



2022 CYMRU

Advancing healthcare awards
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS & HEALTHCARE SCIENTISTS

Winners' Guide

Advancing Healthcare Awards Wales 2022

Innovation | Creativity | Leadership | Compassion

Celebrating the winning entries,
presented on 18 November 2022



Chamberlain Dunn Events

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Congratulations to all our winners and finalists

Welcome to the work of the finalists of the 2022 awards for allied health professionals, healthcare scientists and those who work alongside them.

The Advancing Healthcare Awards Wales ceremony was held in Cardiff at the Sophia Gardens Cricket Ground on 18 November. Many will remember an evening in November 2019 when we launched the inaugural awards programme, hoping of course to make it an annual event. The pandemic intervened and while we enjoyed our virtual celebrations, it was fantastic to be back in the room with you all.

We achieved over 80 entries which is incredible, at a time when everyone is under so much pressure. It's a real tribute to the dedication and creativity of healthcare scientists and AHPs in Wales.

A special thank you to our sponsors who not only provided financial support but helped us with the huge task of judging. These organisations are:

Health Education and Improvement Wales

Welsh Science Advisory Committee

Welsh Government

Welsh Allied Health Professions Committee

Health and Care Research Wales

Public Health Wales

We went virtual with the judging again to make it as time-efficient as possible for our busy judges and finalists. The judges found the experience inspiring and challenging, selecting winners from so many outstanding entries. This Winners' Guide summarises the work of the finalists and gives contact details.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the 2022 Awards so successful.

Alison Dunn and
Will Chamberlain-Webber

Joint managing directors
Chamberlain Dunn

November 2022

Our Winners' Guide is a vital part of the Advancing Healthcare awards programme. We are proud of it for (at least) four reasons:

- 1** It gives participants, guests, entrants and the wider healthcare world a chance to digest more fully the work of the finalists
- 2** It is a more permanent record of the achievements of AHPs and healthcare scientists in Wales in 2022 than an awards ceremony can ever achieve
- 3** It gives contact details for those wanting to find out more to build on their own work and to share experiences
- 4** It helps us to stand out from the crowd – very few award organisers take the trouble to deliver this final piece of the jigsaw.

If you would like to be involved in the Advancing Healthcare Awards as a sponsor, judge or simply share some ideas about how we can develop the programme, please contact Ellie Hayden on ellie@chamberdunn.co.uk

or call 020 8334 4500

OVERALL WINNER

SPONSORED BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

The CAVUHB rehabilitation model
The CAVUHB rehabilitation model team
Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

The judges decided this was the overall winner because:

“ This is an excellent example of transforming and embedding holistic, co-produced, sustainable rehabilitation services that are multi-disciplinary, high quality and integrated with community and third sector partners across a range of services. ”



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



SEE MORE ON PAGE 8

AWARD FOR COMPASSIONATE LEADERSHIP AND CHANGE MANAGEMENT

SPONSORED BY HEALTH EDUCATION AND IMPROVEMENT WALES

WINNER

Speech and Language Therapy West, BCUHB

Speech and Language Therapy Leadership team,
Area West – Team leader Dawn Leoni, Head of Speech and Language Therapy West

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

The team has transformed the service to create a positive, passionate, inclusive, innovative team empowered to provide the highest quality clinical care. They have created spaces and time for the team members to come together to reflect on working practices, to strengthen relationships, to share ideas, and to support one another through difficult situations. In so doing, they have created the climate to help ensure the health and wellbeing of staff delivering patient care.

The team aims to be recognised for their high quality, and uniquely bilingual, therapy provision in enhancing patient experience. They have enabled the staff to co-create a vision whereby they are striving to be the best they can be, by perpetuating good clinical practice,

“An impressive turnaround in the team as a result of the introduction of compassionate leadership approaches in respect of collaboration, colleague support and culture.”

trusting one another, celebrating successes. The team have committed to an open culture where honesty, inclusion, flexibility and lifelong learning are embedded.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

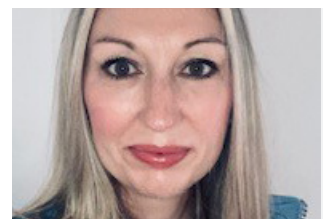


Claire Madsen, Executive Director of Therapies and Health Science,
Powys Teaching Health Board

As recognition grew of the numbers of people with long Covid, Claire led the response to develop new services. She created an all-Wales leadership group and clinical service leader group. She represented NHS Wales at the NICE guideline development, bringing professional expertise to the creation of the national guidance and pathway. This included support for many health and social care staff who were affected by this new condition. She consistently supported practitioners to learn and deal with the challenge of treating a new condition, with little underpinning evidence, and ensured staff had support to deliver the best possible services.

