



Quarterly Update for distribution to people registered with Think Kidneys

Summer 2015 – Issue 2 – Welcome!

Now into the second year of the programme we have more information we want to share with you on our website www.thinkkidneys.nhs.uk so we'd like to send you there for everything you need. Below is a quick overview of progress and plans with links for more detailed info for the bits you're most interested in.

Comments, feedback, suggestions for content or information you'd like to share please to anniemaylor331@gmail.com

Focus for Year 2 of Think Kidneys is on further developing our work in secondary care and starting to work on the needs of primary care. The AKI algorithm being implemented in biochemistry labs across the NHS will be generating e-alerts that will be sent to general practice from April 2016 and we need to do all we can to prepare GPs and their teams for this change. We'll be working with practices and piloting ideas and resources in the autumn and will keep you up to speed with progress.

Trusts which have implemented the algorithm are starting to send their AKI test results to the UK Renal Registry. This information will build a national picture of AKI incidence and prevalence for the first time. Take a look at the stats so far [here](#). We've also published [Top Tips for Best Practice in AKI Reporting](#) and [Why Measure – the Importance of Data](#) to support organisations.

We recently published a position statement for the programme on [Sick Day Rules](#). We felt this was important as it's a controversial topic among the renal community and beyond. We are receiving feedback from far and wide and will review our stance and the statement in the coming months.

Other recent work from the Think Kidneys Workstreams

The Think Kidneys team has been working on a number of initiatives all about AKI and its management. Information is on our website – and we'd welcome your feedback on any of it.

- [Commissioning guidance and case studies on developing services for AKI](#) – these will be added to over the next few months
- [Communities at Risk of Developing AKI](#) – distributed far and wide and well received
- [Guidelines for Medicines Optimisation in Patients with AKI in Secondary Care](#)
- Report on our well supported first [Care Homes Thinking Kidneys](#) event, resulting in us establishing a working group to take the ideas and suggestions forward
- Our [blogs](#) - we add to them regularly and we'd be very keen to accept any contribution you might like to make so that we can keep them lively and interesting

Coming next.....

- Minimum Care Bundle for Patients with AKI in Hospital – this resource is in its final stages of development and is out for consultation

- In time for the introduction of AKI e-alerts in primary care (April 2016) we're working with IT system suppliers to ensure synchronicity and we're developing advice for primary care for managing the alerts
- We're reviewing AKI Apps that currently exist and working out if there are gaps to be filled and if we need to develop one for Think Kidneys
- Working with the Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education whose learning strategy this autumn will be focused on AKI. All 67,000 pharmacists and pharmacy technicians will be alerted to the programme's work and their role in preventing and managing AKI in the community and secondary care.
- We're investigating developing a secondary care risk tool – our research tells us there's nothing out there at the moment and it could be very useful
- We've formed a CCG Expert Reference Group to help develop and share our work with commissioners. First meeting was promising – more next time.

That's probably all folks, except.....

Events - We're at a lot of [events](#) over the autumn – come and say hello if you're at the same ones.

Your events – We'd be pleased to add your local AKI events to our calendar and support you if we can – just send us the details.

Feedback - we're always keen to receive your feedback and comments on content in our bulletin and our website. Drop us an email if you think we're missing something or you have a topic you'd like covered.

And finally, please forward this email on to your colleagues and encourage them to sign up on the website.

Thank you for your interest in Think Kidneys

ENDS