

EACH Library Care Bulletin

From the EACH Library & Information Service

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The latest articles, guidance and resources from a range of journals and web sites. If you have any ideas or feedback on what would be useful for future bulletins, please get in touch:

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1. Booklet: Death of our stepchild or our partner's child

Families receiving end of life care support can be very varied, including step families, blended families, single parents.... This booklet from the Charity Compassionate Friends has been written by bereaved parents to support those whose stepchild has died. **Download [here](#)**



Other booklets include:

- [Grieving child loss in blended and step families](#)
- [Parents bereaved of an only child or all their children](#)
- [The bereaved lone parent](#)
- [Grieving for our child who had disabilities or complex needs](#)

2. Article: 'YourTube': Safety, resource use and nutritional content of home-blended diets in children who are gastrostomy fed

An increasing number of families are choosing to feed their children who require enteral feeding home-blended diets rather than formula feeds. This study, involving 180 children and families from 28 NHS Trusts and 4 children's hospice services looked at the risks, benefits and resource implications of using home blended foods. The findings showed that home blended foods resulted in a lower burden of GI symptoms and should be seen as a safe alternative to formula feeding unless there are clinical contraindications.

Fraser LK, Bedendo A, O'Neill M, et al. Arch Dis Child Epub ahead of print: . doi:10.1136/archdischild-2023-326393

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3. Article: Blended diets

Written from a families perspective, the article describes the transition to using a blended diet for 17 year old Alex. It discusses the benefits, the practicalities, the possible disadvantages and equipment needed. It's been written by Lucy, a family member who's also a children's nurse, working in a children's hospice. A really useful article for those interested in the topic.

Layzell, L. 2023. PMLD Link, Spring, 35 (1) p 26-19.

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4. Article: Assessment of pain in a non-verbal child

An overview of the important aspects and techniques to use when assessing pain in a non-verbal child. A number of case-study scenarios are included as well as various pain assessment tools which can be used.

Haddick A, Thompson S, Lundy C. Arch Dis Child Educ Pract Ed. Epub ahead of print.doi:10.1136/archdischild-2023-326330

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5. Asthma Medicines for Children - QR code posters

From the excellent website Medicines for Children, a new poster on [Asthma medication](#), collating all the different drugs that may be used, with QR codes linking to more information.



Other versions include:

[Epilepsy-medicines.pdf \(medicinesforchildren.org.uk\)](#) – 16 medications

[Medicines-for-heart-conditions.pdf \(medicinesforchildren.org.uk\)](#) – 17 medications

[Medicines-used-in-community-paediatrics.pdf \(medicinesforchildren.org.uk\)](#) – 7 medications

6. Article: Musical hydrotherapy: combining the benefits of music and aquatic body work for children with complex needs

This article describes music hydrotherapy, where children listen and feel vibrations from specially composed music under water. For almost a decade, a small charity – Liquid Vibrations has been working with special needs schools across the UK seeing the benefits in children of increased motor and sensory skills, increased vocalisation and sheer joy.

Walton, A. PMLD Link, Winter 2022, 34 (3) 7-8.

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7. Pediatric e-Journal: Pediatric medication management.

The Pediatric e-journal is from the US National Hospice & Palliative Care Organisation (NHCPPO). This article discusses aspects to think about when prescribing and administering medication to neonates and children. Although US in origin, it covers areas not included in the APPM Formulary and Together for Short Lives Symptom Control Manual.

Email the [library](#) for a copy or [view here](#) – go to pages 36 - 45

8. Article: External 2nd opinions: building trust between health professionals and families

In medicine, external second opinions are frequently sought to inform decisions around a patient's proposed course of treatment. However, they are also sought in more challenging circumstances such as during complex end-of-life discussions in critically ill children. In this review, the authors set out what a standardised and transparent second opinion process should look like and recommend key recommendations for healthcare Trusts, Commissioners and professional bodies to support good practice.

Fraser_J, Goold_I, Akindolie_O, et_al. Arch Dis Child 2024;109:83–87

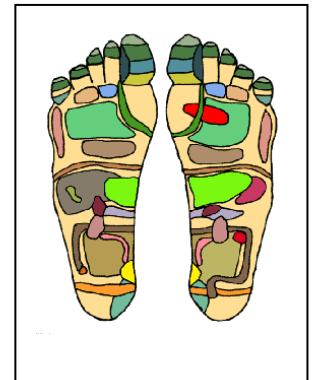
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9. Article: Reflexology therapy supporting emotional wellbeing

An article written by a reflexology therapist describing her work with children with complex needs, using a simple structured relaxation activity through the colours of the rainbow for staff to use. Techniques are described along with the benefits nurturing touch can bring.

Senior, L. PMLD Link. Summer 2022. 34 (2) p 26-29

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10. From the 2023 Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) Conference

Use of Buccal Fentanyl as a breakthrough opioid for symptom management in patients receiving palliative care

[530 Use of Buccal Fentanyl as a breakthrough opioid for symptom management in patients receiving palliative care | Archives of Disease in Childhood \(bmj.com\)](#)

Use of simulation teaching including paediatric death to teach palliative care –

[813 Use of simulation teaching including simulated patient death to teach palliative care skills | Archives of Disease in Childhood \(bmj.com\)](#)

Email the [library](#) for a copy of the conference abstract or access with [OpenAthens](#) log in.