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FINALIST



Holly Lewis, Senior Clinical Scientist,
All Wales Medical Genomics Service

Holly is a compassionate and inclusive leader who facilitates communication, honest and frank discussion with a focus on delivering a high-quality service for patients while ensuring staff wellbeing is a top priority. Holly was plunged into a challenging management environment within a busy cancer genomic diagnostic service with staff having difficult personal issues, and has succeeded in managing a complex, sensitive and difficult situation over the past year with professionalism, care, respect and initiative. For a young leader she listens, reflects and exemplifies the Cardiff and Vale UHB values and behaviour policies to support staff through personal and professional challenges.

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FIND OUT MORE

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AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT BY AN AHP OR HEALTHCARE SCIENCE APPRENTICE, SUPPORT WORKER, ASSISTANT OR ASSOCIATE

SPONSORED BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

WINNER

Alex Pawson, Support Worker

Pinetree Court Hospital



FIND OUT MORE

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Alex joined Ludlow Street Healthcare with no previous experience in the care sector. He has, however, consistently gone above and beyond the job requirements to provide educational and creative ways of engaging service users.

Alex's role involves providing person-centred care for service users, all of whom have learning disabilities, behaviours that challenge, and/or mental illness.

Alex as a passionate musician and artist has forged excellent therapeutic relationships with service users through his desire to share his love of art. He is highly regarded and regularly praised by staff, service users, and the key people in their lives. His interpersonal skills and

“A modest person who is making a massive impact on the recovery of the people he supports. He is an outstanding role model for others.”

ability to promote the independence, creativity and enjoyment of service users has been exemplary. He's the true embodiment of a person and relationship-centred approach and is a role model for the rest of the team.

FINALISTS

**Alaw Haf Jones, Speech and Language Therapy
Technical Instructor, Betsi Cadwaladr University
Health Board**

First line Alaw goes above and beyond for both her colleagues and service users. Her role is very versatile and supports the service by working in inpatient, outpatient and community services. Alaw's role includes delivering therapy programmes for patients with communication difficulties due to stroke, progressive neurological conditions and mental health. She also supports by educating family members on speaker strategies to ensure that relationships between themselves and the patient can be improved. Alaw's contributions have promoted the confidence of many individuals, where many can continue their lives with communication impairments alongside being able to express their needs and wishes effectively.

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**Michelle Apostol, Associate Clinical Technologist,
Cardiff & Vale University Health Board**

Michelle trained as a nurse in the Philippines, then spent many years as a healthcare assistant in medical physics. Her willingness to learn, combined with her genuine care for patients and interest in their wellbeing has helped her move into her current role with every prospect of progressing into a healthcare science practitioner post. Michelle has demonstrated that with kindness, caring and an eagerness to learn and develop, you can progress in your role and become an indispensable part of the team. Her personal effort and hard work has helped return the UHW DXA service to good health to the great benefit of patients.

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**Deborah Mullan, Macmillan Speech and Language
Therapy Assistant, Velindre University NHS Trust**

Deborah is often the first point of contact with head and neck patients for the Speech and Language Therapy Service. She is an amazing and thoughtful advocate for the patient, exploring all needs and concerns and providing support and signposting as needed. She puts patients at ease and empathises with them. She has also taken control of the navigator role for the MDT neuro-oncology clinic, ensuring the patient voice is listened to, and coordinating clinic appointments to prevent repetition and to address their holistic needs.

Deborah works with such passion and has been commended by multiple patients and families for her skills and hard work, 'a first class service that is flexible and so friendly'. She handles patients sensitively and with compassion, bringing a smile to staff, patients and their families.

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AWARD FOR IMPROVING PUBLIC HEALTH OUTCOMES

SPONSORED BY PUBLIC HEALTH WALES



WINNER

The Contribution of a Dietitian to a Midwifery-led Healthy Pregnancy Clinic

Orla Adams, Dietetic Lead for Maternal Weight Management

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

This innovative project focuses on both minimising weight gain in pregnancy for women with a BMI > 40 kg/m² and increasing women's engagement in the weight management pathway post-partum, thereby reducing risks to both mother and baby. It is a sensitive subject that health professionals often find difficult to discuss with patients, often feeling overwhelmed with how to help people manage it. Pregnant women with a BMI >40 kg/m² were not previously offered a dietetic intervention but this is now part of the pathway.

