

*Connecting you to the public health headlines of the day...*

[Mental health at heart of government's first Health Bill defeat](#)

The government suffered its first defeat over an amendment to the Health Bill in the Lords as debate continues.

[NHS reforms: Lib Dems try to table emergency motion at spring conference](#)

Opponents of the bill, who helped persuade the government to pause its progress last spring, call for another vote

[No alternative to NHS reforms, say coalition](#)

David Cameron and Nick Clegg admit it could take until election to persuade voters their fears are unfounded.

[David Kerr: the true value of reform must be defined by patient outcomes](#)

**(subscription required)**

Rather than distracting from the NHS efficiency challenge, the Health Bill could help achieve it, writes David Kerr.

[The NHS is not a business and should not run like one](#)

The reforms contained in the Health & Social Care Bill are no more likely to succeed than previous attempts because they don't have the support of the majority of health professionals.

[Institute of Healthcare Management joins 'drop the bill' calls](#)

**(subscription required)**

The Institute of Healthcare Management has become the latest professional body to call on the government to drop its plans to reform the NHS.

[Renewed partnership agreement between health unions, employers and government published](#)

A new partnership agreement, published today by the Social Partnership Forum (SPF), sets out a framework agreed by the Department of Health, NHS employers and NHS trade unions. It describes the partners' shared values and principles for effective joint working.

[Cameron's comparison to Blair only highlights the differences](#)

**(subscription required)**

Labour leader Ed Miliband challenged David Cameron at last week's prime minister's question time over the critical editorial on NHS reform published jointly by HSJ, the BMJ and Nursing Times.

[Unnecessary drugs 'drain NHS funds'](#)

Unnecessary prescriptions for antibiotics could be slashed by 1.6 million a year, saving the NHS vital cash, researchers have said.

[Lansley reveals funding plan for new NHS](#)

Doctors, nurses and other health professionals could control almost £65bn of NHS funding, the Health Secretary Andrew Lansley said as he revealed the first funding estimates in the new NHS structure.