

News story: Poster from the Independent Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Review

The text from the Independent Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Review (IMMDS) is:

The Independent Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Review (IMMDS) is investigating 3 medical interventions where patients have reported problems and suffered serious harm. These are pelvic mesh implants, Primodos and hormonal pregnancy tests, and sodium valproate (Epilim or Depakote). Full details can be found on [their website](#).

The Review wants to make sure any individual or family affected by these three interventions is aware of its work and can make contact or provide evidence.

They are therefore asking Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to distribute a poster to GP practices and community pharmacies so that it can be displayed prominently for members of the public to see, and if possible to feature it on the CCG website. The poster is available in two forms: [print-sized version](#) or [e-version](#).

For further information, please contact the IMMDS Review communications team at reviewcomms@luther.co.uk or on 0207 618 9189.

Anyone who suspects they have had a complication due to a medical device, including from mesh implants or a side effect to a medicine, including from sodium valproate (Epilim or Depakote) is encouraged to report it to the MHRA through its [Yellow Card Scheme](#). Even if information is given to the Review we would also encourage you to report it to us.

Women prescribed Epilim or Depakote (sodium valproate) should not stop their treatment unless told to do so by their GP or healthcare professional.

We are supporting the Review as we recognise it is important to review and learn from how the healthcare system and regulators have handled these issues, including how we make sure the patient voice is carefully heard.

By all parts of the healthcare system working together, we can make sure patients' concerns are addressed.

News story: Hospitals to receive £145 million to prepare for winter demand

The government is giving more than £145 million to NHS trusts across the country ahead of winter to improve emergency care.

The funding from the Department of Health and Social Care's existing budget will be spent on 81 new schemes.

It will be spent on:

- upgrading wards
- redeveloping A&E departments
- improving same-day emergency care
- improving systems for managing the number of beds in use
- an extra 900 beds

The University Hospital of North Midlands is set to receive £8.82 million, which will go towards 2 additional wards on the Royal Stoke site.

East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust will receive £6.42 million to increase emergency care capacity at the William Harvey Hospital and at the Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother Hospital.

At Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, the money will assist emergency day care, managing the flow of patients through the hospital and improving the way ambulances hand over patients.

Earlier this year [the government provided £36.3 million to ambulances trusts](#) to prepare for winter. The money will pay for 256 new ambulances as well as 'make ready' hubs at ambulance trust headquarters to allow better restocking and maintenance of vehicles.

Health and Social Care Secretary Matt Hancock said:

Staff put in a huge amount of work preparing our health service for the challenge of treating more patients over winter and it's right that we make sure they have the resources they need so people receive the care they deserve.

That's why I will be providing an additional £145 million now to upgrade wards, redevelop A&Es and further improve emergency care in time for winter.

And through the long-term plan for the NHS we will go further, providing an extra £394 million a week by 2023/24 to transform care for patients and guarantee the future of our health service.

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Press release: Regulator appoints interim manager at independent special school charity

The Charity Commission has today announced the appointment of an interim manager to [Hope House School Limited](#) due to continued concerns about the governance, management and administration of the charity.

Interim managers are appointed to take over the running of a charity where the Commission has identified misconduct or mismanagement, or there is a need to protect the charity's property.

The Commission [opened a statutory inquiry](#) into Hope House School Limited on 9 October 2017 to examine regulatory concerns about the governance of the charity, whether the trustees had exercised sufficient oversight and control of the charity, the adequacy of financial controls and whether funds had been properly spent on the objects of the charity, whether potential conflicts of interest and connected party transactions have been properly managed and whether there has been unauthorised trustee benefit.

The Commission made an order under Section 76 (3)(g) of the Charities Act 2011 on 20 August 2018 to appoint Guy Hollander of Mazars as interim manager to the exclusion of the trustees. One of the trustees is the principal of the school but the order does not exclude this trustee from that employee role.

The interim manager has taken on full control of the day-to-day management and administration of the charity from the current trustees until the Commission makes a further order. The school term commenced on 6 September 2018 and it is the interim manager's intention that the charity will continue to provide education and services to the school's pupils who are all faced with a wide spectrum of autism.

Harvey Grenville, Head of Investigations and Enforcement at the Charity Commission said:

We were not satisfied that the current governance and administration arrangements were adequately meeting the needs of this charity. This appointment is an important protective measure for the charity and those it was set up to help.

Part of the interim manager's duties will be to establish the viability of the charity and determine the most appropriate option regarding its future. He is tasked with ensuring that the charity continues its service provision while he completes his appointment.

The Commission's investigation continues.

Ends

Notes to editors

1. This appointment is a temporary and protective power that will be reviewed at regular intervals. It will continue until the Commission makes a further Order for its variation or discharge.
2. It is the Commission's policy, after it has concluded an inquiry, to publish a report detailing what issues the inquiry looked at, what actions were undertaken as part of the inquiry and what the outcomes were. Reports of previous inquiries are available on [GOV.UK](#).
3. The Charity Commission is the independent regulator of charities in England and Wales. For more information see the [about us](#) page on GOV.UK.
4. Search for charities on our [online register](#).

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