Orla is a member of MINT (Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers) and has been learning Motivational Interviewing (MI) since 2006. The spirit of MI includes working in partnership with people, showing empathy, taking a compassionate approach and empowering people to feel able to make changes. Orla embodies this spirit and models these intentions in communication with her patients.

“An innovative contribution to future generations with the potential for significant public health impact, along with a passionate and committed desire to share good practice and upskill others”

FINALISTS



Multi-disciplinary workshops supporting pre-school children with social and communication difficulties

Kerri Evans, Clinical Strategic Lead Occupational Therapist for Autistic Spectrum Disorder on behalf of the multi-disciplinary team, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

Kerri Evans and the team have provided multi-disciplinary workshops to provide early intervention and support. The team worked collaboratively across seven professions to deliver four two-hour workshops to parents on areas of development typically challenged in pre-school children with social and communication difficulties. They overcame barriers of silo working with little additional resource to work differently to meet a gap in service provision, increase ease of access to a range of services and upskill and empower parents.

Although at an early stage, the workshops are having a positive impact on the families who access them. Providing easy access to specialist knowledge and creating opportunities for social connectedness between parents have resulted in positive reported qualitative data.

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Healthcare Scientists supporting the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme, the Welsh Blood Service role

Hospital Services Team - Stephen Pearce, Head of Manufacturing & Distribution and Sharon Hamer, Lead Scientist, Hospital Services, Welsh Blood Service

The Hospital Services Team rapidly developed and implemented an efficient mechanism for the national storing and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, enabling Wales to be one of the fastest countries in the world to vaccinate communities, reducing the infection and mortality rates in the Welsh population. The team provide an excellent model for successful multi-disciplinary team working in an extremely high-pressure environment. They recognised the project's vital importance to public health and pulled together to meet Welsh Government timelines and targets. Through sheer determination, the team embedded the vaccine distribution service whilst maintaining the quality and distribution of all blood components.

The team leaders influenced and motivated the team, maintaining momentum and ensuring the timely delivery of the project, while also maintaining calm and controlled approaches to stressful situations.

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FIND OUT MORE

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AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO RESEARCH DELIVERY

SPONSORED BY HEALTH AND CARE RESEARCH WALES

WINNER

John Rice, Clinical Specialist Physiotherapist and Physiotherapy Research Lead

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board

John has stepped into a new role, leading the physiotherapy research portfolio for CTMUHB, doing so with passion, enthusiasm and attention to detail. He has been funded by Health and Care Research Wales to undertake a new Research Physiotherapist role, the first of its kind. John has set about embedding an innovative, positive research culture in the workforce.

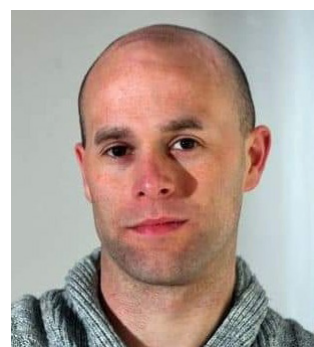
John has brought in 5 research portfolio studies and facilitated 10 members of staff to be actively involved in clinical research. He has also supported colleagues through GCP training and is collaborating with academic colleagues in Cardiff Met and Cardiff University to support publication of key research workstreams. His work is directly impacting on patient care with research that will influence changes to patient pathways.

“ John has clarity of how research delivery fits within a wider context of service improvement, evaluation and innovation – he clearly sees the link between research and real patient benefits and outcomes. ”

John is also working with MDT colleagues in ENT, OT, podiatry, the Innovation Hub, procurement and R&D to ensure quality improvement and research work directly results in tangible change.



FINALIST



Andrew Dean-Young, Clinical Research Therapist, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Andrew was given a secondment opportunity, funded by Health and Care Research Wales, to help reduce the clinical burden on therapy staff either completing or wanting to start a research trial. Andrew is now working to set-up and support trial delivery across the Cardiff and Vale UHB portfolio of therapy-led studies.

