



CHIEF EXECUTIVE CONNECTS

Dear Colleague,

11/07/2022

A big thank you all for your continued hard work and commitment as we experience continuing high demand for our services, alongside the additional demands of an increase in community transmission of COVID-19 and the consequences for patient presentation and team sickness absence.

As a result, I ask the public to please be patient, please be kind to the team and please help us to help you where you can. If you do not need to visit the Emergency Unit you can access advice and health care from a community pharmacy for most minor illnesses and the [NHS 111 Wales](#) online symptom checker holds a wealth of advice for many conditions.

As we are set to experience a period of hot weather I would also ask that you please look after yourself and others, particularly infants and young children, the vulnerable and the elderly, and follow health advice including wearing sun protection, staying hydrated, keeping out of direct sunlight between the hours of 11am and 3pm and wearing loose clothing.

Last week the Health Board hosted the Minister for Defence, People and Veterans Leo Docherty MP and the Veterans' Commissioner for Wales James Phillips at the University Dental Hospital. The veteran population in Wales is large with diverse needs that span physical and mental health. Some are treated by the Veterans Trauma Network Wales which was established in 2019

here in Cardiff and the Vale UHB by a team of colleagues including regular military clinicians. It ensures that the most severely injured veterans living in Wales have equitable access to appropriate specialist care for their injuries. Cardiff and Vale UHB is also home to Veterans NHS Wales which treats and supports veterans with mental health needs

It was interesting to find out more about the service and discuss ways in which we can raise veteran awareness across the organisation, facilitate collaborative working with our partners and offer more to support the needs of veterans to improve their experiences and overall wellbeing.

In partnership with independent charity, [Defence Medical Welfare Service](#), we are currently recruiting for an Armed Forces Covenant and Veterans Healthcare Collaborative Lead to work within the healthcare setting to provide a world-class, responsive medical welfare service to veteran service users and their families. These are important roles that support the close collaboration between the Health Board, local government and the third and private sector to meet veterans' health and mental healthcare needs.

Thank you to Ed Chapman and the Clinical Engineering team who warmly welcomed me along to their department last week where I got to understand more about the innovative

work that's being done. In total the Clinical Engineering team maintains around 50,000 items of medical equipment which is incredible, and they play vital role in providing lifecycle support to the Health Board every day, all year round. Thank you to those I met on the day for taking time to tell me more about their role and work, including Ian Davies, Ryan Thomas, Mike Bray, Neil Parry, Simon Butler, David Griffiths, John Maisey, Rhydian Ball, Andy Campbell, Anna Necreus and Saul Harris. I found a great team, doing great work and I was very impressed by all, thank you Ed for taking the time to show me around and the opportunity to meet your great team.

Following a rigorous and competitive selection process, I am thrilled to welcome Jason Roberts into his new role as Executive Nurse Director. Given his experience, passion, leadership skills and the high respect he commands within the nursing community, Jason will be an extremely valuable member of our Executive team and I am very much looking forward to working with him. I know Jason will bring a huge volume of energy and vision to the role and work hard to ensure our patients have a positive experience of being cared for. Read more on his appointment below.

I wish you a happy and healthy week ahead. Please look after yourselves and each other through the demands of the week ahead.

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board has appointed Jason Roberts to the position of Executive Nurse Director

Congratulations to Jason Roberts who takes up the post following a recent period as the Interim Executive Nurse Director and

previously Deputy Executive Nurse Director which he held since 2018.



Jason has over 30 years of nursing experience since registering as an adult nurse in 1993. Jason has worked in a number of Health Boards, where he consolidated his clinical career in Accident and Emergency Medicine, before holding a number of senior nursing posts across a diverse range of specialities before joining Cardiff and Vale UHB in 2016 as Director of Nursing for Medicine Clinical Board.

Jason has a track record for high quality compassionate leadership and brings with him a breadth and depth of clinical and nursing and multi-professional leadership experience in various roles across the NHS in South Wales. He is committed to ensuring patients receive a positive experience and great outcomes and plays a key role in a number of pieces of national work driving improvement in standards of care.

Jason said: "I am delighted to be taking up the Executive Nurse Director post and this incredible opportunity to work with colleagues to lead a fantastic nursing workforce. I look forward to continuing to develop our nursing teams and quality and safety processes so we can ensure we are providing an excellent experience to patients. It has been a challenging few years and I am pleased to be working with committed and dedicated colleagues to shape our nursing resource and priorities."

