Valya Weston MSc, BSc, RN (USA), RGN

National IPC Improvement Lead - NHS England/Improvement

Valya is a registered nurse and has worked both in the UK and the US. For the past 18 years Valya has worked within the field of Infection Prevention and Control, both in the private sector and in the NHS. Valya has a BSc in Professional Practice and an MSc in Clinical Leadership.

Valya has been an active member of the Vessel Health and Preservation (VHP) group, which is a major project to explore the concept of Vessel Health & Preservation for use in the UK, working collaboratively with the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) and the National Infusion and Vascular Access Society (NIVAS). The group have published several articles and the work has been presented nationally and internationally.

Valya is a strategic and founding member of the Device Related Infection Prevention Practice (DRIPP) project. The Vascular Access group is a collaboration with the Infection Prevention Society (IPS), NIVAS, and the Association for Safe Aseptic Practice (ASAP) whose aim is to support the spread and adoption of best practice to reduce device-related infections.

Valya is also working with colleagues across the country in the development of a national IV passport. The aim of the project is to produce a document that will be recognised across the country therefore aiding communication between systems and improving patient outcomes.

Valya was invited to be a reviewer for the Infusion Therapy Standards of Practice, 8th Edition 2021 on behalf of the Infusion Nurses Society (INS) and has contributed a chapter for the book Vessel Health and Preservation: The Right Approach for Vascular Access (2019).

Her previous role was as Associate Director of Infection Prevention and Control and Head of Service incorporating Infection Prevention and Control, Vascular Access, and Tissue Viability teams at Alder Hey Children’s Foundation Trust.

Valya has a keen and proactive interest in Quality Improvement, working with healthcare specialities to reduce the incidences of healthcare acquired infections and patient safety.