He has made a significant contribution to improving the visibility of therapies-led research to patients and the public and has streamlined patient access to novel interventions. Since joining the team there has been a substantial increase in recruitment to a number of high profile funded therapy-led portfolio studies.

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FIND OUT MORE

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AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN REHABILITATION

WINNER

The CAVUHB rehabilitation model

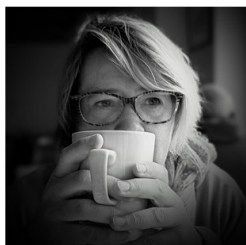
The rehabilitation model team

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

The CAVUHB rehabilitation model is a recovery- focused rehabilitation model to address health inequalities by optimising health and supporting self-management. The model guides co-production and co-delivery of a growing range of community interventions and networks, in multiple formats, directly accessed according to individual need. It's a significant paradigm shift; based on partnership working, high value, sustainable, community supported health generating activities. Current services include Long Covid recovery, prepare well for surgery and supporting people to live well with musculoskeletal conditions.

Co-production is at the centre of this development, including partnership with Recovery College and ImROC and a bi-weekly Co-production Forum that brings together the voices, actions and contributions of service users, 3rd sector, community and healthcare to achieve a common goal.

“An excellent example of transforming and embedding holistic, coproduced, sustainable rehabilitation services that are multi-disciplinary, high quality and integrated with community and third sector partners across a range of services.”



FINALISTS



Cancer related fatigue management – self-management pilot project

Jackie Pottle, Macmillan Cancer AHP Lead, and Lisa Heaton-Brown, Consultant Clinical Psychologist, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

The aim of this project was to develop CRF self-management resources for patients and for healthcare practitioners to support patients to live as fully as possible. This included the development of Health Board wide Sharepoint site to allow quick access to evidence- based information; varied patient support services, such as telephone support and stand-alone educational sessions that were hybrid, virtual, and face to face; video group clinics (providing education and peer support); and a series of education sessions to promote all resources and a range of patient support services.

Ongoing engagement has led to adaptations in referral mechanisms and service user recorded feedback to promote and support the impact of the service.

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**Early supported discharge
Pembrokeshire**

Ceri Dean, Clinical Lead Occupational Therapist and Jillian Turfery, Clinical Lead Physiotherapist, Early supported discharge team for stroke services in Pembrokeshire, Hywel Dda University Health Board

An early supported discharge service for stroke has been set up in beautiful and rural Pembrokeshire. The service aims to support people living in Pembrokeshire who have experienced a stroke to return home from hospital sooner and recover, through the provision of home-based rehabilitation. The development of the team has been led by the acute stroke team and it provides a bridge between the acute hospital and community services.

Previous pilots have gathered service users feedback of a general feeling of 'abandonment' once leaving hospital after their acute stay following their stroke. The Service aimed to address this for the Pembrokeshire population, to return home from hospital sooner and recover, through the provision of individualised home-based rehabilitation.

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AWARD FOR NEW WAYS OF WORKING

SPONSORED BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT,
TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME DIVISION



WINNER

Innovative Integration: Enhanced Community Services for Care Home Residents by Allied Health Professionals

Sheiladen Aquino, Clinical Lead Speech & Language Therapist, **Thomas Sauter**, Clinical Lead Pharmacist, **Lucy Marland**, Highly Specialised Care Home Lead Dietitian, **Amber McCollum**, Highly Specialist Speech & Language Therapist

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board and Community Integrated Services Bridgend



FIND OUT MORE

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This project showcases a new integrated approach to providing swallowing, nutrition and medication management to care home residents to improve clinical outcomes, reduce unwarranted hospital admission and improve job satisfaction for health and social care staff. It follows a simple pathway that can be easily scaled up across Wales. The project has three aims: to provide multidisciplinary training to care home staff to manage risks while health services are recovering after the pandemic; Co-design an efficient integrated clinical pathway with multiple stakeholders and to explore comprehensive outcome measures to include efficiency, hospital avoidance

“An innovative cost-neutral multi-disciplinary service, improving access and equality; it empowers nursing home staff and the community.”

and clinical outcomes. Post-training interviews revealed that staff now feel more valued and reported positive job satisfaction with this new way of working.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Breath of fresh air! Keeping Children and Young People with complex disability well at home

Paediatric Respiratory Physiotherapy Rapid Response Outreach-In Reach Team Mari Powell and Briony Guerin, Specialist Paediatric Physiotherapists, Swansea Bay University Health Board

