

Tweet of the month: [NHS United Lincs @ULHT News](#) Please don't visit A&E unless you have a life-threatening condition. Consider calling NHS 111 or visit a pharmacist.

## Come along to our locality forums in July

Our quarterly locality forums are open to everyone, and provide a chance to get involved with what's going on within the Trust.

The next set of meetings are taking place in October, please contact us for an agenda if you wish to come.

| Location | Venue           | Date                | Time      |
|----------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Louth    | Thoresby suite  | Friday 21 October   | 10am—12pm |
| Boston   | Committee room  | Monday 24 October   | 2pm—4pm   |
| Grantham | Meeting room 3  | Thursday 27 October | 2pm—4pm   |
| Lincoln  | Trust boardroom | Monday 31 October   | 4pm—6pm   |

## Questions for action log

During our locality forum meetings we ask members to raise any questions or concerns they have. We then investigate with relevant departments and provide answers at next locality forum round. If you asked one of the questions listed below, could you please give us more details so that we can investigate:

- Patient information leaflet with outdated picture—which leaflet is it?
- Neurological nurse contracted elsewhere as well—which specialist nurse is it?

## Getting involved with our hospitals

There are a number of ways you can get involved with our hospitals. Please find details of our latest opportunities below. Some activities are only open to members who have been through our Trust members' training programme, so please contact us if you are interested in being trained.

### Interview panels

We are looking for patient representatives to be part of the interview panels listed below:

- Band 7 ward sister on **Wednesday 10 August** 11am—1pm at Pilgrim hospital
- Band 8a matron on **Thursday 8 September** from 9.30am at Lincoln County Hospital

If you are interested in taking on one of these roles, please contact the membership office by Thursday 4 August.

If you would like to be part of future interview panels, you will need to undergo a short specialist training course. If you are interested, please contact the membership office.

### Members training

If you are interested in becoming a patient representative on Trust meetings, helping to carry out visits and inspections to provide a patient perspective on our services, wards and departments or taking part in the interview panels, please come along to one of our members training sessions listed below:

- Tuesday 6 September 12pm—1pm at Pilgrim hospital
- Monday 12 September 10am—11am at Grantham hospital
- Tuesday 20 September 2pm—3pm at Louth hospital

If you would like to register your interest, please contact the membership office by Friday 2 September.

### Hand hygiene audits

Hand hygiene audits are observations of when staff should be following hand hygiene procedure, i.e. before and after patient contact. Once a month all wards observe 10 random members of staff. We are looking for a patient representative to conduct these observations on a monthly basis. If you are interested in taking on that role and are able to dedicate approximately two hours each month, please contact the membership office.

For any enquiries, comments and to express an interest in any of our meetings or activities, please contact the membership office on (01522) 572301 or email [members@ulh.nhs.uk](mailto:members@ulh.nhs.uk)

# News

## Lincolnshire patient's sight restored thanks to first class new treatment

For the first time Lincolnshire's hospitals are offering an innovative new treatment to improve the sight of people with damaged eyes.

The corneal transplant is performed on patients with eye conditions such as corneal endothelial dystrophy, which affects clear outer layer at the front of the eyeball.



The first corneal endothelial transplant was performed in the county this year by Dr Khan on 52 year old Janet Brumpton from Market Rasen. This involved the damaged inner layer of her cornea being replaced and within one week her vision had drastically improved.

Speaking of her treatment Janet said: "The operation was a fantastic success. My vision has improved 100%. I feel like I've got my life back and it's allowed me to regain my independence again. Mr Khan is lovely and the care I received from the ophthalmology department was first class."

Corneal endothelial transplantation involves no stitches as the transplant is attached and held in place using an air bubble, which naturally attaches itself to the deep layer of the cornea a few days later. This leads to quick visual rehabilitation and no need for contact lenses or further surgeries to correct the distorted surface of the cornea.

## Hospital reaching out to improve care for nursing home patients

People living in care and nursing homes across Lincoln are benefitting from a revolutionary service which is helping to keep them out of hospital.



The Lincoln Care Home Service is a team of doctors, nurses and therapists from United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust who is starting to visit every nursing and residential home in the Lincoln area over the next two years.

Results so far show that their work is reducing the number of people being admitted to hospital unnecessarily. In the first three months since the team visited one care home in Lincoln, the number of hospital admissions for their residents reduced by 64% compared with the previous quarter.

The team assesses every resident of every home, including reviewing medications and assessments of cognition, mobility, mental capacity and future care needs. By the end of the period they aim to have reviewed more than 1,000 people in 22 homes.

The service, which has been funded by the Bromhead Medical Charity, has even been nominated for a national Fab NHS Award by the Academy of Fabulous NHS Stuff, in recognition of how it reaches out to the local community.

## Appointment to the Director of Nursing post at ULHT

We are pleased to report that Michelle Rhodes has been successfully appointed as the director of nursing, following a competitive recruitment process.

Michelle has been interim director of nursing since December and was previously the director of operations.

We would all like to wish her good luck!

## Lincolnshire hospital's project receives international acclaim

An innovative tool developed in Lincolnshire's hospitals to help reduce the number of pressure ulcers in patients has attracted international interest. PUNT (Pressure Ulcer Notification Tool), a unique online system that allows staff to record, monitor, report and review reliable pressure ulcer data for hospital patients, is being adopted by US company Bruin Biometrics.



Pressure ulcers are a type of injury that affects areas of the skin and underlying tissue. They are caused when the affected area of skin is placed under too much pressure for a prolonged period of time, in combination with a number of other factors, so are more likely in patients in hospital beds.

Due to the type of patients we treat, it is difficult to completely eliminate pressure ulcers, but good nursing care, combined with reliable data and great technology helps us to avoid skin damage where possible.

## Trust performance – May 2016

The Trust did not achieve the 4 hour waiting time target in A&E in May 2016 (83.52%)

The 18 week referral to treatment incomplete target was achieved in May 2016 (92.45%)

2 out of the 9 cancer targets were achieved in April 2016

The Trust has had 1 case of MRSA in year 2016/17

The latest mortality position is 101.69 for Sep 2014 – Aug 2015 (HSMR)

The next public Trust Board meeting is on Tuesday 2 August in the Committee room at Pilgrim hospital.

## What we've been doing

When members take part in patient representative activities, they are asked to fill out forms to log attendance and feedback contribution and questions, here are some of the points members wanted to feed back in the past month:

### Attendance at hospital management meeting by Lissie Wilkins June 2016

- Talked about EMAS project looking to avoid bringing

patients to A&E where not necessary

### Attendance at nutrition steering committee by Maureen Cassidy June 2016

- Highlighted that there is a lack of consistency across the Trust in relation to the standard of meal service and nutrition
- Agreed to meet as a sub group to discuss ways to improve this aspect of patient care