Legal ruling leads to ‘light touch’ review of resuscitation rules

UPATED NHS Scotland policies for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in people nearing the end of life are expected to be published this month.

The ‘light-touch’ review of Scotland’s policies for adults and for young adults and children has been prompted by a recent legal ruling and associated changes in UK-wide good-practice guidance, and has been informed by clinician, patient and carer experience.

The policies continue to support consistency and transparency in decision making but also emphasise the importance of engaging with patients and their families about CPR decision making in the context of the goals of care, treatment options and choices.

The Scottish Government is also working with NHS Education Scotland to ensure that staff have access to updated training resources.

Health secretary Shona Robison said: ‘This update is part of our efforts to ensure that palliative and end of life care is delivered to a high standard, in every situation, right around the country. Everyone – child, young person or adult – has the right to a dignified death.

‘Proper training for clinical staff is vital, and we’re working to ensure that this is in place. Conversations about CPR need to happen as part of establishing patients’ goals of care, treatment options and wishes for end of life care.’

College backs advanced practitioner curriculum in emergency care

THE RCN has given its ‘full endorsement’ to an emergency care advanced clinical practitioner (ACP) curriculum devised by the Royal College of Emergency Medicine (RCEM) and Health Education England (HEE).

Higher education institutions already provide masters-level courses in advanced practice but, according to the RCEM, the range of competences acquired vary, and there is no standardisation in the level of competence of practitioners.

The emergency care ACP curriculum provides an opportunity for standardisation and consistency, the RCEM states.

The first, formal credentialing process will take next March.

Consultant nurse at University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust and chair of the curriculum development group Robert Crouch said of the RCN’s endorsement: ‘This has been a positive development for RCEM and HEE, and we are pleased to have received such widespread support.’

Revised Purple Book highlights ways to spot sexual abuse in children

UPATED GUIDANCE on spotting physical signs of child sexual abuse has been published by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health. The revised guidance, known as the Purple Book, includes three new chapters: anogenital signs of accidental injuries in girls and boys, genital bleeding in prepubertal girls and healing in anogenital injuries.

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The revised guidance can be accessed at tinyurl.com/q3ldjbk