



# Winners' Guide

Advancing Healthcare Awards 2021

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Innovation | Creativity | Leadership | Compassion



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# Congratulations to all our winners and finalists

The 2021 Advancing Healthcare awards were like no other. Entries were submitted during that difficult period towards the end of the year and into January when the second pandemic wave was hitting the UK. This Winners' Guide reflects the achievements of AHPs and healthcare scientists during that extraordinary year.

In response to the pandemic, AHPs, healthcare scientists and those who work alongside them in support roles achieved feats of ingenuity, determination, creativity and stamina. We heard from people who would in normal times have dipped a toe in the water, but this year dived straight in; people who took their services virtual as a second best but soon realised it could be first best for patients and their families.

One advantage of a virtual ceremony is that the finalists' videos stand as a permanent record on our website so that, together with this Winners Guide, ensures that the experience and learning can be shared as widely as possible.

Thank you to our sponsors who promoted the awards through their networks, helped with the judging, shared their ideas and made the whole event possible. This year we were not able to have the thrill of a judging day; we went virtual, so a big thank you to the judges we took these difficult decisions online this time.

A special congratulations to the AHPs in Northern Ireland who achieved 11 entries into the shortlist four winners, two Rising Stars and the overall AHP winner.

Entries for 2022 will open in the Autumn; meanwhile have a closer look at the work of our finalists.



Alison Dunn and  
Will Chamberlain-Webber

Joint managing directors  
Chamberlain Dunn

# OVERALL WINNER

Allied health professionals

Chamberlain  
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## Joanne McKee

AHP Lead, Whiteabbey Nightingale Regional Enhanced Nursing and AHP led Rehabilitation Unit, Northern Health and Social Care Trust

### THE JUDGES' COMMENTED:

“ Joanne has shown exceptional leadership to the AHP and wider team in her role as AHP Lead at the Nightingale at Whiteabbey. Joanne has been instrumental in planning and opening a regional centre for post-covid inpatient rehabilitation within a very short timescale. The Enhanced Nursing and AHP led Rehabilitation and Step-Down Unit for patients post-covid opened on 20 November and has admitted over 140 patients who have benefitted from 7-day AHP rehabilitation. Joanne's leadership and enthusiasm has already helped establish a reputation across the region for excellence and improved patient outcomes. ”

READ MORE ON P16

**AHPA**  
2021 United Kingdom  
Advancing healthcare awards  
Allied health professionals & healthcare scientists

# OVERALL WINNER

Healthcare science



## Global Clinical Engineering Day Team, Basit Abdul and NHS Trusts in the UK

### THE JUDGES' COMMENTED:

“ The team acted quickly to produce an excellent 'Global Clinical Engineering Day' video. This became the UK's contribution to an international celebration, at a time where the profession was under pressure to deliver support to the pandemic response. The approach taken, the number of organisations, and the quality of the output were all innovative, and stood out versus previous contributions from the UK. Many contributed, but Basit in particular had to drive this exercise forward and was crucial in making it happen. The feedback can be seen in the YouTube comments, but also in the discussion of the video across the regional and national clinical engineering networks that formed to coordinate pandemic response. ”

[READ MORE ON P13](#)



# NHS EMPLOYERS AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT BY AN AHP OR HEALTHCARE SCIENCE APPRENTICE, SUPPORT WORKER OR TECHNICIAN



## WINNER

**Donna Morris,**  
Trainee Biomedical Scientist (apprenticeship scheme),  
Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust, Harlow

Donna took the lead on validating 15 point-of-care SAMBA machines, designed to detect COVID-19. This has allowed the wider hospital and healthcare teams to test for COVID within the emergency department and other hospital ward areas, so improving the patient experience, turnaround time and pathway. Donna has excelled in this project normally allocated to a HCPC registered biomedical scientist. Patients can be tested at the bedside as opposed to sending a swab to the laboratory. Families are also directly involved where a carer is accompanying the patient and requires testing. The test allows for a much quicker turnaround time, typically 2 hours instead of 8 hours. This allows for a faster result, quicker discharge to community care, correct ward placement (i.e. COVID or non-COVID). It also allows for faster emergency surgery, and an all-round reduction in patient anxiety.

“The judges say that Donna wanted to win this on behalf of all biomechanical scientists who are rarely seen and who have made a massive impact on so many people’s lives this past year. They are the ‘unsung heroes who have had the biggest impact on patient care’ and ‘treat every single one of the thousands of samples each day as a patient.’”

## FINALISTS



**Joe Sirichas, Friends of the Cancer Centre’s Physical Activity Coach,**

Belfast Health and Social Care Trust

Joe implemented virtual classes as a way to do exercise with patients during the pandemic. This reached patients from all parts of Northern Ireland when previously they would have been unable to do so because of travelling long distances. Patients can exercise from the comfort of their own home, reaping the benefits of exercise while minimising the Covid-19 risk.

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**Lorraine Allchurch, assistant therapy practitioner, lead AHP support worker,**

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust

Lorraine is positive and motivated, dedicated to patient care. Lorraine shares knowledge, ideas and experience to promote colleagues’ development and service development. Due to Covid-19 Lorraine’s role adapted from treating frailty patients to working on Covid-19 positive areas. She adapted as needed, developed new skills and liaised with colleagues from a range of services to broaden her knowledge base. She has recently been promoted for a secondment period as lead AHP support worker, looking at ways to expand and develop roles of support worker and assistant roles.