Through baseline lung function assessment, provision of comprehensive baseline and escalation treatment plans for home and school setting and robust competency-based training for parents/carers/school staff, this project has empowered those closest to the child to manage their respiratory needs at home. The first pilot project of its kind in Wales, this service has delivered cost-effective, prudent, innovative, sustainable healthcare based upon population health strategies. Streamlined pathways, care closer to home, preventative initiatives, collaborative working, innovative drug regimens, education and training have delivered cost/social-benefit preventing hospital admissions and supporting early discharge

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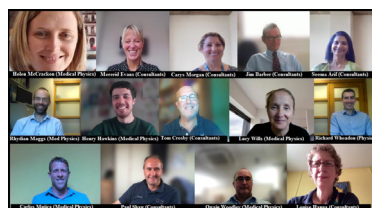
Radiotherapy Target Definition by Clinical Technologists – Implementation of ‘Non-Medical Outlining’ as a transformative development

Lucy Wills, Principal Treatment Planning Healthcare Scientist, Velindre Cancer Centre

By increasing the pool of staff performing target definition, this project is creating greater clinical capacity for newly referred non-surgical oncology patients to be seen, and flexibility to shorten and improve their pathway from referral to treatment, thereby resulting in reduced waiting times and better outcomes in line with new national radiotherapy treatment targets.

The working model revolves around technologically advanced meetings, where targets are discussed alongside oncologists, trainee oncologists and radiographers. Processes are smoothed and individual patient issues are decisively resolved.

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FINALISTS

The development of a pan Wales Occupational Therapy ovarian cancer prehabilitation service

Jackie Pottle, Macmillan Cancer AHP Lead, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB, Claire Jarrom, Prehab OT Lead, Cardiff & Vale UHB, Anthony Jones, Macmillan Occupational Therapist, Swansea Bay UHB and Louisa Parry, Specialist Occupational Therapist, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB

This project is a collaborative approach to develop equitable and consistent educational sessions and online support to enable behavioural change and self-management for symptoms of anxiety and fatigue and their impact on wellbeing. It has improved the support that ovarian cancer patients receive prior and during treatment. Working across 3 cancer sites the team created and delivered an interactive self – management prehabilitation programme to support patients with behavioural change in preparation for upcoming treatment.

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THE AWARD FOR DIGITAL AND TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION

SPONSORED BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT



WINNER

The Emergency Communication Nurse System Implementation Team

ECNS Project Team

Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust

The Emergency Communication Nurse system is a secondary triage system that is used to triage 999 calls, ensuring prudent healthcare. The system provides over 200 evidence based clinical algorithms to support clinical decision making in the telephone triage environment. The system includes a robust quality management system to ensure continued high-quality care and targeted education opportunities. The system has only previously been licensed for use by nurses. Dr Mike Brady, using extensive research, proposed a pilot for Welsh Ambulance Service to be the first service to use the system with paramedics. Following implementation WAST will apply to be the first UK ambulance service with paramedics to apply for Accredited Centre of Excellence

“Impressive impact on patients, workforce sustainability and benefits to multiple staff groups; of worldwide interest.”

status and in turn, if successful, WAST will be the first service in the world to achieve this with paramedics.

The project is forming part of a research study into triage outcomes from nurses and paramedics, looking at potential differences in skillset and outcomes, which is being shared internationally.

FINALISTS



Keepingmewell.com and patient engagement

Keeping Me Well team, Huw Davies, Lead for Keeping Me Well, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Designed in response to the pandemic to support the community and particularly those adversely affected by changes in provision health services, Keepingmewell.com is Cardiff and Vale UHB's bilingual digital rehabilitation resource that service users can access for information to support their health and wellbeing. The website has been co-designed with CAVUHB's Live Well co-production forum and multi-disciplinary professionals and provides information that supports self-management to enable service users to live well. The site provides condition specific information as well as highlighting users to local community services that can support their health and wellbeing. The aim is to wrap the services around the individual by providing useful information, condition management advice and signposting to local support.

