



Monthly eBulletin: March 2010 Issue 6

Here is our latest network e-bulletin, highlighting issues of interest around positive sexual wellbeing.

If you have anything you wish to include in the next bulletin, just fill out our form (create link to form) and email it to the WISH team (wish@health.scot.nhs.uk) by **Friday 16 April 2010**.

The network
for everyone
in Scotland
with an interest
in sexual health
and wellbeing

- [News of interest](#)
- [Campaigns](#)
- [Call for information](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Training and events](#)
- [In memory of Myra Menzies](#)

News of interest

WISH National Conference

(to be held October 2010)

Planning for the WISH 2010 conference is now underway and we are looking for representatives from around the country (from health, local authority and the voluntary sector) to be part of a planning committee.

Tasks will include attending around four pre-event meetings and helping out on the day. If you would be interested in joining the committee please contact natasha.mcinninie@health.scot.nhs.uk.

Mystery Shopper Report 2009 – Service access to Genitourinary Medicine

(published: Tuesday 23 February 2010)

The third mystery shopper [report about service access in genitourinary medicine \(GUM\) clinics for individuals with symptoms suggestive of an acute sexually transmitted infections](#) (STI), can be found on the Sexual Health pages of the ISD website. The publication reports on the results from the 2009 study.

Record HIV cases

The number of patients attending Scotland's HIV clinics over the past year is set to exceed 3,000 for the first time. And Scotland's leading HIV charity says that this will continue to rise with over 400 new cases being diagnosed annually.

For more information email roy.kilpatrick@hivscotland.com, or visit HIV Scotland – the independent voice for HIV in Scotland, <http://www.hivscotland.com>.

- [Download the Scottish Government's Action Plan for HIV, 2009-2014 \(PDF\)](#).

awaredressers Nottingham

This is a [scheme to provide condoms and sexual health advice in local barbershops](#). Project lead Vanessa McFarlane, a Health Promotion Specialist in Black and Minority Ethnic Sexual Health, explains how engaging young men in an environment where they socialise and already talk openly about sex is helping to tackle rising STI and pregnancy rates. The scheme has been running since 2002 and has received excellent feedback.

Bursaries for sexual health initiatives

(deadline: Friday 4 June 2010)

Durex is making four £2,500 bursaries available to schemes that will make a real difference to sexual health. In addition to the bursary, winners will be invited to a workshop conducted by Brook and FPA in London in July, which will help successful applicants to put their ideas into practice.

- [Find more information and online application for the Durex bursary](#).



Condom TV ads get prime-time all-clear

(published: Wednesday 17 March)

[Advertising regulators have confirmed there are to be less stringent rules governing condom ads on prime-time television](#). A change in the advertising code allowing the contraceptive to be advertised before the 9pm watershed was included as part of efforts to cut Britain's high rate of teenage pregnancy.

Teenage pregnancy strategy: Beyond 2010

(deadline: consultation closes Thursday 20 May)

The [Department for Children, Schools and Families has launched a consultation into the next stage of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy](#). This aims to find ways to half the under-18 conception rate. Contributions are welcomed from as wide a range as possible, so as to ensure young people are given the knowledge and skills to have sex only when they are ready.

A separate consultation with young people and parents will be starting next month through Brook and Parentline Plus.

Campaigns

'End Prostitution Now' campaign

Glasgow Community & Safety Services' [new campaign "End Prostitution Now" challenges the public's perception of prostitution](#) and dispels many of the myths surrounding the experience both of the individuals involved in prostitution and of the purchasers of sex.

Call for information

Looking for info on effective interventions with vulnerable young people

(deadline: Monday 10 April)

NHS Tayside are currently reviewing sex and relationship education for vulnerable young people across Tayside and would like to map out what effective interventions there are across Scotland with vulnerable young people.

The specific client groups include:

- young people excluded from school
- looked after children
- young offenders and young people in secure accommodation
- homeless young people
- young people with physical and learning disabilities
- young people from the Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities.

Could you please forward on any information about what local interventions/services you commission to Richard McIntosh, Senior Specialist Blood Borne Viruses & Sexual Health, NHS Tayside (rmcintosh@nhs.net)?

Resources

NHS Open Road – updated website

[NHS Open Road](#), Greater Glasgow & Clyde's service for males involved in prostitution, has produced revised materials and an updated website to support their relocation to premises at the Glasgow Drug Crisis Centre.



New multi-lingual DVD guide to health services in Scotland

This ['how to use the NHS' DVD](#) provides clear information about the main health services based in the community, and how to use them. The DVD has a soundtrack in 17 languages, including English and British Sign Language.

