Consultation & Prescription Infirmière: l'expérience du Royaume-Uni

#### Sylvie Marshall-Lucette



### Introduction

UK nurse **Consultation &** Prescription 2 nursing roles 2 nurse-led NHS Services: Walk-in Centres & **NHS** Direct



## Nurse Prescribing

3 types of prescribers

 District Nurse / Health Visitor
 Extended Formulary Nurse and/or a
 Supplementary Prescriber



#### District Nurse / Health Visitor Prescriber

Camberledge DoH Report (1989) Successful piloting (1994/6/7) Independent prescribing from specific DNs / HVs Formulary Integrated University-based specialist programme Formulary: limited medicines + large number dressings & appliances

# Extended Formulary Nurse Prescriber

Health Ministers announcement (May 2001) re extended nurse prescribing
 Extended Formulary independent

- nurse prescribers undertake specific longer programme
- In May 2005: 240 Prescription Only Medicine to treat 112 medical conditions + all relevant Pharmacy & General Sales List of medicines for these conditions

#### Extended Nurse Prescribing: National Evaluation

246 nurse prescribers 10 nurse prescribing settings First 2 years of prescribing practice Published June 2005 ■ 42%: 11-30 items weekly 22%: over 30 items Prescribing expansion viewed as successful

#### **Supplementary Prescriber**

April 2003 for nurses & pharmacists
 April 2005 extended to 3 other health

- professionals
- Partnership with a Dr or Dentist
- List includes controlled Drugs & unlicensed medicines but must be agreed in Clinical Management
- Choice of dosage, frequency, product & medicine related issues

# Nurse Prescribing: some general questions & answers



- Aims
- Number
- Legal criteria
- Applicants' requirements
- Key principles
- Decision
- Legal basis

## **The Nurse Consultant**

1989 DoH Strategy for Nursing
 New nursing concepts tested & evaluated

 Masters Degree nurses with expert clinical skills

Huge remit & engagement in nurseled, practice development activities

## **The NHS Walk-in Centres**

1<sup>st</sup> opened on 31 January 2000

- Opening hours: 7 22hrs
- No appointment required
- Convenient location
- Provision of info & treat minor conditions
- Supported by computerised decision software systems

# Walk-In Centres: Evaluation

June 2000 – November 2001
40 walk-in centres (36 pilot + 4)
Assessed access, quality, efficiency, appropriateness & impact on other NHS services

Results: some benefits to patients, safe care of high standard but at additional cost

Lack of coherence & overlapping provisions

# NHS Direct (08 45 46 47)

Nurse-led 24 hr Telephone Helpline Launched in 1998 – National coverage in November 2000 World's largest tel H/care advice service ■ 3,5 million calls (2000-1) Cost £80 million 1,150 nurses for 22 call centres Email health info enquiry & web links

## **NHS Direct: Evaluation**

So far, beneficial impacts
More appropriate use of NHS services
Postive safety & acceptability evaluation of service

With extra training nurse can manage acute minor illness



## John Reid (November 2003)

"Nurses & Midwives need to be supported to take risks safely, be less rule bound, less hierarchical. Encourage them to be confident & to know that their skills are what patients need & that they have an equal place at the top of the table & the bedside".

"By opening up the prescription pad to nurses we have given them a powerful & symbolic tool. One that makes choice a reality for patients ..... If someone chooses to see a nurse in A&E, surgery or the Walk-in centre, it isn't a choice if they are told 'Wait here & I'll get the Dr write you a prescription' or 'Come back to-morrow to see the Dr'... Nurse prescribing sends a powerful message to the public and others that nursing is not subservient to medicine but an equal part of the healthcare team" (Reid 2003)



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