March 2016

Dear all,

**Re: Partnerships in Care: Smoke –Free Hospitals**

NHS England and Public Health England have now placed in the Five Year Forward View a commitment for mental health providers to implement smoke-free services. This commitment is now being encouraged by regulators such as the CQC.

It is clear that if we successfully encourage our patients and workforce to stop smoking, this will be one of the single most important things we can do to improve overall health and well-being across our services.

This is nothing new to PiC as many of our services this year have taken active steps to become completely smoke free. We have lots of expertise and support in the company for what is a significant journey for each hospital.

With this is in mind, and with the support of the PiC Senior Management Teams, **all PiC registered hospitals will be smoke-free through all buildings and grounds by no later than March 31st 2017.**This requirement will be observed by all patients, visitors and our workforce.

Those services which aren’t registered hospitals, whilst exempt from this requirement, should still have a clearly described approach toward promoting smoking cessation for their patient group.

**What To Do:**

Your Hospital Management Team should produce an action plan, clarifying roles and responsibilities, with a clear timeline for key stages and a completion date.

* Progress with action plans will be monitored through local governance meetings
* Staff commitment can be reinforced and supported through local forums and supervision
* Patient engagement and feedback should be established through local community meetings and patients’ councils and individuals should be supported by the MDT
* Examples of alternatives to smoking and to smoking breaks are already in use and can be found in existing live action plans. These can be found in the resource library provided
* The initiative should be regarded as a joint effort between staff and patients with continual support at all levels
* All action plans should be signed off by your **Senior Management Team by 31st May** and summarised at the **Corporate Clinical Governance meeting on 10th June**.

**Where Do We Get Support?**

The resource library can be found on Synapse at the following link.

[**Resource Library - Synapse Link**](http://synapse/sorce/apps/sorce_doc_manager/browse_docs/browse_docs.aspx?sd_cl_nd_id__root=1445&sd_cl_nd_id__sel=1445)

It contains existing action plans, NICE guidance in respect of smoking cessation, and specific guidance for medicine management. In addition, a set of useful Frequently Asked Questions are included [**here**](http://synapse/sorce/apps/sorce_doc_manager/Actions/view_doc.aspx?docid=10809&revid=12216)**.** As further information becomes available it will be stored there. Links to a number of key documents are provided and as others are produced, they will be available directly through the Synapse link above. You can access the National Smoking Cessation Training at [**http://www.ncsct.co.uk/**](http://www.ncsct.co.uk/)

**Useful Contacts Within Pic**

Several of our hospitals are already actively engaged in the smoking cessation programme and a growing number of staff are learning from the experience and establishing good practice as evidenced in their action plans. A list of such staff is available in the Synapse folder.

This is a significant opportunity to positively transform the health and wellbeing of those who use our services. Thank you in advance for your support in getting our hospitals to a healthier place!



Dr Quazi Haque

Executive Medical Director

Partnerships in Care