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# THE WELSH GOVERNMENT'S AWARD FOR VALUE BASED CARE: MAKING BEST USE OF RESOURCES TO MAXIMISE OUTCOMES



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

## WINNER

**Who said it was "virtually" impossible?**

Patrice Mahon, Assistant Speech and Language Therapy Manager, Children's Services; Alison Ferris, Clinical and Service Lead for SLD schools,

South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust

In September 2019, as part of the Trust's Quality Improvement programme, a team of SLTs explored the potential for delivering training online. This work gathered pace in March 2020 as face-to-face services were stepped down, and digital solutions became essential. Training packages were designed and delivered through live and recorded webinars and accessed by service users and stakeholders across the region. Waiting times to access training reduced from on average 4 – 6 months to no longer than 4 weeks.

Delivery of virtual consultations including initial, review and therapy interventions and replaced face to face appointments as appropriate, using a range of resources including digital assessments and therapeutic apps. Within one area of service delivery, waiting time reduced from 17 weeks to 2 weeks. Staff have been helped by the development of support structures, including lunch-and-learn sessions, digital champions,

tech buddies, alongside continued investment in technology and training. 80% of service users reported they were happy engaging with teletherapy. Moving to a blended approach has facilitated direct access to services, alongside reducing waiting times, meeting rebuild performance targets.

“The judges were impressed by the realism in the delivery team in recognising that whilst virtual delivery is not for everyone, a blended approach frees time which enables further staff development, and improved services.”



### FIND OUT MORE

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## FINALISTS



**Design and implementation of an adaptive pooling workflow for SARS-CoV-2 testing in an NHS diagnostic laboratory,**

Imperial College Healthcare in collaboration with NHSEI

Diagnostic laboratories were required to provide routine testing of asymptomatic staff and patients as a part of their clinical screening for SARS-CoV-2 infection. Group testing is frequently proposed as a possible solution and as a 7-week proof of concept, they designed and implemented an adaptive pooling strategy in an NHS diagnostic laboratory. They assessed the impact of pooling on analytical sensitivity and modelled the impact of prevalence on pooling strategy, considered the operational constraints to model the potential gains in capacity and the need for additional staff. They developed a LIMS-agnostic laboratory automation workflow and software solution and tested its technical feasibility.

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**Triage with Tele (TWT): early brief intervention for children's physiotherapy**

Sarah Roberts, Team Lead Paediatric Physiotherapist

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

The team used a 'virtual first' triage approach via the Attend Anywhere video platform to see children with variations in walking, foot posture and motor development. This enabled visual contact with a child in the referral triage process allowing early exchange of information, guidance and advice to help relieve parental anxiety and reduce the need for a face-to-face appointment. Fewer children attended unnecessary appointments, physiotherapy capacity was released to see children with the greatest need and enabled early referral to other services if required.

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# THE VIAPATH AWARD FOR INNOVATION IN HEALTHCARE



## WINNER

### Wales Infants' and children's Genome Service (WINGS)

Sian Corrin and Jana Jezkova. Clinical Scientists.

All Wales Medical Genomics Service

One in 17 people are affected by a rare disease, and more than 30% of children with a rare disease die before their fifth birthday. A key priority of the UK Strategy for Rare Diseases is to identify and improve the pathway for patients with unknown or delayed diagnosis - "The Diagnostic Odyssey". Until recently, targeted gene testing was adopted with patients waiting years (sometimes up to 20) for their diagnosis. WINGS, launched in April 2020, uses whole genome sequencing (WGS) to deliver a rapid genetic diagnosis for critically ill infants and children. This means that the whole genome is tested at the same time, within 1-2 weeks, therefore increasing the possibility of a diagnosis in a clinically actionable timeframe. International medical systems and UK research that have adopted a rapid WGS approach have increased their diagnostic rate, demonstrated substantial reductions in healthcare spending due to fewer days in hospital and avoiding unnecessary surgeries and other invasive procedures as well as preventing future, avoidable harm. Although rapid genomic sequencing is increasingly being adopted internationally, the WINGS service is the first commissioned NHS diagnostic WGS service within the UK.

“This is a fantastic project, said the judges, which was potentially transformative in terms of patient pathways, with a clear impact on patient care. There were clear patient benefits but there were also benefits in developing the workforce and creating infrastructure to support innovation.”

## FINALISTS



### Emergency Blood provision to the NHS Nightingale Hospital North West

#### Transfusion Laboratory Services, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

Team Members: Emma Copperwaite, Transfusion Improvement and Development Lead Carmel Parker, Lead Transfusion Practitioner Rebecca Sullivan, Senior Biomedical Scientist Sarah Pendlebury, Transfusion Practitioner David Tran, Biomedical Scientist Philip Stelfox, Senior Biomedical Scientist, Jayne Peters, Consultant Haematologist in Transfusion.

The Nightingale Hospital North West is a temporary field hospital, built and run by the NHS and the military. The Transfusion service was asked to supply on-site O D Negative red cells for emergency blood provision and developed a quick, creative and safe way to bring the blood closer to the patients. This solution was Golden Hour TM Technology, originally designed for the military to protect temperature sensitive components in the battlefield. The Credo Cubes which house this technology were validated by the Transfusion Laboratory for storage of red blood cells for up to 120 hours.

