



# MAPLE Staff Network Bulletin

October - November 2023

The aim of this current awareness bulletin is to provide a digest of recent guidelines, reports, research and best practice.

## **NHS Workforce Disability Equality Standard (WDES) reports and action plans across NHS Lincolnshire**

- [Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust](#)
- [Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust](#)
- [United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust](#)

For more information on Lincolnshire's population demographics see the latest [Greater Lincolnshire Census 2021 Summaries](#) prepared by the Lincolnshire County Council Public Health Intelligence Team.

## **Caring for adults with a learning disability in acute hospitals**

The aim of this [report from the Health Services Safety Investigations Body](#) is to help improve the inpatient care of adults with a known learning disability in acute hospital settings.

## **Discussing disability in the workplace**

Disclosing a disability to an employer is an individual decision, and there is no obligation on anybody to do so. However, there are many reasons why telling an employer about a disability or long-term health condition can be a positive action that empowers, protects and assists disabled people in the workplace. It can also help both managers and staff to find ways to ensure that they can work effectively together. This [guidance from the BMA](#) is designed to support both managers and staff. It gives practical advice on how to plan for and approach conversations about disability, to ensure they are constructive, respectful, and lead to improved support and more inclusive working environments.

## **Inequalities in disability**

This [analysis from the Institute for Fiscal Studies](#) looks at differences and inequalities in the prevalence of disability and the degree to which health limits functional capabilities in the UK. This commentary studies differences in the prevalence of disability between education groups, regions, date of birth cohorts and genders. While there are a number of ways in which disability may affect outcomes, this commentary focuses particularly on employment as an outcome.

## **We all have a voice: Disabled children's vision for change**

This [report brings together quantitative and qualitative research conducted by the Children's Commissioner's office \(CCo\) as part of a commission by the Cabinet Office's Disability Unit ahead of developing its Disability Action Plan 2023-24](#). The Cabinet Office was particularly interested in understanding children's experiences of transitions, an important theme which is explored in this report. It also discusses other key barriers that disabled children face and puts forward recommendations based on what children say they want and need for a more inclusive society. This report focuses on the experiences of disabled children – that can include children with autism and other neurodevelopmental needs, additional social and emotional needs, as well as physical needs.



## Recently published research

### **Breaking down barriers for those living with invisible disabilities**

**British Journal of Healthcare Assistants, 2023, 17(6), p. 240-242**

This article contains a discussion on invisible disabilities and outlines the most common invisible disabilities, including mental health conditions, learning disabilities, neurological conditions, and instances of chronic pain. It also outlines how to be more inclusive.

For full access email: [clinical.librarian@ulh.nhs.uk](mailto:clinical.librarian@ulh.nhs.uk)

### [Disability History Association Podcast](#)

Want to learn more about disability history? The Disability History Association Podcast features students, researchers, teachers, curators, elders, and activists who have disability history stories to share.

## Library Services

- **Current awareness:** Would you like to keep up to date with the latest evidence on topics of your choice? Sign up for a current awareness alert: <https://www.nhslincslibrary.uk/knowledgeshare-request/>
- **Literature searching:** Can't find the information you need? We can do literature searches for you: <https://www.nhslincslibrary.uk/search-request/>
- **Information skills training:** We can provide training on how to search healthcare databases and resources as well as showing you how to appraise the information that you find: <https://www.nhslincslibrary.uk/training/>

## Online Resources

- **BMJ Best Practice** is a clinical decision support tool that provides step-by-step guidance on diagnosis, prognosis, treatment and prevention of a wide variety of conditions: <https://bestpractice.bmj.com>
- **ClinicalKey** is a database which supports healthcare professionals by providing access to the latest evidence across specialties: <https://www.clinicalkey.com/>