CRI hosts Royal Visit

On Tuesday 5 July, Camilla, Her Royal Highness Duchess of Cornwall, visited RISE Cardiff at Cardiff Royal Infirmary. Cardiff Council has invested in a single point of entry to support services in response to violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence. The service is co-located alongside the Health Board's regional Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC).

Her Royal Highness met with staff and service users - including representatives from Cardiff Women's Aid, Bawso and Llamau - as well as Charles 'Jan' Janczewski, Chair of Cardiff and Vale University Health Board. Thank you to everyone involved in delivering such an incredibly valuable service.



Update on Pentyrch GP Practice

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board would like to thank Eluned Morgan, Minister for Health and Social Services, for her careful consideration around the concerns raised on the location of GP services for residents of Pentyrch and the surrounding areas. The decision made by the Minister will allow us to move forward with the plans for delivering high quality services for residents of this area.

As a Health Board, we are committed to providing quality services that meet the needs of the local population and we will take on board the recommendations made to improve services for the local community.

We value the input of the Community Health Council and acknowledge that scrutiny and challenge plays a vital role in the continued development of services and their role is instrumental in helping us deliver the best possible health services within communities.

While we appreciate that change can be unsettling and understand the mixed views from the patient population on the proposed new site, we believe this is the best outcome for the community and medical practitioners of Pentyrch and the surrounding areas.

We are looking ahead to the delivery of these new facilities and will continue to work closely with the CHC around the transport provision. We will continue to keep the local community up to date with plans and progress around the new facilities.

Bowel Cancer Screening - Artificial Intelligence

Supported by the National Institute of Health Research and Wales Cancer Research centre, and hosted by Cardiff University, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board is leading a landmark clinical research study. The Future of Real Time Endoscopy Artificial Intelligence (FORE AI) research is being conducted within the Endoscopy Unit at University Hospital Llandough, led by Professor Sunil Dolwani, and is aiming to demonstrate the benefits of using artificial intelligence in colonoscopy bowel cancer screenings.

Colonoscopy is an important tool for the identification and removal of pre-cancerous and cancerous polyps, but its effectiveness and quality are highly dependent on polyps not being missed during examinations.

With this in mind, the clinical research study is looking into using computer assisted detection and diagnosis systems to act as a second pair of eyes during procedure and uses artificial intelligence to identify the polyps in images. If successful, the research aims to better patient outcome by improving detection rates, offer an improved patient experience by providing an instant diagnosis and increase operational efficiency within units by accurate pathology identification at the time of the procedure.

Please join us for our AGM on 19 July

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held virtually on Tuesday 19 July and we would welcome attendance from those in our communities and our key partners. You will hear from board members and the executive team at Cardiff and Vale University Health Board who will share a review of the past year including our ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic and how we have continued to deliver healthcare services while continuing to evolve and innovate to meet the needs of our growing population.

The meeting will be livestreamed via Microsoft Teams to allow you to see and hear our presentations. Follow [this](#) link to join us on the day.

If you would like to submit a question to be answered during the AGM, please email Nathan.Saunders2@wales.nhs.uk by 14 July.

First baby born in Wales using new climate-friendly gas and air technology

In a first for Wales, Anne-Marie Leaman recently gave birth to baby Hudson using new climate-friendly gas and air technology. Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (UHB) is committed to embedding sustainability into healthcare systems, the use of the new green technology marks a significant milestone in reducing nitrous oxide emissions.

Nitrous oxide is commonly used in healthcare for anaesthetics but despite being a critical part of healthcare delivery, it is considered a harmful greenhouse gas. Studies show nitrous oxide has more than 265 times the global warming potential than carbon dioxide (CO₂).

Entonox, commonly known as gas and air, is a combination of nitrous oxide and oxygen. In Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, the use of Entonox is equivalent to emitting 4495 tonnes of CO₂ every year which is comparable to driving 930 times around the world in a petrol car. Entonox Carbon Reduction Units which have been developed in Sweden are able to collect exhaled nitrous oxide and 'crack' it into nitrogen and oxygen which are deemed harmless.

Cardiff and Vale UHB has worked closely with patients and staff on the implementation of the Entonox Carbon Reduction Units. Patients and staff have demonstrated great enthusiasm and commitment towards reducing environmental impacts and embracing new methods of care.

The Entonox project forms part of wider activity to reduce the use of nitrous oxide across Health Board sites.

There are currently four nitrous oxide manifolds across the Health Board's sites which are the typical method of storage. Findings by a Cardiff and Vale UHB multi-disciplinary project team have identified wastage from this type of system can be high due to leaks and loss of gas from the supply. The Health Board has trialled portable nitrous oxide cylinders at the Children's Hospital for Wales as part of an individual pilot which has increased efficiency considerably, from 2.5% to 74%.

