

ADVANCING HEALTHCARE AWARDS CYMRU 2026

THE SHORTLIST



Award for excellence in cancer care

Sponsored by Macmillan Cancer Support

From diagnosis to better outcomes: embedding prehabilitation in cancer care

Joanne Horton, Consultant Therapist, Allied Health Professional Lead for Cancer and Kacey Mills, Project Manager and the team at Swansea Bay University Health Board

Lymphaticovenous anastomosis surgery in Wales: improving outcomes for adults with cancer related lymphoedema

Melanie Thomas, Clinical Director and Cheryl Pike, National Innovations Lymphoedema Specialist, Lymphoedema Wales Clinical Network and the collaborative team across Swansea University, Swansea Bay University Health Board and the Lymphoedema Wales Clinical Network

Co-produced national diet resource transforming equitable, evidence-based support for people with breast cancer

Sian Lewis, Macmillan AHP Cancer Lead, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and Jane Spivey, Macmillan AHP Cancer Lead, Powys Teaching Health Board



Award for excellence in diagnostics

Sponsored by the Institute of Biomedical Science

Transforming regional nuclear medicine diagnostics for patients with bile acid malabsorption

Rachel Bidder, Head of Nuclear Medicine Physics and the wider team at Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Implementation and refinement of a Clinical Scientist-led sleep diagnostics pathway for sleep disordered breathing

Lois Attewell, Head of Respiratory and Sleep Physiology, Lung function and Sleep Apnoea Team, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Slaying the gap: universal testing for Hepatitis D in Wales

Daniel Gill, Senior Biomedical Scientist, Wales Specialist Virology Centre and the team at Public Health Wales

Implementation of all-Wales Fetal RhD Screening Programme

Felicity May, Consultant Clinical Scientist (Deputy Head of Transplantation Services), Welsh Blood Service



Award for digital and technology innovation

Sponsored by Digital Health and Care Wales

Digital first, not digital only: inclusive rural rehabilitation

*Owen Hughes, Head of Powys Living Well Service,
and the team at Powys Living Well Service*

Virtual delivery and smartphone application for Foodwise for Life: an all-Wales community weight management programme

*Lisa Williams, All Wales Nutrition Training Facilitator, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
and the collaborative team across all major Health Boards*

A Digital Transformation of Sleep Services

*Christian Newman, Deputy Head of Value Based Healthcare and
Emma Davies, Clinical Physiology Manager: Respiratory and Sleep Science and
the team at Hywel Dda University Health Board*



Award for outstanding leadership

Sponsored by Welsh Government

Leading advanced practice transformation clinical supervision and senior leadership

*Kerry Robertshaw, Consultant for Urgent Care, and the Senior Advanced Paramedic
Practitioners team, Welsh Ambulance Service University Trust*

Exceptional leadership through effective triage, risk management and supporting staff wellbeing

*Penelope Williams, Occupational Therapist, Vale Community Learning Disability Team,
Swansea Bay University Health Board*

Inclusive whole system leadership

*Madelaine Najjar, Interim Head of Nutrition & Dietetics,
Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board*

Leading innovation and service transformation to improve cardiorespiratory and sleep care across rural west Wales

*Nerys James, Cardiac and Respiratory Healthcare Sciences Manager,
Hywel Dda University Health Board*

Bringing people together: collaborative leadership transforming patient care across Wales

*Monica Casanova Martins, Clinical Team Lead in Nuclear Medicine,
Swansea Bay University Health Board*

Leading change, empowering Teams, improving patient care across Wales

Rhian White, Laboratory Director, All Wales Medical Genomics Service

Award for new ways of working

Podiatry Transforming Vascular Services in Hywel Dda UHB

Katie Evans-Bundy, Head of Podiatry & Orthotics, Christian Newman, Deputy Head Value-Based Healthcare and National Clinical Lead Value-Based Healthcare and the team at Hywel Dda University Health Board

Care closer to home: transforming liver disease rehabilitation through home-based nasogastric feeding and reconditioning

Amelia Rowlands, Gastroenterology Lead Dietitian and Rhian Booth, Clinical Lead Dietitian and the team at Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Bridging the interdisciplinary gap to get patients on the right pathway

Daniel Rothwell, National Research and Innovation Specialist and Clinical Scientist, Joanne Brown, National Lymphoedema and Cellulitis Clinical Lead and Paramedic, and Melanie Thomas, Clinical Director and Physiotherapist, Lymphoedema Wales Clinical Network

Transforming Outcomes through Integrated Psychiatric Genomics in Wales

Donna Duffin, Principal Genetic Counsellor and the team at All Wales Medical Genomics Service

Human platelet lysate

Michael Cahillane, Senior Research Scientist, Welsh Blood Service and the collaborative research team

Award for developing the AHP and healthcare science professions workforce

Sponsored by Health Education and Improvement Wales

Introducing Powys to POCT: Transforming Point of Care Testing in Powys

Melanie Prince, Point of Care Testing Co-ordinator, Powys Teaching Health Board

From pressure to potential: a new dysphagia workforce model

Laura Banci, Professional Lead Speech and Language Therapist Acute & Secondary Care, Anthony Sueref, Highly Specialist Speech & Language Therapist and Julie-Anne Channing, Speech & Language Therapy Assistant, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

Delivering lean innovation for safer, faster, fairer patient care

Caroline Kirwan, Lead Consultant Genetic Counsellor and Charlotte Jaggard, Principal Genetic Counsellor and the team at All Wales Medical Genomics Service

Limited scope reporting Biomedical Scientist (bowel screening) training pilot

Alan Deacon, National Pathology Programme Lead, NHS Wales Performance and Improvement

Innovative Interprofessional Simulation and Hackathon Learning to Develop the Future Workforce

Kirsty Thomas, Occupational Therapy Lecturer, and the Nursing and occupational therapy team, Swansea University, Janine Evans, Advanced Practitioner Occupational Therapist, Swansea University Health Board

Award for excellence in rehabilitation

Sponsored by the Allied Health Professions Federation Cymru

The Neuro Recovery College - The Neurostute

Emma Louise Sinnott, Speech and Language Therapist and Linda Tremain, Physiotherapist & Development Lead for the Neurostute Recovery College, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

Steps to wellbeing

Wendy Bromham-Davies, Occupational Therapist, Swansea Bay University Health Board

Transforming end of life care through specialist community rehabilitation physiotherapy

Nicola Perkins, Team Lead Specialist Palliative Care Physiotherapist, Specialist Palliative Care Physiotherapy Team, Swansea Bay University Health Board

Rising Star Award

Sophie Cagodan

Senior Renal Technologist (Annex 21 - Trainee), Swansea Bay University Health Board

Scott Leonard

Trainee Advanced Paramedic Practitioner, Welsh Ambulance Service University NHS Trust

Sophie Arnold

Specialist Occupational Therapist, Older Adult Mental Health Team, Powys Teaching Health Board

Victoria Illsley

Audiologist, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

Holly Gibbs

Physiotherapist (Falls Prevention), Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board

Sophie Reynolds

Occupational Therapy Assistant, Swansea Bay University Health Board