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18 November 2011

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Public Consultation – Health Passport for Vulnerable Patients

As part of the Trust's improving the hospital experience for patient's programme, we have developed a patient passport for vulnerable patients.

The safety of patients whilst in our care is the main priority of the Trust. United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust (ULHT) also has a duty of care to protect its patients from harm and abuse. It is a basic Human Right to live a life free from abuse and neglect and as a member of the Adult Safeguarding Partnership, ULHT must ensure that we work as hard as we can to ensure that we not only deliver safe and effective care but that we also are aware of those people who may struggle, for whatever reason, to obtain the services they need. This may include: adults with physical disabilities, with a sensory impairment, with a mental illness or with dementia or other memory impairment. It also includes patients who struggle to make their needs known to others, for example, those whose first language is not English. We have already produced and issued a Patient Passport for people with a learning disabilities

The aim of the passport is to improve communication and understanding of a vulnerable patient's needs while in our care. The passport is especially useful when used to support patients with communication difficulties or who have acute or chronic confusion/disorientation and forgetfulness where the patient may not be able to tell us about their likes and dislikes. It enables ward staff to have an understanding of patients beyond their present circumstances. It includes not only some knowledge of their life history, but also supports us to be able to recognise events that reveal their unique values and coping strategies.

We would very much welcome comments and suggestions from patients, relatives or carers on the vulnerable adult passport. We have attached a questionnaire for you to make your comments together with details of how to return it. We would be grateful if you could also share the passport with any relevant groups/meetings you attend. You can view the passport at www.ulh.nhs.uk/getting_involved/patient_and_public_involvement.asp. Details on how to return your comments can be found on the feedback sheet. You can also send your feedback using our online survey tool <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7F6V2VD>

The consultation period runs until 31st December 2011.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me..

Yours sincerely



Sharon Kidd

Assistant Patient & Public Involvement Manager