



Dear Colleague,

16/05/2022

Last Thursday we celebrated International Nurses Day across our sites and communities – nurses and their colleagues held celebrations to mark the occasion and reflect on what is special and unique about the nursing profession and the pride that we all have in it. The Executive Nurse Director, Ruth Walker, and Directors of Nursing took the opportunity to visit nursing colleagues all over the Health Board to thank them for their continued hard-work, compassion and dedication.

The Health Board has also been participating in the launch of the national 'Here for Life' campaign that will put a spotlight on the diverse range of careers open to nurses and midwives. Colleagues will be supporting the campaign in the coming month by sharing their stories, raising awareness of the different types of career development and opportunities available and inspiring others to pursue careers in the profession.

As a nurse myself I feel enormous pride to be a member of the nursing and midwifery family and lucky to be able to work alongside so many talented nurses, midwives, healthcare support workers and all the other healthcare professionals who do so much every day to contribute to compassionate care and treatment for patients and their loved ones. Thank you all.

On Saturday we also celebrated Operating Department Practitioners (ODPs) and the vital work they do in operating theatres, anaesthetics, surgery and recovery. ODPs help prepare the environment and all of the necessary instruments and equipment in readiness for an anaesthetic, surgery or recovery of patients so they receive the best possible care and treatment, as well as supporting patients and colleagues along the way. Without the professional expertise and commitment of ODPs it would not be possible to deliver surgical and anaesthetic care or the procedures so many patients need.



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I enjoyed meeting the Chief Executive of Health Inspectorate Wales (HIW) and his colleague, the UHB's relationship manager. It was good to establish a relationship and for me to understand the difference between the statutory and regulatory powers of the Care Quality Commission (CQC) in England and HIW.

As a public sector organisation it is really important that we are open to scrutiny, inspections and feedback which can provide important assurance to the public that we are delivering services in the right way and to a great standard in terms of quality of experience and outcome. Inspections also give us the opportunity to learn and improve which is something I'm really supportive of and wish to continue to embed in our organisational culture. I know inspections, especially when unexpected, can cause anxiety but I would encourage us to embrace the opportunity as and when it arises, to speak up and be honest, share the things you are most proud of and also areas where you would like to see improvement. A focus on continuous improvement alongside honesty and transparency will always be welcomed by HIW colleagues as they go about their important business.

I have continued my visits this week and had an uplifting morning at the University Dental Hospital (UDH) where I met with Hayley Dixon, General Manager, Professor Ivor Chestnutt, Clinical Director, Nicola Innes, Head of the School of Dentistry and Riah-Jayne Jones, School Business Manager. The UDH is a great example of the collaboration and partnership working between Cardiff University and the Health Board to shape and deliver services to our communities while training and developing the future dentists, dental therapists and dental nurses.

It was a real pleasure to walk around the facilities. The vibe was great; industrious and purposeful but warm and welcoming. I met and spoke with undergraduate and post graduate students and academic and practice supervisors as they provided care and treatment to patients, honing their skills on mannequins and practicing gum surgery on pigs heads. The energy was high and everyone appeared to be enjoying their learning and skill development. The team are working hard to ensure the UDH secures the reputation and profile nationally and internationally that it deserves and that will ultimately sustain high quality care for our citizens. Currently ranked the 46th dental hospital in the world, UDH is attracting students from all over the world to learn and develop alongside us, which is great.

I also saw some of the CAD 3D printing work that goes on to showcase innovation in dentistry and visited the labs where the teams are working hard to produce dentures and fittings for patients to support them with their dental health and to recover from restorative and reconstructive procedures.

It was interesting to learn about how the work of the UDH fits into the bigger picture of General Dental Practice and Community Dental Services. There is still much to do to ensure all those who need dental care can access it. No doubt, however, that the role of UDH and more widely the provision of dental health and preventative services is an important and essential part of our Shaping Our Future Wellbeing strategy and work must continue to develop the vision and strategies for delivery. Thanks to all for a superb visit.

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This week is Executive Nurse Director Ruth Walker's final week with us as she embarks on her retirement journey. Ruth has been a key leading figure for the Health Board over the last 12 years and her professionalism, commitment and caring nature will be much missed. Ruth has had an impressive career, starting off as a Health Care Support Worker and achieving her current Executive role. In addition, Ruth has balanced her current demanding role with her work with the Nursing and Midwifery Council and remains very committed to the continuous development of the profession.



Do take time this week to speak to Ruth if you can, or drop her a message as I know she is going to be keen to spend time with and say farewell to as many colleagues as possible during her final days with us. I would also like to extend my deep and personal gratitude to Ruth for her kindness and support to me during my first few months here at CAV. Ruth's considerable

experience, expertise and wisdom has been plain to see and I'm lucky that she has willingly shared all with me over the last few months. Thank you Ruth. We all wish you well for your next adventures, whatever they might be.

### **Dr Richard Skone appointed Deputy Medical Director**

I would also like to give a very warm welcome to Dr Richard Skone who has been appointed as the new Deputy Medical Director for the Health Board.

Richard has an impressive background in anaesthetics and paediatric medicine since 2003 after studying at Oxford University Medical School. Richard started his career with Cardiff and Vale University Health Board in 2012 and has recently been working as the Assistant Medical Director for Workforce and Revalidation as well as holding the positions of Responsible Officer and Clinical Board Director for specialist services until December 2020.