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### Improving Compliance with the Minimum Acceptance Criteria (MAC) for Laboratory Requests,

Gareth McKeeman, Consultant Clinical Scientist, Clinical Biochemistry

Darren Campbell, Service Manager, Blood Sciences

Karen Shields, Pre-Analytics Manager, Blood Sciences

Belfast Health & Social Care Trust

Belfast Trust Laboratories implemented MAC in September 2019 following an audit that indicated 36% of sample request forms had missing patient information which can lead to wrong tests on the wrong patient or critical results not reaching the clinical team. The need for an innovative and yet sustainable approach was required to avoid sample rejection/repeat blood sampling, guaranteeing robust diagnosis and treatment options for patients. The project ensured all staff and users were trained in laboratory acceptance procedure; where possible, blood sciences samples were requested electronically and test requests received without MAC were reduced

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# SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT'S AWARD FOR DRIVING IMPROVEMENT, DELIVERING RESULTS – HEALTHCARE SCIENCE



## WINNER

**Hearing checks at home for children and young people with a learning disability, autism or both,**

Jack Stancel-Lewis, Healthcare Science Fellow & Audiologist, NHS England and NHS Improvement

Ruth Thomsen, Scientific Director, NHS England and NHS Improvement  
NHS England and NHS Improvement

Team Members: Keiran Joseph, Clinical Lead: Children and Young People's Audiology Centre, St Thomas' Hospital

Sarah Laister, Senior Paediatric Audiologist, St Thomas' Hospital

Michelle Chung, Senior Paediatric Audiologist, St Thomas' Hospital

Professor Adrian Davis, Honorary Professor Hearing and Communication, UCL

Gwen Carr, Senior Research Associate, UCL

Mary Busk, Senior Family Carer Adviser, NHS England and NHS Improvement

Jean-Pierre Maciel, Project Manager, NHS England and NHS Improvement

COVID-19 enabled the team to think innovatively about pathway redesigns and creative ways to deliver COVID safe hearing checks to children and young people with learning disabilities and autism. Attending hospital can be challenging during normal times for parents with children who have complex needs. They trained parents to perform some of the checks at home, using a smartphone otoscope that enables remote review and a tympanometry. They produced manuals, social stories and provided virtual training sessions to support the parents to deliver ear checks to many children who had not tolerated testing traditionally. Parents felt empowered and valued, reporting that performing ear checks at home was preferential to checks at the clinic and children were less distressed in their own environment.

They empowered parents to deliver ear checks using innovative technology that enables remote review, in a COVID safe way. Parents were trained using teleconferencing software. The model was co-produced to

ensure the project met the needs of the service user. Children with learning disabilities and autism were able to access ear checks in a safe environment.

“The judges said the project was clear and innovative, using simple to use technology and a supportive and collaborative approach. There is already demonstrable benefit to patients, despite this being a feasibility study. The project is powerful in terms of inclusivity and its potential to tackle inequalities within communities.”



FIND OUT MORE

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## FINALISTS



### National Demand Optimisation Group

Bernie Croal, Service Clinical Director and National Demand Optimisation Group Chair,

Philippa Cottam Programme Manager, National Demand Optimisation Group

### NHS Scotland

The National Demand Optimisation Group had developed an interactive Atlas of Variation for a defined suite of laboratory tests, allowing unwarranted variation in test requesting to be identified and targeted via peer comparison and educational interventions. The project moved towards developing dashboard intelligence on laboratory test trends to monitor diagnostic activity occurring during the pandemic, into the remobilisation period. Existing data collection principles and the Atlas structure were used. The aim is for clinicians, managers, remobilisation leads and other stakeholders to access the dashboards to view relevant data to help inform prioritisation decisions throughout remobilisation.

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### Blood on Board

Beverly Craig, Blood Bank and Stem Cell Bank Discipline Manager

Stephen Kane Service Manager, Blood Sciences

### Belfast Health & Social Care Trust

The Regional Northern Ireland Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS), launched in July 2017, provides pre-hospital care to patients who have sustained serious trauma. Research has shown that major trauma patients attended to at the scene have a 2-3 times greater chance of survival. The service now carries two units of emergency O Rh D negative blood at all times. From December 2019–September 2020, 13 patients have benefited, receiving a transfusion 40 mins quicker than they would previously. They worked collaboratively with key stakeholders to ensure any change implemented would result in safe storage and administration.

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# CHROMA AWARD FOR INNOVATION IN NEUROREHABILITATION



## JOINT WINNERS

### The development of a Neuro-Oncology AHP Clinic,

Kate Baker, Macmillan Deputy Head of Therapies,

Velindre University NHS Trust

Neuro-oncology patients have complex and holistic needs, with treatment aimed at extending survival and maintaining quality of life. National guidelines recommend that the needs of neuro-oncology patients are met by a cohesive, coordinated and readily available multidisciplinary team. The neuro-oncology team at Velindre Cancer Centre (VCC) reconfigured services in 2019 to provide a joint AHP clinic with occupational therapy, speech and language therapy and clinical nurse specialist to assess and manage the holistic symptoms and functional difficulties of patients pre-treatment. This joint clinic allowed rapid, proactive access to specialised support, providing a “one stop shop” patient experience. With WG Outpatient Transformational monies in 2020, an extension was established by a virtual review clinic to support patients on and beyond treatment in this integrated and holistic MDT way. Each patient is now routinely followed up in a review clinic and the duration and time between appointments are based on patient needs. The proactive nature of the clinics ensures patients are not waiting, which previously would have been up to six weeks.

“ The judges commented that a key element of the work was a resolution of fragmented services, bringing together various AHP disciplines within a virtual clinic – first phase being assessment, followed by a rehabilitation clinic. ”

### Neurologic Music Therapy - synthesising Interventions in Acute Stroke Rehab

Charlie Flint, Neurologic Music Therapist, Emma Playfair, Occupational Therapist

Charing Cross Hospital, Imperial College NHS Trust / Imperial Charity

This project has embedded neurological music therapy as an adjunct AHP intervention in an acute and in-patient rehab setting. A team of OT, physiotherapy, speech and language therapy, neuropsych, nurses, doctors and senior management facilitated the inclusion, education, dissemination, and development of NMT, and how it would work in an acute environment. It was hoped that the NMT would engage those with low-mood and general behavioural issues whilst simultaneously augmenting the traditional interventions using the NMT Transformational Design Model. This constructs musical exercises to impact on non-musical functioning (patient-directed goals, ADLs, discharge goals and so on). Collaboration between NMT and other AHPs underpinned the service provision. NMT would be present at MDT patient reviews and would receive referrals from the team throughout the week. The NMT open music group was also established to facilitate a patient-led experience to offer emotional support through music from patient to patient.