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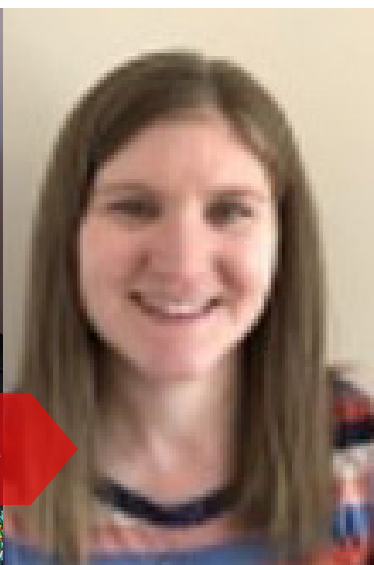


Virtual Reality – the future for education and simulation

Tracheostomy Team, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

In conjunction with industry, and supported by the Cardiff Capital Region and the SBRI, the team rapidly developed a virtual reality solution for the delivery of vital tracheostomy education, and provided proof of concept for bronchoscopy training and chest drain insertion. The VR solution was designed by clinical experts and based on core educational principles to ensure fully immersive experiences on both a single and multi-user basis. The VR solution uses a combination of immersive 180 degree videos, VR based scenarios and multiuser scenarios which can be completed at any time, in any location with participants not restricted to classrooms or simulation suites. This solution has the potential to transform the way that education is delivered, either through a hybrid or total virtual process, and to create the platform for future developments in all aspects of health care.

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FIND OUT MORE

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ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

SPONSORED BY THE WELSH ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS COMMITTEE

WINNER

Judyth Jenkins

Head of Nutrition and Dietetic Services (Retired)

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Judyth's career started 45 years ago, undertaking leadership roles initially as Head of Dietetics in CRI, later the Head of Dietetics across Cardiff and Vale UHB. She has at times simultaneously held roles as interim directorate manager for the Renal Service, and later interim Head of Speech and Language Therapy Services. During her extraordinary service, Judyth demonstrated inspirational leadership. Retirement plans were deferred in 2020 ensuring support during this challenging period for the NHS. Displaying energy, passion and collaboration across workforces she ensured nutritional needs of patients were met, unflinchingly safeguarding care standards in spite of the pandemic.

Judyth has worked tirelessly and passionately advocating for the role of nutrition in bettering the health and

“Judith never lost sight of the patient. She was always patient focused, promoting patient care; a trailblazer for the profession, forward thinking, horizon scanning.”

wellbeing of the population, driving services forward, and ensuring service users are at the heart of developments in Cardiff and Vale and across Wales.

Welsh Allied Health Professions Committee

FINALISTS



Ed Harry, Advanced Paramedic Practitioner, Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust

Ed has embraced the ethos of an advanced practitioner, working across the four pillars of advanced practice and continually pushing himself and others around him to succeed. Ed has been one of the key contributors to the recent 'Navigator' trial in Swansea Bay, acting as a senior clinician supporting staff and patients with safe alternatives to ED and reducing conveyance and presentations at hospital through remote consultation. As IT infrastructure changed, Ed was instrumental in training and developing staff to undertake remote consultation allowing the model to develop at pace.

The vision to expand out remote consultation capabilities features in the strategic direction of the trust and Ed has been key to delivering this.

Edward.Harry@wales.nhs.uk



Kerrie Phipps, National AHP Lead for Primary and Community Care, Strategic Programme for Primary Care

Kerrie is transforming how AHPs are deployed to work in primary care, including developing workforce principles, professional collaboratives, and the use of technology consultations during the pandemic. She is changing the understanding of what AHPs offer in Primary Care. Kerrie has clarified the model for increasing AHPs in Primary Care, articulating how AHPs best to work with GPs and Clusters, ensuring that small resources are used to best effect and deployed in a way that maintains the best quality of practice. She has led work to improve demand and capacity data, aligning professions to work together more effectively and created guidance for organising the workforce to best effect.

Kerrie is phenomenally person centred; she works in a collaborative and integrated way, with a clear vision and the ability to articulate how things could change. She uses a value base for all her work and engages people to draw in their views to inform how change can best happen.

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FIND OUT MORE

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HEALTHCARE SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR

SPONSORED BY THE WELSH SCIENTIFIC
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WINNER

Chloë George

Head of Component Development

Welsh Blood Service

Chloë George leads research through a facility she devised and delivered from scratch. This new facility initially worked to produce convalescent plasma to support the international clinical trials identifying therapeutic treatments for COVID-19. It now focuses on examining novel treatments for haematological illnesses, improving transfusion outcomes, minimising risk to patients, and refining treatments for people requiring transfusions.

