Leadership and innovation

Claire Collins

Claire has been a very supportive manager through the difficult year we have had in 2020. She has been instrumental in implementing Virtual and Home exercise pulmonary rehabilitation and running Oxygen home visits. She has helped write a paper to compare the effectiveness of the 2 programmes and submitted an abstract to BTS. During the pandemic she was one of the heroes that were redeployed to work with our fellow colleagues on the wards. She has been a pillar of strength to the extended physiotherapy services and offers her help and the teams with our skill mix. Currently she is supporting the therapies team by managing all CMH wards with help from us. She has also been seconded to set up a new service for integrated care pathway (cardio-respiratory). She has implemented pathways, created paperwork, helped recruit staff. This has demonstrated leadership through innovation, care and transformation.

Cath Edwards

I would like to nominate Cath for this award as I truly believe she embodies both fantastic leadership and is a constant source for innovation. Despite not working within the physiotherapy department at the beginning of COVID (ACP COPD), she easily stepped back into this role providing superb guidance and support to all physiotherapist but in particular her respiratory colleague. She strove for best practice and enthused and entire workforce. Not only has Cath provided fantastic leadership, and peer ship, internally, she has also been instrumental in developing COVID support. Her innovative work on the COVID-19 Resource (COVID-19: Supporting your recovery - Overview (Ithtr.nhs.uk)) has been accessed from 70 countries and is currently supported by the British Dietetics Association and NHS Northern Care as well as many primary care groups. She has also provided CPD opportunities through the ACPRC in the field of acute ward based physiotherapy. Cath embodies all this category is and would be a wholly deserving winner.

Clare Rossall

In her NIV specialist leadership role, Clare is a constant champion of respiratory physiotherapists, particularly in emerging and extended roles. As such, she has always been an exceptional leader, however the last 12 months have demonstrated just how extraordinary she is. Clare recognised early into 2020 that there would be an urgent need for a mobile, multidisciplinary team specialising in enhanced respiratory support. Clare rapidly pulled together and led a team of physiotherapists, nurses, physiologists and advanced nurse practitioners that identified deteriorating patients with COVID-19, implemented treatment strategies in line with escalation plans, transferred patients to AGP areas as appropriate and identified patients appropriate for research trials. The team also managed to train over 400 staff members in less that 4 weeks on CPAP and NIV. In amongst these clinical pressures, Clare also ensured the trust had sufficient supplies of the equipment and consumables needed to provide enhanced respiratory support.