



2023 NORTHERN IRELAND

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS & HEALTHCARE SCIENTISTS

.....
Innovation | Creativity | Leadership | Compassion

Advancing Healthcare Awards
Northern Ireland 2023

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Information sheet

Closing date: Monday 4 September 2023

Awards ceremony: Thursday 12 October 2023

Please go to <https://chamberdunn.awardsplatform.com/>
to register to enter and submit your entry on-line.

The closing date for submissions is 4 September 2023.

Advancing Healthcare Awards Northern Ireland 2023 for allied health professionals, healthcare scientists and those who work alongside them in support roles

The awards will be presented at a ceremony and dinner at the Stormont Hotel, Belfast on 12 October. The judges would like all entries to demonstrate how their work has improved the quality and safety of service delivery. Team entries that include support workers and assistant practitioners are welcomed.

You may enter your project into only one category, but you can enter as many different projects as you like into different categories. All awards are open to AHPs and healthcare scientists working in any setting in Northern Ireland (with the exception of the Patricia Blackburn award for significant contribution and achievement which is for AHPs only)

This year we have eight awards plus the overall winner. The award themes are:

Category 1

AWARD FOR SERVICE IMPROVEMENT

Sponsored by the Clinical Education Centre part of the Business Services Organisation



Category 2

AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP

Sponsored by the Institute of Biomedical Science



Category 3

AWARD FOR CREATIVE AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICE

Category 4

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN A SUPPORT ROLE

Sponsored by the Academy for Healthcare Science



Category 5

AWARD FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Sponsored by iREACH Health & the Queen's University School of Nursing and Midwifery and Faculty Public Engagement



Category 6

AWARD FOR PARTNERSHIP WORKING IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Sponsored by Public Health Agency



Category 7

RISING STAR AWARD

Sponsored by Unite the Union



Category 8

THE PATRICIA BLACKBURN AWARD FOR SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION AND ACHIEVEMENT

OVERALL WINNER

Sponsored by the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists
Is chosen from the winners of each category and cannot be entered



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The submission deadline is Monday 4 September 2023.

CATEGORY 1

Award for Service Improvement

Sponsored by the Clinical Education Centre part of the Business Services Organisation



This award aims to attract entries from those who have embraced the bigger picture in the health and well-being agenda and led the way in rethinking and redesigning services to improve care from the point of view of patients, clients and their families. New models of care must be evidence-based and be centred on the individual. This recognises the crucial role of AHPs and healthcare scientists in driving forward service redesign to ensure safe, sustainable and effective quality services provided by the right people in the right place at the right time.

Criteria

The judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Expected benefits for patients, services and organisations including cost effectiveness
- Sustainability and transferability
- Leadership and team working
- Making a difference to service user care
- Evidence of service user involvement in redesign

Submission questions

- 1 Summarise your project and its significance (50 words).
- 2 Now provide a fuller description of your project and relevant background work (200 words)
- 3 What are the outcomes and benefits to patients, and how far is it sustainable? (200 words)
- 4 How does it demonstrate leadership and team working skills? (100 words)
- 5 How have you involved patients and communities? (100 words)
- 6 How will it be sustained and what is the potential for transferability and scalability across organisations or services? (100 words).

CATEGORY 2

Award for Outstanding Leadership

Sponsored by the Institute of Biomedical Science



A culture of high quality, continually improving, compassionate care and support must be underpinned by a new approach to collective and system leadership. A continuous learning culture and strong team working both within and across traditional health and social care boundaries is crucial to ensuring we deliver the best outcomes for our population of Northern Ireland.

This award is for leaders at all levels who can demonstrate how they developed and used their skills to benefit our patients, clients and carers.

Criteria

The judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Leadership and partnership working
- Impact and sound evaluation
- Sustainability and potential to scale up and spread
- Awareness of budgets and the need for cost effectiveness

Submission questions

- 1 Summarise you/your team's project and its importance (50 words).
- 2 Now provide a fuller description of the work, relevant background research and supporting evidence (200 words)
- 3 How does you/ your team's project demonstrate leadership skills and engagement of relevant stakeholders and partners? (200 words)
- 4 How will it be sustained and what is the potential for transferability and scalability across organisations or services? (100 words)
- 5 What are the key messages for others wishing to undertake a similar project? (100 words).

CATEGORY 3

Award for Creative and Innovative Practice

This award aims to attract entries from AHPs and healthcare scientists who had a 'lightbulb moment', or who brought into play creative approaches to long-standing problems or found unconventional solutions to unexpected challenges. It is open to AHPs, including those in the arts therapies, and healthcare scientists working in any setting in Northern Ireland.

Criteria

The judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Expected benefits for service users, services and organisations including cost effectiveness
- Sustainability and transferability
- Leadership and team working
- Making a difference to service user care
- Evidence of service user involvement.

Submission questions

- 1 Summarise your project and its significance (50 words).
- 2 Now provide a fuller description of your project and relevant background work (200 words)
- 3 What are the outcomes and benefits to service users, and how far is it sustainable? (200 words)
- 4 How does it demonstrate leadership and team working skills? (100 words)
- 5 How have you involved service users and communities? (100 words)
- 6 How could it be sustained and what is the potential for transferability and scalability across organisations or services? (100 words)

CATEGORY 4

Award for Excellence in a support role

Sponsored by the Academy for Healthcare Science



This award is open to support workers, assistants or non-registered technicians working with healthcare scientists or AHPs. We want to celebrate the positive contribution that support roles make to patient outcomes and the teams they work in. Have you changed how you do things and has this made a difference to the quality of life of your patients? Have you implemented a sustainable change that has made an impact in your team? Or perhaps this describes someone in your team? Nominations are welcomed from the individual, their team or by a patient, service user or carer.

