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- [Home](#)
- [Articles](#)
- [Blogs](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [CPD](#)
- [Educational Hub](#)

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- [Site](#)
- [News](#)
- [Blog](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Supplements](#)

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- [Home](#)
- [Articles](#)
- [Blogs](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [CPD](#)
- [Educational Hub](#)
- [About us](#)
- [Bookshop](#)
- [Conference](#)
- [CPHVA Awards](#)

- [Archive](#)
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News

- [2016](#)
- [2015](#)
- [2014](#)
- [2013](#)
- [2012](#)



In the news: Zika fear fuels abortion demand; Nasal flu spray non-beneficial

23rd June 2016

Author : [Alice Harrold](#)

As part of the daily round up, *Community Practitioner* looks at the leading public healthcare stories in the news today.

Abortion demand 'soars' amid Zika fear

Fears over the Zika virus have contributed to a "huge" increase in the number of women in Latin America wanting abortions, researchers say.

Estimates suggest there has been at least a doubling in requests in Brazil and an increase of a third in other countries.

Many governments have advised women not to get pregnant due to the risk of babies being born with tiny brains.

The findings were published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Sixty countries and territories have reported cases of Zika being spread by mosquitoes. More than 1,500 babies have been diagnosed with microcephaly caused by the virus.

 **BBC News (World)**
WORLD @BBCWorld Follow

Abortion demand 'soars' over Zika bbc.in/28QMAne
2:37 AM - 23 Jun 2016



Abortion demand 'soars' amid Zika fear - BBC News
Fears over the Zika virus have contributed to a "huge" increase in number of abortions in Latin America, researchers suggest.
bbc.co.uk

120 79

[BBC](#)

AstraZeneca's nasal spray flu vaccine knocked by US health officials for having 'no protective benefit'

AstraZeneca's vaccinations business has suffered a setback after US health officials announced that its nasal spray version of the flu vaccine failed to protect children adequately for the third year in a row and should not be used by doctors this season.

The Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the United States reported that the spray performed poorly in terms of protecting children from the flu virus, while the traditional injection worked reasonably well, according to data from its preliminary study.

"No protective benefit could be measured," the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunisation Practices said.

**Telegraph Business**
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AstraZeneca's nasal spray flu vaccine knocked by US health officials for having 'no protective benefit'
telegraph.co.uk/business/2016/...
10:02 AM - 23 Jun 2016



AstraZeneca's nasal spray flu vaccine knocked by US health ...
AstraZeneca's vaccinations business has suffered a setback after US health officials announced that its nasal spray version of the flu
telegraph.co.uk

2

[The Telegraph](#)

More than a fifth of Scots don't walk for 20 minutes once a year

More than a fifth of people in Scotland do not manage a twenty minute walk once a year.

Dr Catherine Calderwood, the country's new Chief Medical Officer, released the shocking statistic in Glasgow as she spoke of her determination to reduce health inequalities and tackle major concerns including rising obesity rates.



Glasgow

@GlasgowCityNews

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More than a fifth of Scots don't walk for 20 minutes ONCE a year divr.it/LdJqPL #Glasgow

6:19 AM - 23 Jun 2016

[Evening Times](#)

New care guidelines issued for the care of pregnant women suffering from epilepsy

Pregnant women who suffer from epilepsy are to be given advice on managing their condition.

Campaigners and NHS professionals in Southend have pledged to work together to promote the importance of advice and care for pregnant women who have epilepsy.

The move follows new guidance published at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists World Congress, the first time advice on epilepsy in pregnancy has been produced.



NHS Southend CCG
@SouthendCCG

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Great so see our story in today's Echo - New care guidelines for the care of pregnant women suffering from epilepsy [echo-news.co.uk/news/14575758....](http://echo-news.co.uk/news/14575758...)

12:05 PM - 23 Jun 2016



New care guidelines issued for the care of pregnant women s...
PREGNANT women who suffer from epilepsy are to be given advice on managing their condition.
echo-news.co.uk

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[Echo](#)

Toddler death: man found guilty


A man who beat his new girlfriend's baby with a garden chair has been found guilty of murder.

Finley John Thomas was just 17 months old when he died after suffering a fractured skull and broken ribs.

Sean Buckley, 28, of Tonypanyd, South Wales, had tried to claim the toddler had fallen downstairs after paramedics found the child motionless and looking ghostly in colour.

However, doctors later discovered Finley had suffered a severe bleed to the brain and also found an older injury behind his right ear.

Prosecuting counsel, Roger Thomas QC, at Cardiff crown court, described the attack on the child as "deliberate and vicious".

 **The Guardian**
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Toddler death: man found guilty trib.al/tlyRcGR
3:35 PM - 23 Jun 2016

Toddler death: man found guilty
Sean Buckley beat his new girlfriend's toddler, Finley John Thomas, with a garden chair
theguardian.com

6 4

[The Guardian](#)

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