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In this new role he will be supporting Professor Meriel Jenney, the Medical Director, on continuous quality improvements as well as providing clinical advice to the board.

Speaking about his appointment Richard, said: "I believe that the role of Deputy Medical Director provides a unique opportunity to engage with colleagues so that we can deliver a high quality, high assurance system that provides the best care to our patient community and their families."

Congratulations Richard. I'm looking forward to having you as part of the Senior Leadership team and working with you more closely in the coming months.

### **Cardiff and Vale UHB's first digital midwife wins the CNO Excellence Award**

Congratulations to Donna James, the Health Board's first digital midwife who received the CNO Excellence Award for her outstanding work transforming services and increasing safety for families.

On International Day of the Midwife, Chief Nursing Officer for Wales, Sue Tranka, joined midwifery teams at University Hospital Wales to announce the latest winners of her CNO Excellence Awards.

Donna James was presented the award for her outstanding dedication to the service, her patients and their families and five more midwives also received awards for their outstanding contributions. Read more [here](#).

### **Launch of Our Marvellous Meadow**

On 11 May the Health Charity attended the launch of Magnificent Meadows at Heath Park. Magnificent Meadows is a project in conjunction with Plantlife, Cardiff Council, and many other whose primary focus is to encourage patients, staff, carers, and visitors to utilise the three outlined routes on a new map to benefit their Health and Wellbeing. These maps can be seen at the entrances to the park, and on the grounds of University Hospital of Wales.



As well as this the Arts for Health and Wellbeing Programme commissioned Beth Morris Workshops to create a unique piece of art with over 50 children. They were asked to think of the meadow and the wildlife, and in turn they drew scenes of play and relaxation in an imaginary natural playground. The large and colourful

artwork is displayed on the main corridor of University Hospital of Wales for all to see.



### International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia

This Tuesday is International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, Intersexism and Biphobia (IDAHOBIT), falling on 17 May each year. This globally recognised date was chosen to mark the decision by the [World Health Organisation \(WHO\)](#) to remove homosexuality from the [International Classification of Diseases](#) in 1990.

The purpose of IDAHOBIT is to raise awareness and spotlight the issues that global [LGBTQ+](#) communities still face and to encourage people all over the world to support the communities and promote equality.

Work is a huge part of someone's life and

self, so workplace inclusion is extremely important for us here at Cardiff and Vale University Health Board. The best way that we can achieve this is by encouraging our staff to be allies to our LGBTQ+ community and to combat any anti-LGBTQ+ behaviour when we encounter it.

Our LGBTQ+ Staff Network is open to allies who want to help improve work life for our Health Board's LGBTQ+ staff members. The network's training sessions on Sexualities in Healthcare and Trans and Non-Binary Issues will be relaunching later this year for people interested in developing their allyship and learning more about the LGBTQ+ communities and their experiences.

LGBTQ+ members of staff are welcome to attend our LGBTQ+ Peer Support Network sessions, and allies are welcome to attend our quarterly ally sessions. To find out more about the training sessions or the Peer Support Network, please contact [LGBTQ+Network.CAV@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:LGBTQ+Network.CAV@wales.nhs.uk).

As we head into Pride month, please keep your eyes peeled for our staff and patient stories and our upcoming ally pledge, which will give you access to a pride/ally background for Microsoft Teams.



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## Celebrating Colleagues from Team CAV in the Moondance Cancer Awards

Colleagues from Cardiff and Vale UHB have been recognised in the first Moondance Cancer Awards.

The shortlist, which was revealed last week, saw Claire Salisbury, Assistant Director of Procurement Services, Mr James Peaker, Consultant Biomedical Scientist in Gastrointestinal Pathology, Dr Hasan Haboubi, Consultant Gastroenterologist and Dr Mohid Shakil Khan, Consultant Gastroenterologist all nominated for awards to showcase their achievements and innovations in cancer services over the last two years.

Moondance Cancer Initiative exists to find, fund and fuel brilliant people and brave ideas to make Wales a world leader in cancer survival. The awards aim to celebrate and spotlight people across NHS Wales and its partners who have maintained and innovated cancer services despite the extraordinary circumstances of the last two years.

We would like to wish our sincerest congratulations to the individuals and teams from Team CAV who have been nominated in these awards and best of luck!

The awards will be held on Thursday 16 June at Depot, Cardiff, hosted by BBC presenter and Welsh favourite, Jason Mohammad. To find out more and to view a detailed shortlist, [please click here](#).

## Celebrating staff achievements in our Clinical Diagnostics and Therapeutics Clinical Board

Congratulations to all who were awarded in the physio recognition event that was held on 25 April in celebration of Cardiff and Vale UHB's clinical staff for their hard work and dedicated service over the last 18 months.

Thank you to Cardiff & Vale Health Charity for supporting this event that awarded ten worthy winners.

Clinical Director of Therapies, Emma Cooke said: "I wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our clinical staff for their commitment to our Health Board, particularly during the extremely difficult times that the pandemic has brought to healthcare. Without their efforts and care we would not have been able to carry out the important work we do to care for Cardiff and Vale communities and patients.

"A sincere congratulations to all of our winners and runners up, you are all, individually, truly worthy of these awards."

See a round-up of our award categories, winners and runners-up [here](#).