Criteria

The judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Innovation
- Impact on patient care
- Team working and using own initiative
- Expected benefits including improved quality of life
- Sustainability and transferability.

Submission questions

- 1 Summarise your project and its significance (50 words)
- 2 Describe the project, or fresh approach, or new way of working, initiated by the apprentice, support worker or non-registered technician. (200 words)
- 3 In what ways are patients and families involved? Include a testimonial from a patient if possible. (100 words)
- 4 What has been the improvement to patient outcomes or quality of life? (100 words)
- 5 What measures have been taken to ensure it is adapted and sustained within your team? (50 words)
- 6 How will this solution be used by other services or departments? (50 words)

CATEGORY 5

Award for Research and Development

Sponsored by iREACH Health & the Queen's University School of Nursing and Midwifery and Faculty Public Engagement



This award celebrates the achievements of an individual or team who has made an outstanding contribution to research and development. The award winner is a role model for the next generation demonstrating leadership in research delivery across NI. This award can either be self-nominated or you can nominate a colleague or member of their team.

Criteria

The judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Impact of research for patients and/or the public
- Leadership in research delivery
- Collaborative working
- Engagement and raising the profile of research in health and/or social care



Submission questions

- 1 Summarise your project and its significance (50 words)
- 2 What was the impact for patients and/or the public from the research project or services provided? (100 words)
- 3 Describe the role of leadership in the context of the research project (200 words)
- 4 What strategies for collaborative working across NI were employed? How were these delivered (200 words)
- 5 Describe your approach to engagement and raising the profile of research delivery in health (100 words).

CATEGORY 6

Award for Partnership Working in Public Health

Sponsored by Public Health Agency



To reduce inequalities and to ensure the next generation is healthy and well, we need to tap into the ideas and energy in communities to encourage social inclusivity and reduce health inequalities. We are looking for projects, initiatives and services which demonstrate sustainable ways of building capacity in communities to promote health and well-being.

Criteria

The judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Leadership and partnership working
- Impact
- Sustainability and scalability
- Value for money

Submission questions

- 1 Summarise your project and its importance (50 words)
- 2 Now provide a fuller description of your work, relevant background research and supporting evidence (200 words)
- 3 How does your project support the cost-effective achievement of public health priorities e.g. increasing physical activity, reducing obesity, prevention of dementia, reduced admissions due to alcoholism, living with long term conditions? (200 words)
- 4 How does your project demonstrate leadership and engagement of relevant stakeholders and partners? (100 words)
- 5 How will it be sustained and what is the potential for transferability and scalability across organisations or services? (100 words).

CATEGORY 7

Rising Star Award

Sponsored by Unite the Union



For this award we are inviting you to nominate a colleague or member of staff who has shown a level of initiative, skill and commitment that is truly exceptional. You may nominate anyone within 5 years of graduation as a qualified allied health professional or healthcare scientist and who you and others recognise as a star in the making.

Criteria

This is an open award with no rigid criteria, so tell us their story. We are looking for people who stand out from the crowd and have already shown courage in meeting professional or personal challenges, displaying determination, creativity, intelligence and bravery; people who have continued to develop their skills and evidence-based practice since qualifying and flourished in whatever setting they have found themselves.

Submission questions

- 1 Summarise why this person stands out from the crowd. (100 words)
- 2 Have there been any personal or professional challenges that they have faced? (50 words)
- 3 In what specific ways has this person matured professionally? (50 words)
- 4 What do colleagues, managers and patients say about them? (50 words)
- 5 How does this person show promise for the future? (50 words)

CATEGORY 8

The Patricia Blackburn award for Significant Contribution and Achievement

The award is in memory of Patricia Blackburn. Patricia was an orthoptist, an AHP commissioner in the legacy Southern Board and the Chief AHP Officer in the Department of Health. She was one of the very first people in an AHP post in Northern Ireland and instrumental in the development of the AHP community as we know it today. She was passionate about the work of the AHPs and dedicated to the improving outcomes for patients. She was a true inspiration. The fact we are making this award 13 years after her untimely death is a true testament to her impact.

This new award is a prestigious recognition to be given to an allied health professional who has made an outstanding and enduring contribution in their field of work of clear benefit to patient care. The award will be given to someone who has demonstrated exceptional talent, dedication, and impact, influencing and inspiring others to achieve excellence.

The recipient will have made a profound impact on their profession and patient care, advancing knowledge, pushing boundaries, and setting new standards. Their work has likely influenced the development and progress of the entire field.

Criteria

The recipient will have:

- Profound and lasting impact on their profession
- Clear evidence of enduring benefit to patient care
- Influenced and inspired others working in health and social care
- Pushed boundaries and set new standards

Submission questions

- 1 Summarise this person's career achievements in 50 words
- 2 Now tell us more about the impact of their work (200 words)
- 3 How have they influenced and inspired others? (100 words)
4. What will be their enduring legacy? (100 words)

Overall winner

Sponsored by the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists

The overall winner is chosen from among the winners of the main categories.