“ The judges were impressed by the novel use of NMT within an acute stroke setting, and the approach taken by the team using a clear and robust quality improvement model. ”



#### FIND OUT MORE

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## FINALIST



### Improving Sensory Rehabilitation delivery in an Acute Stroke Unit,

Anna Lawther, Rotational Band 5 Physiotherapist, Nicola Moran, Stroke Clinical Specialist Physiotherapist, Emma Dunn, Stroke Clinical Specialist OT and Aoife Graham, Speech and Language Therapist  
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust

This project focused on sensory rehabilitation within the physiotherapy team in the Acute Stroke Unit as no resource existed for the management of sensory impairments. It created a resource for patients and relatives to aid rehabilitation, adjunct physiotherapy/occupational therapy sessions, promote self-management, improve patient outcomes, improve awareness of the importance of sensation for motor recovery, and help community rehabilitation during COVID-19. Each patient with sensory impairments now receives a booklet appropriate for their ability.

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# THE NORTHERN IRELAND GOVERNMENT AWARD FOR REFORM AND REBUILD OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES POST COVID 19



## WINNER

**Rebuilding public health nutrition in a virtual world,**

**Jennifer McBratney, Chair of the Public Health Dietitians Group Northern Ireland**

**Health and Social Care Trusts, Northern Ireland**

Covid-19 added additional pressures on food choices, shopping, cooking and eating habits. Pandemic restrictions increased reliance on snacking, ultra-processed foods, takeaways and food parcels and exacerbated food insecurity. Dietitians and registered nutritionists worked collaboratively as the Public Health Dietitians Group, Northern Ireland (PHDG) and, following service user engagement, was commissioned by the Public Health Agency to develop an innovative series of webinars. Topics included Introduction to solids, Fussy eating, Feeding under-fives, Lunchbox and snack ideas, Healthy diet, healthier you, Food and mood, Feeding your family for less, Top tips for a healthier weight, Nutrition myth busting, Nutrition for teens, Eating well as you age.

The webinars were advertised on HSC social media platforms, through voluntary, statutory and community organisations, nutrition tutors, via wellbeing sites for employees in a range of public and private sectors and by clinical dietetic colleagues. PHDG also re-designed and piloted existing nutrition

education programmes for virtual delivery by community tutors. Virtual training and online resources were provided including time-lapse, step-by-step recipe videos. Virtual delivery enabled evidence-based nutrition information to be delivered when the pandemic exacerbated already difficult situations as face-to-face sessions stopped.

“ The judges loved the way the team explained how in the past they would have only dipped their toe in the water but this year they had completely dived in. The collaborative leadership was outstanding in fully embracing digital working. ”

### FIND OUT MORE

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## FINALISTS



**Reforming dietetic led coeliac service in response to the COVID- 19 pandemic.**

Sheila McVeigh and Julie McCaughern, Specialist Gastroenterology Dietitian

Pamela McMullan, Dietetic Assistant Practitioner Northern Health and Social Care Trust

The pandemic required consultations to move virtually so the team delivered dietetic-led coeliac service via telephone consultations. They recorded an audio over a gluten-free education slideshow, previously used in group sessions and sent it to the patients to help them prepare relevant questions. It reduced consultation time to between 45- 60 mins and left patients with a useful resource which they could revisit at their leisure. To make this more time efficient they developed a questionnaire for patients to complete before the phone appointment which meant they were better prepared for the consultation.

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**Transforming the ‘Communicating with Children’ early language intervention programme**

Maria McGuckian , Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist

Northern Health and Social Care Trust

The ‘Communicating with Children’ (CWC) parent programme was developed for the youngest children with language difficulties to teach parents language support strategies. A virtual CWC pathway was designed to cope with COVID-19 restrictions including access to engaging videos, detailing the CWC language support strategies; an accompanying booklet; and a telephone call with a therapist for a coaching conversation. This helped parents and carers to implement the language support strategies. The virtual pathway has enabled enhancements to the CWC programme, empowering parents and supporting their learning.

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# FACULTY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND AWARD FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO PUBLIC HEALTH WINNER



Public Health  
England



**Eating, drinking and swallowing difficulties (dysphagia) NI: an easier pill to swallow,**

**Michelle Tennyson, Chair Dysphagia NI, Assistant Director AHP Public Health Agency**

**Mo Henderson, AHP Consultant /Project Lead Dysphagia NI**

**Louise Campbell - Dysphagia Coordinator & Project Lead Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland**

Dysphagia Northern Ireland, developing care and support for those with eating, drinking and swallowing difficulties, is a whole-systems, integrated partnership of service users, carers, the Public Health Agency, Trusts' speech and language and dietetic teams, statutory, independent, voluntary and community sectors aiming to, increase knowledge of EDS difficulties and reduce the risk of choking. Dysphagia is an identified public health issue in NI with limited public and staff awareness. Increases in referrals for SLT dysphagia assessment pose challenges for resources and workforce capacity. Based on the population needs of adults with dysphagia, eleven regionally agreed dysphagia priorities were identified. Dysphagia NI works in partnership to develop system-wide infrastructure, develop evidence-based, quality-assured reformative solutions; regional training, service redesign, practical resources and guidance to support early identification and health promotion. Standardised guidance has been shared with regulatory, social care partner and community partnerships to raise awareness. It is based on integrated regional collaboration from service users experience, patient safety information (PHA),Trust

dysphagia coordinators, NI regulatory body RQIA, NI Social Care Council, regional educational platforms, professional bodies and community groups working collectively, with the shared aim of improving and protecting public EDS health.

