What are community health services?

Most community healthcare takes place in people’s homes. Teams of nurses and therapists coordinate care, working with other professions including GPs and social care.

www.nhsconfed.org/communityservices
What are community health services?

47,000+ community service nurses\(^5\) coordinate and provide care for millions of people with complex needs and multiple long-term conditions.

Physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists and podiatrists help recovery e.g. after a fall or stroke, and enable people with disabilities to live independently.

84.8 million attendances to hospital outpatient appointments\(^3\)

100 million+ community health contacts with patients\(^2\)

340 million GP contacts\(^1\)

22.4 million attendances to A&E\(^4\)

10,000+ health visitors\(^7\) help give children the best start in life.

Community services make up £9.75 billion of the entire £102.57 billion NHS budget\(^6\)

Keeping you healthy:
- school nurses
- sexual health
- smoking cessation
- falls prevention.
Multi-disciplinary teams – highly skilled, specialist teams provide home care for people with serious complex illnesses, e.g. intravenous therapy at home rather than in hospital.

‘Rapid response’ alternative to A&E – in Birmingham, 1,668 admissions were avoided through nurses diagnosing and treating, saving £4.4 million.⁸

Small local hospitals treat minor injuries, offer treatments and provide inpatient rehabilitation.

81 per cent of people would prefer to die at home.⁹ Community palliative and end-of-life care can enable this and improve quality of life.¹⁰

The future?
“Out of hospital care needs to become a much larger part of what the NHS does.”
NHS England Five Year Forward View

www.nhsconfed.org/communityservices
1. NHS England 2013
2. King’s Fund 2014
3. HSCIC Mar 14 - Feb 15
4. NHS England 2015
5. HSCIC 2015
7. Department of Health 2014
8. NHS Confederation 2015
9. ONS 2013