Tiers 1 and 2 have been under pressure for some years. The PCF's 2017 Freedom of Information survey of Clinical Commissioning Groups and Health Boards across the UK found that only 41% provided a service that covered all continence conditions; this was a small (3%) increase from a similar survey three years earlier. The good news was that 64% knew about the Commissioning Guide (2014 edition) and 50% were using it in the development of their services.

It is also good to hear of services that have improved – the PCF has begun to highlight these on its website as a way to help others who might still be struggling (we now have case studies from West Sussex, London's Waltham Forest

and Bedfordshire). We also know that services in Northern Ireland, with the advice and support of PCF member organisation, Bladder & Bowel UK, now run proper integrated services. With advice from the PCF, the Isle of Man is planning to recruit a lead paediatric nurse specialist to strengthen and reform paediatric continence services on the Island. There are many more examples where the Commissioning Guide is being used to good effect.

What additionally is the PCF doing to help? We have distributed the Guide to all Chief Executives of CCGs and Health Boards, Directors of Children's Services in Local Authorities, MPs and Peers, and the relative press. We have also made NHS England aware of the Guide and reinforced its role as part of the NHS Long Term Plan, as well as contributing to NHSE's new National Bladder and Bowel Health Project.

On the political front, the PCF continues to identify areas of poor commissioning, approaching the relevant MPs from the constituencies concerned and asking for meetings. We will also continue to ask MPs to table Parliamentary Questions and Early Day Motions (EDMs). A recent EDM, which received the support of 17 MPs, expressed concern about young people taking time off school or struggling to concentrate in class due to bladder or bowel problems; limited access to school toilets; and toilet avoidance on students' basic health, wellbeing and dignity. It called for a review of policy and practice, as well as the provision of updated guidance for schools.

There is of course much more to do to improve services in this often neglected area of child health. You can become involved by enrolling as a PCF Clinical Supporter. PCF Supporters receive two updates a year and have the opportunity to share your successes as well as raise issues of concern. If you would like to become a Supporter, do email Laura at the PCF's Secretariat, The Whitehouse Consultancy: laura.mccarthy@whitehouseconsulting.co.uk.

Dr Penny Dobson MBE
Paediatric Continence Forum (PCF) Chair
www.paediatriccontinenceforum.org

NHS
Bristol Urological Institute

37TH BASIC URODYNAMICS COURSE

18 & 19TH March 2020

Watershed, Canon's Road, Harbourside, Bristol BS1 5TX

The Basic Urodynamics Course is a 2-day course held once a year. The first day covers the theory of urodynamics and the second day is "hands on" with urodynamic equipment and the urodynamic staff.

Intended delegates: doctors, nurses, technicians and/or anyone allied to urodynamics who have little or no urodynamic experience.

Learning Points:

- appreciation of the philosophy behind urodynamic studies (UDS) as part of patient investigation
- basic knowledge of the principles behind the measurement of urine flow and pressure
- basic knowledge of the techniques of flow and pressure measurement
- ability to interpret straightforward urodynamic traces
- appreciation of the artefacts seen during UDS
- basic ability to operate urodynamic equipment

Course Director:
 Professor Paul Abrams

Fee £435 (excl. accom)

** 40 delegates
 maximum**

For more information contact:

Kirsten Klevmark
 T: 07881 588677
 E: kklevmark@btinternet.com
 Karen Evely
 T: 0117 4147942
 E: karen.evely@bui.ac.uk

More course information and an online registration form available at
www.bui.ac.uk