“ The judges felt that this project was a great example of system-wide co-production which harnessed vertical and horizontal integration across health and social care with service user involvement and showing that AHPs are public health social movement champions. ”

## FINALISTS



**Empowering Patients Post Intensive Care (EPPIC),**

**Eilis MacLeod, Advanced Practitioner Physiotherapist in Critical Care and Cardiothoracic Surgery**

**Ann McQueen, Physiotherapy assistant service manager**

**Belfast Health and Social Care Trust**

PICS is characterized by physical strength deficits, cognitive decline, and mental health disturbances. The COVID-ICU team established a follow up service to enhance physical and psychological recovery. An MDT including intensive care medicine, physiotherapy, clinical psychology, pharmacy, speech and language therapy, and dietetics was established with service user feedback. An exercise group was set up through a virtual health platform, running for 6 weeks, twice a week and aiming to address the physical deficits experienced by survivors and to maximise psychological and cognitive benefits from exercise.

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**Burn prevention for older adults: a role for occupational therapists,**

**Janine Evans, Advanced Practitioner Occupational Therapist,**

**Laura Ingham, Occupational Therapy Research & Development Lead**

**Swansea Bay University Health Board,**

The aim of this project was to develop and evaluate burn prevention educational sessions for OTs working with older adults, and older adults attending community groups, with the aim of reducing the number of burn injuries sustained within their homes. An empirical-rational approach, implemented through a transformational leadership style, was used in the development, delivery and evaluation of the educational sessions. Collaboration between a burns OT service, R&D OT and academic colleagues was key in facilitating the undertaking of a scoping exercise to engage relevant stakeholders and partner organisations.

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# THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT AWARD FOR IMPROVING QUALITY; MEASURING AND DEMONSTRATING IMPACT – ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

## WINNER

**NHS GG&C Orthopaedic Trauma pathway project,**  
Gillian Snedden, Specialist Occupational Therapist  
Rachel Mainland, Specialist Physiotherapist  
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Clinical teams face challenges in managing resources to meet the needs of the growing number of patients sustaining a frailty fracture. Within NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, patients are admitted with frailty fractures to acute hospitals with ongoing rehabilitation continued in a variety of settings. In December 2018, an AHP project team was formed with an aim of standardising the patient pathway for frailty fracture and reducing hospital length of stay. Change ideas were implemented across the patient pathway within the North and South Sectors focusing on timely discharge. The following change ideas were implemented: increased green days for patients i.e. days where active rehabilitation occurred from either the occupational therapist or physiotherapist, increased use of Poole tool to identify the patients that would benefit most from a period of rehabilitation within the downstream rehabilitation wards, increased use of the rehabilitation passport in acute sites, discharge focused huddles in acute sites and earlier occupational therapy functional assessment.

“ The judges commented that the project made clear use of QI methodology to demonstrate improving quality and impact. The level of detail was excellent on outcome, process and balancing measures –patient feedback, increasing AHP contact, reducing LOS, increased green time and so on. ”



### FIND OUT MORE

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## FINALISTS



### Multicultural resources working party of the Renal Nutrition Specialist Group - British Dietetic Association

Team Members: Lakshmi Chandrasekharan, Senior Renal Dietitian, Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Sue Dawe, Senior Renal Dietitian, Gloucestershire Hospitals Foundation NHS Trust

Tina Dilloway, Senior Renal Dietitian, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

Severine Gregory-Smith, Senior Renal Dietitian, Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

Deepa Kariyawasam, Senior Renal Dietitian, King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Rupel Patel, Senior Renal Dietitian, Epsom and St. Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust

Gabby Ramlan, Senior Renal Dietitian, North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust

Renal Nutrition Group Committee of the British Dietetic Association

Dialysis is 3-5 times more common within black and minority ethnic groups (BAME). 16% of patients on haemodialysis have potassium level outside of the recommended range and if untreated can lead to death. As the foods consumed by people from different ethnic groups can vary, it is important that the information provided covers the types of foods eaten. This team developed a set of four diet sheets on how to reduce potassium while consuming an African-Caribbean, Eastern European, Far Eastern or South Asian diet and also produced a set of webinars for dietitians to help advise BAME patients.

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### Implementation of the virtual spinal clinic,

Claire Murray, Clinical Lead Orthopaedic ICATS

South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust

This project involved the Implementation of the Virtual Spinal Clinic providing rapid access to spinal surgeons within a 2-week time frame and a reserved outpatient slot in secondary care (surgical), leading to a 48% reduction in referrals to the spinal surgeons. The ICATS team consists of advanced practitioner physiotherapists and GPs with special interest in MSK, and involved close collaboration with the spinal surgeons to create and implement a spinal virtual clinic.

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# THE ACADEMY FOR HEALTHCARE SCIENCE AWARD FOR INSPIRING THE HEALTHCARE SCIENCE WORKFORCE OF THE FUTURE

## WINNER

**Global Clinical Engineering Day Team,  
Basit Abdul and NHS Trusts in the UK**

The team acted quickly to produce an excellent '[Global Clinical Engineering Day' video](#). This became the UK's contribution to an international celebraion, at a time where the profession was under pressure to deliver support to the pandemic response.

