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NHS England annual assessment published

The assessment shows NHS England has met or is making good progress towards 89% of the deliverables in the government's multi-year mandate for 2017 to 2018 and 2018 to 2019.

The assessment rates the NHS against objectives as laid out in the multi-year mandate, which came into effect April 2017.

The assessment shows progress has been made across many areas, including:

- mental health
- maternity care
- diabetes prevention
- preparing to embed genomics into routine care

However, while the NHS is treating more patients than ever, the assessment shows it needs to do more to reduce waiting times to meet core patient access standards set out in the NHS Constitution, including A&E, 62-day cancer and the referral to treatment waiting time standard.

Over the past few years demand for the NHS has grown while patient need has

continued to be diverse and complex. Despite the challenges, the 1.3 million NHS staff have worked to meet commitments and make sure millions of patients receive the best care possible.

Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Matt Hancock said:

> The NHS is this country's most valued public service and we're rightly supporting it with an extra £33.9 billion a year in vital funding by 2023 to 2024 as part of the NHS Long Term Plan.
>
> We want to ensure this money benefits the frontline to help them deliver a sustainable and efficient health service across the country and we will be working with the NHS to safeguard our nation's health for generations to come.

FCO statement on North Korea missile test launches

Following missile test launches by North Korea on 24 July we continue to closely monitor the situation.

We encourage North Korea to return to talks with the US as agreed at the meeting between President Trump and Kim Jong Un on 30 June. We maintain that North Korea must engage in meaningful negotiations with the US and take concrete steps towards complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearisation.

The UK fully supports the US in its efforts to achieve North Korean denuclearisation. International sanctions must remain in place and be fully enforced until their nuclear and ballistic missile programmes are dismantled.

Contingency legislation covering regulation of medicines and medical devices in a no deal scenario

Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

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Leaving the EU with a deal remains the Government's top priority. This has not changed. However a responsible government must plan for every eventuality, including a no-deal scenario.

Contingency legislation is needed in order for the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) to be able to take on regulatory processes for human medicines and devices that are currently undertaken by the European Medicines Agency and other bodies.

The three separate pieces of legislation will allow for the continued sale of, and access to, medicines, medical devices and clinical trials:

1. Human Medicines Regulations 2012, as amended by the Human Medicines (Amendment etc) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019
2. The Medical Devices (amendment) (EU exit) Regulations 2019
3. The Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) (amendment) (EU exit) Regulations 2019

These Regulations have been approved by Parliament and were made in April 2019.

The Human Medicines and Medical Devices (Amendment etc.) (EU exit) Regulations 2019 have been laid in parliament today (24 July 2019).

This instrument makes a number of changes to the Human Medicines (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 and the Medical Devices (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 to ensure that the UK legislation accurately reflects technical updates at EU level since April 2019 and also corrects drafting errors and omissions to reflect published policy in the event of a no deal Brexit.

Full details of the changes are set out in the explanatory memorandum.

The legislation will be subject to parliamentary scrutiny and approval which we anticipate in the autumn.

These Regulations set out a comprehensive regime for the authorisation of medicinal products for human use; for the manufacture, import, distribution, sale and supply of those products; for their labelling and advertising; and for pharmacovigilance.

They also provide for enforcement powers for the authorisation and supervision of medicinal products for human use.

The 2012 Regulations (as amended by the 2019 Regulations) make reference to various pieces of EU guidance, as that stood immediately before exit day (29 March 2019).

The Agency is the designated competent authority that administers and enforces the law on medical devices in the UK. It has a range of investigatory and enforcement powers to ensure their safety and quality. These regulations ensure that the required powers are provided for.

The Clinical Trial Regulations require all interventional clinical trials of medicines to be authorised by the MHRA, as the national competent authority in the UK; to have a favourable ethics opinion; and to be conducted according to Good Clinical Practice. They also include requirements for the assessment and supply of investigational medicinal products and for safety reporting.

Published 24 January 2019
Last updated 9 October 2019 + show all updates

1. 9 October 2019 Change of text within Stay up to date box.
2. 25 July 2019 We have updated references to the Human Medicines and Medical Devices (Amendment etc.) (EU exit) Regulations 2019, following it being laid in Parliament on 24 July 2019.
3. 24 January 2019 First published.