It has been produced for the NHS in Scotland by Health Rights Information Scotland, with funding from the Scottish Government and is aimed at anyone who needs information about how to use the NHS in a simple accessible format.

It will be particularly useful for people who are new to Scotland, for people whose first language is not English and for those with low literacy.

All the videos in all the languages which can be downloaded from the website. The DVD can also be ordered by phoning the NHS on 0800 22 44 88.

Brook's new and improved website

[Brook has a brand new website for professionals and young people.](#)

You'll find an online shop in the professionals section where you can buy resources from the Brook 2010 catalogue, including:

- the colourful, pocket-sized 'ask brook about...' resources about 'sex and alcohol' and 'sexually transmitted infections', aimed at young people aged 14+
- a teaching resource – 'Drunk in charge of a body II' which enables professionals to demonstrate the link between sexual health and the effects of alcohol, price £30.

Training and events

How best can we all tackle sexual health?

(Thursday 13 May 2010; Royal Commonwealth Society, London)

This event will look at physical, emotional, mental and social well-being related to sexuality; reducing personal, societal and economic costs; all ages, both genders, all sexualities. [View the full programme, speaker biographies, venue information and booking details.](#)

Issues covered include:

- how best should we address the key importance of tackling sexual health and education at an early age?
- how should we tackle issues of growing unprotected sex and STIs in middle and older ages?
- how best can we tackle the needs of high-risk individuals in the prison system?
- where can we hope to be in ten years time?

14th Summer Institute on Sexuality, Culture, and Society

(Saturday 11 July - Friday 6 August, 2010; Graduate School of Social Sciences at the University of Amsterdam)

(deadline for application: Saturday 1 May 2010)

This four-week summer programme focuses on the study of sexuality across cultures and is suitable for advanced students, primarily PhD and MA students in the socio-cultural sciences and professionals working for NGOs.

Courses include:

- young sexualities
- the cultural production of sexuality and
- the HIV/AIDS epidemic contextualized.

Topics include: sexwork, the city as former gay capital, adolescent sexuality and the campaigns for safe sex. Site visits will be included, including the Prostitution Information Centre.

All classes are in English and tuition fees range between €2300 - €2700. Lunch is included. Application fee is €50. Travel and accommodation are not included. For more information e-mail summerinstitute-ishss@uva.nl or visit <http://www.gsss.uva.nl/summerprogrammes>.

Terrence Higgins Trust (THT) Firewalk

(Friday 16 April 2010; 6.30pm; Colpy near Oldmeldrum)

Walk across coals and raise funds for Terrence Higgins Trust Scotland. The event has been organised by THT and is supported by the Grampian World AIDS Day Committee. Money raised from the event will go to support local HIV services in the region. For more information call Andi Watson on 0845 241 2151 or email andi.watson@tht.org.uk.

In memory of Myra Menzies

Myra Menzies, nee Anderson, died in March at the age of 68. Myra was a Guidance teacher at Firrhill High School, Edinburgh, for nearly 30 years.

In 1994 she volunteered, along with eight other pioneering teachers, to participate in the development of a new, research-based sex education programme that came to be called SHARE.

This involved intensive training by Hilary Dixon, piloting innovative lessons with S3 and S4 pupils, and being observed by a researcher. Although at the time many teachers were nervous of the radical harm-reduction approach, Myra was excited by the new ideas and rapidly became a champion of the programme. She drew on her considerable experience in a pastoral role and as a classroom teacher to make many thoughtful contributions to the nascent programme.

On retiring in 2002 she qualified as a SHARE teacher-trainer herself, and worked closely with Hilary Dixon training teachers throughout Scotland, allaying anxieties and embarrassment about sexual matters with an invaluable ability to make people laugh. Both through this training, and directly through her own teaching, she has left a legacy of many young Scots better equipped to develop happier and healthier sexual relationships. In the words of Monica Merson at NHS Health Scotland, many:

"will remember Myra for her passion and enthusiasm for supporting young people to grow and develop healthily whilst making informed choices; for her knowledge, strength and sense of fun.... she will be greatly missed by all who knew her."

Daniel Wight and Hilary Dixon



Contact information:

Thistle House, 2nd Floor, 91 Haymarket Terrace, EDINBURGH, EH12 5HE

Telephone: 0131 313 7500

Fax: 0131 313 7501

Copyright © 2010 NHSHS All rights reserved.

Website: www.healthscotland.com | email: nhs.healthscotland-webmaster@nhs.net