The approach taken, the number of organisations, and the quality of the output were all innovative, and stood out versus previous contributions from the UK. Many contributed, but Basit in particular had to drive this exercise forward and was crucial in making this happen. The feedback can be seen in the YouTube comments, but also in the discussion of the video across the regional and national clinical engineering networks that formed to coordinate pandemic response.

The video was a series of vignettes that can be split down and used for professional awareness, educational material and marketing. This was a deliberate and considerate decision by the team, and meant that Clinical Engineers across the country will be able to make use of the content for years to come. By featuring contributions across the country, it shows a breadth of perspectives that makes the content transferable. It was also designed to introduce lay audiences to the work of Clinical Engineers.

“The judges thought this was a highly innovative initiative, which was wide reaching both inside and outside of his immediate field. Basit showed considerable leadership in developing the film and using the opportunity to raise the profile of clinical engineering within his own Trust and beyond.”

## FINALISTS



### Transfusion Laboratory Services

Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

The Nightingale Hospital North West is a temporary field hospital, built and run by the NHS and the military. The Transfusion service was asked to supply on-site O D Negative red cells for emergency blood provision and developed a quick, creative and safe way to bring the blood closer to the patients. This solution was Golden Hour TM Technology, originally designed for the military to protect temperature sensitive components in the battlefield. Each Credo Cube was 'Blood provision in a box,' contained giving sets and all documentation and information about transfusion, traceability, transfer and investigation of a transfusion reaction.

[Emma.Copperwaite@mft.nhs.uk](mailto:Emma.Copperwaite@mft.nhs.uk)



### Dr James Willis,

Lead in Echocardiography and HSST trainee,

Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust

James is an inspirational healthcare scientist. He worked as a cardiology clinical tutor for the local University for many years, demonstrating inspirational teaching and clinical standards while employed as a full-time cardiac physiologist. James leads the team from the front, setting exceptional standards and continues to show repeated improvements in the service and care. James' professionalism, dedication to the team is second to none; he leads with compassion, science and research at the front of all he delivers.

[james.willis@nhs.net](mailto:james.willis@nhs.net)



**FIND OUT MORE**

[Basit.abdul@england.nhs.uk](mailto:Basit.abdul@england.nhs.uk)



# THE ACADEMY FOR HEALTHCARE SCIENCE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT BY A CLINICAL RESEARCH PRACTITIONER

## WINNER

**Tracey Collishaw, Clinical Research Practitioner, Lincolnshire Partnership Foundation Trust**

In one of the toughest years, Tracey has gone above and beyond to keep her team in high spirits and to innovate her normal practice to meet the new demands of the virtual world. She manages and engages our ENRICH network, building a rapport with more than 50 care homes. During lockdown she has supported forums to go virtual; increased the frequency of newsletters and arranged check in calls with the managers. She has taken a creative approach to promotion and being able to continue recruitment in lockdown; she uses social media including the staff Facebook page and Twitter to keep research on the agenda.

Tracey is exceptionally passionate about dementia research and manages a project that engages all GPs in the county to sign up to be JDR Champions. She offers dementia friend sessions as an innovative way to help discussion about research. She has presented both face-to-face (before lockdown) and virtually at GP team meetings, to care homes, at big promotional events such as Lincolnshire show.

“The judges said that Tracey was a passionate leader who goes above and beyond. She has delivered change and innovation within dementia research, an under represented area, by engaging across systems and working to break down or navigate around barriers. She role models not only excellent leadership skills but also influencing skills which enable her to be a real pioneer in her role.”

## FINALISTS



**Amy Clark, Senior Research Practitioner, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust**

Over the past year Amy has adapted to working on complex clinical trials investigating treatments for COVID-19. She has quickly evolved to understand critical care research, and has created unforgettable bonds with patients along the way. Amy has been successful in recruiting patients into clinical trials as well as providing reassurance and compassion to the patients they are involved with. She has achieved so much over the past year.

[amy.clark2@nuh.nhs.uk](mailto:amy.clark2@nuh.nhs.uk)



**Atiqa Begum Miah, Clinical Trials Practitioner, Barts Health NHS Trust**

Atiqa has a wide-range of research experience and an academic background in psychology with a dynamically holistic approach. She has a genuine enthusiasm to deliver research and make a collaborative and positive difference to people's lives. During the pandemic she has shown leadership and teamworking skills. She has been volunteering to help with the running of urgent COVID-19 studies, managing her time between multiple roles and working with a team of clinicians and data managers

[atiqa.miah1@nhs.net](mailto:atiqa.miah1@nhs.net)



**FIND OUT MORE**

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# BIOMEDICAL SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR AWARD, SPONSORED BY THE INSTITUTE OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE



## WINNER

**Dr Sarah Pitt,**  
Principal Lecturer and HCPC registered Biomedical Scientist,  
University of Brighton

During the pandemic, Dr Sarah Pitt has been the IBMS' leading public expert in virology - sharing fact-checked, professional information about COVID-19 on behalf of IBMS members for the benefit of the public. She is now a trusted expert and favoured interviewee by many organisations such as the BBC. This is due to her professional expertise, measured responses and reassuring pragmatism. She has written well researched and easy to understand articles on COVID-19 for the public and helped to produce guidance and practice documents for her professional body - having a large and positive impact on public safety and patient care.

Over the course of the pandemic, Sarah has become the spokesperson for the IBMS Specialist Advisory Panel in virology, being regularly interviewed on a national and international level on news and radio and ensuring that biomedical scientists' voices have been heard. She has consistently helped the IBMS by fact checking information and sourcing valuable insights into the virology of COVID-19. She has also helped with guidance documents to help laboratory staff in hospitals, the public and schools involved in lateral flow testing and has even helped to script an animated video explaining the testing process to the public.