Following the successful pilot, the team scaled the pilot study across the organisation through The Spread and Scale Academy, with ambitions to share insights and encourage change across Wales. To date, the Health Board's University Hospital Llandough site has fully decommissioned its nitrous oxide manifold and plans are underway to decommission the main manifold at University Hospital of Wales.

The Healthcare Without Harm Report says 5.6% of UK emissions are from healthcare settings and the NHS Wales Decarbonisation plan highlights anaesthetic gases reduction. The Health Board has projected savings of 1.15 million litres of nitrous oxide or 679 tonnes of CO₂e each year which will play a huge part in making healthcare more sustainable in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan and beyond.

Charlotte Oliver, Consultant Anaesthetist and one of the Clinical Leads for the project at Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, said: "I'm really proud of the hard work the team has put in to get us to this point, challenging norms of care that have been around for decades and allowing us to bolster our commitment

to reducing our environmental impact. We recognise we still have a long way to go in our Shaping Our Future Sustainable Healthcare programme but are delighted with the progress we are making and the enthusiasm to adapt from our colleagues and patients."



Picture shows Anne-Marie Leaman and baby Hudson Feneck

Regional Partnership Board attends local events

Cardiff and Vale Regional Partnership Board attended the Minority Ethnic Communities Health Fair at City Hall in Cardiff. This event is arranged by Race Equalities First and gave us a chance to meet and chat with people from diverse communities at our stand. In addition to meeting people from across the region, First Minister Mark Drakeford, Diverse Cymru, Age Cymru and the Alzheimer's Society came to discuss our work. This stand had a focus on dementia and was supported by the Dementia Learning and Development Team. [Please click here to find out about the training they are currently offering to staff.](#)

The RPB also worked with Age Cymru to run a workshop to listen to unpaid carers thoughts on our Draft Unpaid Carers Charter. The Charter aims to help people in Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan to understand if they, or someone they know, might be an unpaid carer. It also includes a set of commitments from local Councils and the Health Board who want to make sure unpaid carers feel recognised and supported. We will make sure the final Charter reflects the feedback we received. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in this work and would like to have your say, [please click here to find out how](#). The survey is open until the end of July.



Rachel Lloyd-Davies crowned Health Hero for July

Cardiff & Vale Health Charity is pleased to announce Rachel Lloyd-Davies, Deputy Ward Manager Stroke Rehabilitation Centre (SRC), has been crowned Health Hero for July. Rachel is a Deputy Ward Manager at the SRC in University Hospital Llandough and has been revered by colleagues for her support, encouragement and constant strength towards staff, visitors and patients.

Rachel's overwhelmingly supportive colleagues had this to say, "Even with staff shortages and sickness, Rachel has ensured the patients' needs and wants, even during difficult situations, have been met first and foremost. She cares for her staff, teaching and educating whenever possible though never in a patronising manner." Read more [here](#).



Congratulations to the Staff Lottery winners

Congratulations to June's Staff Lottery winners;

- Iona Buchanan, Paediatric Critical Care, Noah's Ark Children's Hospital
- Megumi Baba, Paediatric Palliative Care, Community
- Donna Spillane, Concerns, UHW
- Paul Price, Hafan y Coed, UHL

Andrea Drury is raising funds for Cardiology in memory of Toby Carrington

Andrea Drury has been fundraising for Cardiff & Vale Health Charity's Cardiology Fund, all the way from Sydney, Australia. All funds raised are in memory of Mr Toby Carrington, who sadly passed away last year.

On Friday 3 June, Andrea organised the Aqua Fitness Fun Party event, hiring out a local pool for the ticketed event with great music and instructors, and with sausage sizzle (sausage in bread or sausage sandwich, a popular Australian barbecue dish) being handed out to conclude the party. The day was a huge success, and raised an incredible £3,600!

Andrea lived in Wales for four years and was close to Mr Carrington and his wife, and wanted to give something back in memory of her friend.

Horatio's Garden Launch

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board alongside its official charity, Cardiff & Vale Health Charity, celebrated the opening of Horatio's Garden in the Spinal Injury and Neuro Rehabilitation Centre at University Hospital Llandough on Saturday 2 July.

To support the creation of the garden, Cardiff and Vale UHB generously provided the land, and Cardiff & Vale Health Charity significantly contributed to the development of the site and upkeep. [Read more here.](#)

