



MEDFASH statement: Thursday, 17 November 2016

TRANSFER OF MEDFASH PUBLICATIONS AND RESOURCES

[MEDFASH \(Medical Foundation for HIV & Sexual Health\)](#)¹ will close at the end of 2016².

We are delighted to announce that we have now agreed arrangements with other organisations to take over our current publications and resources. We are grateful to them for ensuring their continuing availability, as set out below.

The MEDFASH **Sexual Health & HIV Policy eBulletin** will transfer to the [Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare \(FSRH\)](#). Launched in October 2012 to keep commissioners, providers and others in the field up-to-date about policy developments during the transition that followed the Health and Social Care Act 2012, the eBulletin has remained a 'go-to' source of reliable and useful information, with 36 issues published to date.

The [FSRH](#) will also take over **HIV TIPs (HIV testing in practice)**, our online educational tool for general practice that aims to help increase HIV testing and reduce the avoidable illness and deaths that still occur because of late diagnosis. The tool enables users to identify and reflect on obstacles to HIV testing that may exist in their practice, and lead their team to overcome them.

The MEDFASH **Sexual Health & HIV Policy EUROBulletin** will transfer to [NAM aidsmap](#). Launched in July 2015, the EUROBulletin provides a round-up of policy news and developments across Europe as well as a guest interview eFeature on issues of relevance and interest to the wider European community. The seventh issue will appear on 1 December 2016.

<p>Readers of both Bulletins will need to re-subscribe to continue receiving them.</p>

The two MEDFASH booklets – *HIV in primary care* and *HIV for non-HIV specialists – diagnosing the undiagnosed*, now in their third and second editions respectively, will transfer to the [British HIV Association \(BHIVA\)](#). With full colour illustrations and a comprehensive index, both provide essential practical information on the clinical diagnosis of HIV, and how to offer an HIV test and give results, with links to relevant guidelines and sources of further information. *HIV in primary care* also gives guidance on the provision of primary healthcare to people living with HIV, including reproductive health and immunisation, and how to complement HIV specialist care.

Responding to requests from colleagues in other parts of Europe to translate or adapt the above two HIV booklets, we have been developing pdf versions with revised content that is more suitable for this purpose. These **European booklets** will be taken over by [JUSTRI](#), which will jointly publish them with MEDFASH in December 2016.

Details of how to access all the above outputs will be on the MEDFASH website soon. The following comments have been issued by the FSRH, NAM, BHIVA and JUSTRI.

¹ MEDFASH (Medical Foundation for HIV & Sexual Health) Charity number 1148836. Company limited by guarantee no 07994516 (registered in England and Wales). Registered office: BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP.

² [MEDFASH press release](#) 21 September 2016

Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (FSRH)

“MEDFASH have been a fantastic resource and source of expertise and information in the sexual health field for many years. We will miss their contribution a great deal. I am delighted that the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (FSRH) is in a position to support the continuation of the widely respected MEDFASH policy e-bulletin from January 2017. We look forward to working with others in the field to ensure this goes from strength to strength. In addition we will also be hosting and updating the MEDFASH HIV TIPS tool for general practice on our website which we believe will be of particular relevance to our large GP membership. For details please go to www.fsrh.org.”

Jane Hatfield, Chief Executive

NAM aidsmap

“In a relatively short time, MEDFASH’s Sexual Health & HIV Policy EUROBulletin has become a valuable resource for health professionals across Europe. The quarterly bulletin provides information about policies, programmes, standards, guidance, evidence and research, and emerging issues in sexual and reproductive healthcare, HIV treatment and care, prevention and sexual health promotion. I am delighted that NAM will be able to ensure that this resource will continue to serve the information needs of nurses, doctors, public health specialists, sexual health advisers, commissioners of sexual health services and other stakeholders. The EUROBulletin will be a valued part of NAM’s information services, which include the [aidsmap](#) and [infohep](#) websites.”

Matthew Hodson, Executive Director

British HIV Association (BHIVA)

“BHIVA is delighted to be able to continue to publish the MEDFASH booklets ***HIV for non-HIV specialists – diagnosing the undiagnosed*** and ***HIV in primary care***. These books contain extremely helpful information on testing, on giving results as well as on primary care for those living with HIV. We are extremely sorry to see the closing of MEDFASH but are really pleased to be able to continue their excellent work.”

Dr Chloe Orkin, Chair

JUSTRI

“JUSTRI is a UK based, international not-for-profit organisation, established in 2010, which has successfully established an effective network of doctors, nurses and patient advocates across Southeast and Eastern Europe (SEE) and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) but also works outside of these regions. We provide training and supply locally relevant resources on HIV, viral hepatitis and TB, and nursing for these conditions. We will be taking on the promotion and long term development of the two guides from MEDFASH focused on HIV care in general practice and HIV for the non-HIV specialist and hope to disseminate them throughout the regions we work in.”

Dr Mike Youle, Director