“ The judges said that Sarah has a huge depth of knowledge and experience in her specialist area of virology, which she has been able to use to great effect during the pandemic. Like many, Sarah has been thrust into the media limelight and has performed these interviews (often live and at short notice) with considerable skill, all this while still maintaining her 'day job' at the university. Thanks to Sarah, much of the public now know who biomedical scientists are and what they do in the laboratory ”



**FIND OUT MORE**  
[S.J.Pitt@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:S.J.Pitt@brighton.ac.uk)

## HIGHLY COMMENDED



**Dr Gary Michael Reynolds**  
Cellular Pathology Lead Scientist, QEHB Liver Unit & Hon Senior Research Fellow,  
University of Birmingham, Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham

Liver disease, killing around 11,000 people per year in England alone and continually rising, is managed through transplantation. There are shortages of donor livers, with increasing numbers classed unsuitable, particularly due to fatty liver disease. The liver team at QEHB/UoB have led the way (world-wide) in developing ex-vivo machine liver perfusion, which preserves donor livers for longer and regenerates previously unsuitable livers. This technology, approved last year by NICE, is having a tremendous impact on patient care and outcome. Gary is the leading BMS on the team and contributed to the delivery and continued refinement of the ground-breaking advances.

[G.M.Reynolds@bham.ac.uk](mailto:G.M.Reynolds@bham.ac.uk)

## FINALIST



**Pinglawathee Madona,**  
Biomedical Scientist,  
North West London Pathology

Pinglawathee a consummate professional in all her duties and consistently goes above and beyond to support the team and NHS Trusts to deliver an exceptional diagnostic service. A key accomplishment recently has been in designing and then managing a COVID diagnostic service that overcame the challenges to deliver 3,000 tests per day. Under her leadership, the laboratory COVID team were awarded the Trust Make a Difference Award for individual and team excellence. The recognition was for the impact her service had on patient management highlighting the contribution of biomedical scientists during the COVID response.

[p.madona@nhs.net](mailto:p.madona@nhs.net)

# THE AHP CLINICAL LEADERSHIP AWARD SPONSORED BY ATTEND ANYWHERE



## WINNER

**Joanne McKee**

**AHP Lead, Whiteabbey Nightingale Regional Enhanced Nursing  
and AHP led Rehabilitation Unit,  
Northern Health and Social Care Trust**

Joanne has shown exceptional leadership to the AHP and wider team in her role as AHP Lead at the Nightingale at Whiteabbey. Joanne has been instrumental in planning and opening a regional centre for post-Covid inpatient rehabilitation within a very short timescale. The Enhanced Nursing and AHP led Rehabilitation and Step-Down Unit for patients post-Covid opened on 20 November and has admitted over 140 patients who have benefitted from 7-day AHP rehabilitation. Joanne's leadership and enthusiasm has already helped establish a reputation across the region, for excellence and improved patient outcomes.

She actively listens to the views of colleagues and patients, and clearly articulates and addresses any concerns raised in a fair and solution-focused manner. She brings constructive ideas to the project board and is always an advocate for the patients in her care. She has built strong working relationships with the leadership team and is highly respected by her colleagues. In chairing the admissions hub and linking with the hubs across the country to host MDT admissions and discharge meetings, Joanne has earned the respect of colleagues across NI.

“The judges commented that Joanne was an authentic and enthusiastic leader, taking time to listen, and show kindness to patients and staff alike. The post Covid rehabilitation service required that she developed outside of her own discipline boundaries, drawing on the expertise and knowledge base of others through shared leadership.”



**FIND OUT MORE**

[Joanne.McKee@nhs.uk](mailto:Joanne.McKee@nhs.uk)  
[hscni.net](http://hscni.net)

## FINALISTS



**Suzanne Lester**

**Advanced Practitioner Physio in Hepatology  
Belfast health and Social Care Trust**

Suzanne took action with the realisation that there was no prehabilitation available to patients awaiting liver transplantation and furthermore 20% would die of sarcopenia while on the list. 89% of patients on the transplant list have sarcopenia but this frailty state has not been addressed anywhere in the UK. She developed a bespoke remote prehabilitation programme for liver transplant patients that was accessible and reachable to all patients on the NI transplant list. This vision inspired Suzanne to create and develop a prehabilitation service that will improve transplant survival and beyond.

[Suzanne.Lester@belfasttrust.hscni.net](mailto:Suzanne.Lester@belfasttrust.hscni.net)



**Martin Hatley**

**Musculoskeletal Outpatient Therapy Manager  
University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust**

Martin Hatley, who has worked at Poole Hospital for almost 30 years, is the outpatient therapy services manager who has built one of the most highly innovative departments in the country. Few other therapy leaders across the United Kingdom have managed to embed specialist clinicians as First Contact Practitioners, in Virtual Fracture Clinics, in Elective Orthopaedics and as Emergency Department Practitioners into their services. He has also developed the Dorset spinal pathway and highly effective Hand Therapy and Women's Health teams.