Chloë aims to be at the forefront of haematological knowledge, investigating mechanisms for improved and novel treatments. Cold-stored platelets have less risk of bacterial contamination, making for safer transfusions. These are powerful benefits for patients with chronic haematological illnesses who undergo multiple transfusions to treat their conditions. She is working on preliminary research into different environments and their effect on platelet characteristics, with plans to lead a clinical trial in future.

“The positive impact to patient care is considerable, and will be felt well beyond Welsh borders... Chloë has clearly demonstrated exemplary qualities of an exceptional scientist in healthcare.”

A productive and respected leader who shares her expertise to inspire performance in colleagues, Chloë provides technical knowledge to organisational processes to ensure Welsh Blood Service remains an evidence-based, scientific lead organisation.

Welsh Scientific Advisory
Committee

FINALISTS



Justine Challis, Genetic Technologist,
All Wales Medical Genomics Service

Justine has led the change for the technical implementation of the new Whole Exome Sequencing panel now offered to patients across Wales and the wider UK. She has made significant contributions to documentational groundwork, designed and delivered training to colleagues, troubleshooted numerous issues and shown a remarkable commitment to good lab practice throughout the course of the project.

After service launch, during a time of great pressures, Justine showed remarkable perseverance, fortitude, adaptability and drive; often handling issues with limited time and resources, yet delivering results of exceptional quality within turnaround time. From Justine's contribution to this project, patients across Wales can now enjoy a much improved constitutional NGS testing strategy which has cut back significantly on test turnaround times by up to a week.

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**Eleanor Blaxland, Principal Vascular
Scientist,** Cardiff and Vale University
Health Board

Ellie is passionate about developing and improving services and developing staff and trainees and is a role model who leads by example. She has continued the scan service for the Regional Vascular Assess network patients under extremely challenging circumstances, and has shown great skill, dedication and care towards patients. Many of these patients are extremely unwell or vulnerable, and she supports patients who have become very dependent on our service for the continuation of their lives.

Ellie's ability to put these patients at ease is exceptional. She works hard to build up a relationship with each individual patient in the short amount of time they are in the clinic or department, while performing often very technically challenging scans with insight and great ability. Ellie fosters trust, helping patients to feel safe and cared for. She is always respectful of their concerns and demonstrates thoughtfulness towards all service users, including giving advice on arteriovenous fistula care. Her flexibility in accepting workload has prevented increases in waiting lists, and she has quickly become great asset to the team, and a highly valued member of the department.

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FIND OUT MORE

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THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR JUDGES

Ruth Crowder, Chief AHP Adviser, Welsh Government

Dee Ripley, Deputy Chief Scientific Advisor for Wales, Welsh Government

John Geen, Clinical Lead: Clinical Biochemistry Service and Point of Care Testing Service; Assistant Director for R&D, Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board

Martin Rolles, SBU Cancer Lead, Consultant Clinical Oncologist, Swansea Bay University Health Board

Matthew Ager, Welsh Government Lead for Radiation in Health

Judith John, All Wales AHP Public Health & Prevention Lead, Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW)

Catherine Pope, All Wales AHP Public Health and Prevention Lead, Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW)

Ryan Lewis, Head of Radiotherapy Physics Services, Consultant Clinical Scientist, Swansea Bay University Health Board

Kim Atkinson, Acting Head of Occupational Therapy, Cardiff and the Vale University Health Board

Chris Newbrook, Head of Health Sciences, Welsh Government

Alison Clarke, Deputy Director of Therapies & Health Science, Swansea Bay University Health Board

Alison Shakeshaft, Executive Director of Therapies and Health Science, Hywel Dda University Health Board

Vanessa Hayward, Head of Speech and Language Therapy, Cwm Taf University Health Board

Mark Bradley, Head of Rehabilitation Care and Support, Welsh Government

Kate Bulton, Head of Research & Innovation, School of Healthcare Sciences, College of Biomedical and Life Sciences, Cardiff University

Julie Rogers, Deputy CEO & Director of Workforce & OD, Health Education and Improvement Wales

Nicola Williams, Executive Director of Nursing, AHPs and Health Science, Velindre University NHS Trust

Emma Cooke, Head of Physiotherapy Services, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Emma Spear, Deputy Director of Transformation Health and Social Care at the Welsh Government

Kevin Francis, Major Health Conditions Policy Manager, Welsh Government

Lisa Love-Gould, Clinical Director of Allied Health Professionals, Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board

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