

THE NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

RECENT AWARDS

Report Purpose:
Decision / Approval
Discussion
Information

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Brief description of the item and any significant issues:

This paper provides details of recent Health and Social Care and Innovations award nominations and prizes. The Trust was also recently named as a CHKS "Top 40 Hospital" for the eighth consecutive year.

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RECENT AWARDS

1. REGIONAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE AWARDS

The regional Health and Social Care Awards recognise work carried out in hospitals and the community which is delivering real and improved benefits for patients, families, carers and staff. This year's ceremony attracted over 80 entries from teams and individuals across the region.

The regional winners received their awards on Thursday 3rd April at the Hilton Newcastle Gateshead. They will be put forward to a national final in London, which will take place on 1st July 2008 as part of the NHS 60th anniversary celebrations.

Sir Peter Carr, chairman of North East Strategic Health Authority said that the winners represented the very best of the many improvements taking place in health and social care across the north east.

"Staff across the region are finding new ways of working to provide better services and to respond to the needs and wishes of local people. They are managing to do this at the same time as meeting national requirements for improving the overall performance and standards of the NHS.

"Our local awards are held to recognise and reward some of this innovation and also to share good practice so that others can learn from it.

"Many of the applications showed an extraordinary level of commitment and hard work from health and social care staff who go the extra mile to change systems and services to ensure the people using them benefit as much as possible."

The winners and runners up in each category where the Trust was nominated were:

Improving Access Award

**Winner: South Tees community arrhythmia service
South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust**

This service allows for fast-tracking of patients with irregular heart beats who require more specialist tests or procedures, whilst allowing those with less serious conditions to be managed in the community. It ensures good access to services for patients relating to clinical need and avoids unnecessary hospital appointments.

**Runner up: Audiology department
Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Staff in the audiology department at the Freeman Hospital in Newcastle have drastically reduce the wait for re-assessment for patients who require a digital hearing aid from over 102 weeks in January 2007 to six weeks.

Innovative Health and Social Care Technology Award

Winner: **Flexible sigmoidoscopy in the community**
 Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

This partnership with Newcastle Primary Care Trust is one-stop nurse-led flexible sigmoidoscopy clinic which provides a complete service from community premises, with fast track referral to hospital when serious conditions are identified. This has improved patient experience by streamlining the pathway to initial investigation and subsequent diagnosis.

Innovative Information and Communications Technology Award

Winner: **Paediatric cardiothoracic transplant database**
 Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

The team has developed a centralised database of information relating to children who have undergone heart transplant at the Freeman Hospital. These children have complex medical histories, receive care from multiple health professionals and require frequent investigations. The database was developed to incorporate all aspects of historical and current clinical information required to provide care effectively and efficiently.

Runner up: **Healthclick project**
 Darlington Primary Care Trust

The local patient advice and liaison service picked seven of Darlington's long term conditions and designed a way of delivering an 'information prescription' to these patients so that they could become more informed and take better care of themselves.

Safety in Care Award

Winner: **The TransSAFE project**
 Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

The TransSAFE blood transfusion verifier uses a bar code reader to check and record the administration of blood and blood products in the laboratory and at the patients' bedside. The bar code reader checks the product type and positively identifies the patient. This system allows blood and blood products to be checked by one nurse, which in turn reduces human error, ultimately making transfusion safer.

Runner up: **FISHNets falls accreditation programme**
 Northumberland Care Trust

The Northumberland FISHNets (Fitness, Involvement, Safety and Health Networks) aims to promote healthy active life in older age. It forms part of the

partnerships for older people initiative funded by the Department of Health and was developed to reduce the risk of fractures and falls in the community.

Service Transformation Award

**Winner: Children’s ventricular assist devices (VAD) team
Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Children are assessed to identify whether there are any medical or surgical options open to them or whether a cardiac transplant is their only option. If the child cannot be supported medically then mechanical support with an artificial heart pump is offered as a bridge to either transplantation or recovery of their own heart. Over the last ten years, survival rates have increased from 50% at best to 77%.

**Runner up: Encompass healthcare project
Sunderland Teaching PCT**

Transformation of services at a GP practice in Sunderland, in an area which for years had struggled to retain doctors and provide continuity of care for local patients.

2. “Bright Ideas in Health” Awards

Promoted by NHS Innovations North, these awards were presented at the Hilton Hotel, Gateshead on 8th May 2008.

The Trust had finalists in the categories shown in the appended document. The electronic home flow meter was placed third in the “innovative technology or device” category, while the bed lifting device was “highly commended”. In the “innovative service delivery” category, the cleft lip and palate DVD was highly commended and the Capacity and Demand Analyser won third prize.

3. CHKS “Top 40 Hospital” Award

For the eight consecutive year, the Trust received this prestigious award at a ceremony held on 22nd April at Tate Britain.