[Martin.Hatley@uhd.nhs.uk](mailto:Martin.Hatley@uhd.nhs.uk)

# The Rising Star award

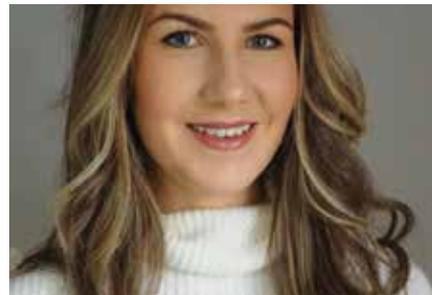
Here are our 2021 Rising Stars



Susan Pride, Specialist Occupational Therapist - North Lanarkshire Neuro Rehab Team NHS Lanarkshire who embraced technology to deliver services remotely during the pandemic.  
[susan.pride@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:susan.pride@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk)



Amy Jones, physiotherapist, South Eastern Health and Social Care Board, consistently obliging, smiling, professional and caring with a great sense of humour - an all-round team player.  
[Amy.Jones@setrust.hscni.net](mailto:Amy.Jones@setrust.hscni.net)



Jill Stewart, Cook it! and Health Improvement Dietitian, Northern Health and Social Care Trust, who is the kindest person, driven and determined, working tirelessly at the highest level.  
[Jill.Stewart@northerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:Jill.Stewart@northerntrust.hscni.net)



Harinder Grewal, ODP, team leader, colorectal service, George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust, who showed excellent leadership during the Covid crisis - her maturity and experience makes her shine.



Gemma Shiels, biomedical scientist, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust, whose enthusiasm and dedication for improvement is contagious - a great role model.  
[Gemma.Shiels@mft.nhs.uk](mailto:Gemma.Shiels@mft.nhs.uk)



Freya Henry, scientific trainee in cardiology, Royal United Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, who lightens every room with her enthusiasm, compassion and inquisitive approach.  
[freya.henry@nhs.net](mailto:freya.henry@nhs.net)



Sam Francis, specialist dietitian, Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, who understands the importance of self-care and emotional resonance in supporting the team.  
[Sam.Francis@bthft.nhs.uk](mailto:Sam.Francis@bthft.nhs.uk)



Rebecca Kay, senior clinical engineer, Guy's and Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, who took on a key role at the London Nightingale and shared with others the learning from that experience  
[Rebecca.east@nhs.net](mailto:Rebecca.east@nhs.net)



Godwin Andrew Ethapemi, associate practitioner, North West London Pathology, who inspires with his intense desire to learn - he's always ready to seize an opportunity.  
[g.ethapemi@nhs.net](mailto:g.ethapemi@nhs.net)



Susan Ellis, art psychotherapist, Envisage Arts CIC/Chroma Therapies, who set up Virtual Cuppa to support creative therapists during the pandemic.  
[sue-ellis@envisage-arts-cic.co.uk](mailto:sue-ellis@envisage-arts-cic.co.uk)



Lorraine Allchurch, assistant therapy practitioner, lead AHP support worker, The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust an inspiration, dedicated to patient care and brilliant at taking forward new ways of working.  
[lorraine.allchurch@nhs.net](mailto:lorraine.allchurch@nhs.net)

# THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR JUDGES

Kanar Ahmed, AHP Public Health Clinical Advisor, Public Health England

Elaine Cloutman-Green, joint Trust lead, healthcare Scientist, Great Ormond Street Hospital

Kate Cropper, music therapist, referrals manager, NMT certified, Chroma

Mary Emerson, AHP consultant, Public Health Agency

Eamon Farrell, AHP consultant, Public Health Agency

Tony Fisher, consultant clinical scientist, University of Liverpool

Pip Ford, former public affairs and policy manager for Wales, Chartered Society of Physiotherapy

Hedley Glencross, advanced specialist biomedical scientist, Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust

Jonathan Godsall, dramatherapist and clinical director, NMT qualified, Chroma

James Gore, CEO, Faculty of Public Health

Corrina Grimes, advance care planning lead, Department of Health NI

Dominic Harrington, chief scientific officer, Viapath

Linda Hindle, deputy chief AHP officer for England, Public Health England lead allied health professionals, and national engagement lead for public health in Police, Fire and Ambulance Services

Jo Horne, consultant healthcare scientist, University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust

Jenny Keane, chief allied health professions officer, Northern Ireland

Niamh Keating, physiotherapist, AHPs4PH

Katrina Kennedy, associate director, AHPs, Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Daniel Kerr, associate head of school of health science, Ulster University

Julie Lowe, speech and language therapist, social prescribing manager, personalised care group, NHS England

Carolyn Macdonald, chief allied health professions officer, Scotland

Claire Marshall, Experience of Care Lead, Acute Care, Experience of Care Team, NHS England, NHS Improvement

Professor Suzanne Martin, head of school, Health Sciences, Ulster University

Fiona McCallion, AHP education manager, HSC Clinical Education Centre NI

Siobhan Macauley, AHP, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust

Rachael Moses, associate director, rehabilitation and therapies, Royal Brompton and Harefield hospitals

Fiona O'Neil, head of registration services: clinical research practitioners, Academy for Healthcare Science

Andy Pickering, senior programme officer, NHS Employers

Grahame Pope, former head of physiotherapy and rehabilitation, University of Nottingham

Lesley Pope, chair, Independent Neurorehabilitation Providers Alliance

Jackie Reed, national lead, national health & social care professions office, Republic of Ireland

Lynda Rigby, executive head of marketing and membership, IBMS

Dee Ripley, deputy chief scientific advisor (health), Welsh Government

Malcolm Robinson, founder, Harvey's Gang

Catherine Ross, chief healthcare science officer, Scottish Government

Nicola Smith, senior programme officer, NHS Confederation

John Stevens, chair, Academy for Healthcare Science

Andy Swinburn, associate director paramedicine, Welsh Ambulance Services Trust

Daniel Thomas, managing director, Chroma, music therapist, member, Neurologic Music Therapy Advisory Council

David Wells, head of pathology, NHS England, NHS Improvement

Wendy Wilkinson, head of allied health professions transformation, Health Education and Improvement Wales