

Clinical Champions 2015-17 cohort – alumni

Summary of impact, January 2019

Diabetes and other conditions

Dr Justin Warner, Consultant Paediatrician in Wales has been working alongside Diabetes UK and other charities to continue to build on the success of the Additional Learning Needs Bill to support children with diabetes. In 2018 the Welsh government published the Additional Learning Needs Bill – a law recognising that schools must acknowledge medical needs as potentially affecting learning ability.

Sheena McDonald, Specialist Diabetes Dietitian has been working closely with Health Care Assistants to improve the reliability of the 'nine processes of care' being completed and kept up to date following appointments. The number of patients having all their processes of care up to date have increased to 80% in 6 months. Sheena has also been working on scoping current services and collecting feedback on diabetes services as part of the Scottish Governments Type 2 diabetes prevention framework.

Digital education

Dr Sam Rice, Consultant in Wales has seen, since completing the programme in 2017, 14,000 people living with diabetes access his digital education platform called Pocketmedic. The platform is available across Wales and has recently been launched in two South Midland CCGs. The programme has developed over the last couple of years and now caters for all aspects of Type 1, Type 2 and gestational diabetes, and the information is provided in a range of different languages. Published data in Primary Care Diabetes has shown that individuals who utilise this platform reduce their HbA1c by 0.9%. Sam and the team were awarded a commendation at the QiC awards for this piece of work.

Dr Debbie Wake, Consultant in Scotland has recently started a new role at the University of Edinburgh and continues to work on promoting and improving MyDiabetesMyWay. The programme now has over 40,000 registrants in Scotland and has recently launched in Somerset, with new education courses and features constantly being added into the system. Debbie has been selected to present the Janet Kinson lecture at the 2019 Diabetes UK Conference and has won various Innovate UK and Transforming funding for artificial intelligence in diabetes care.

Dr Alex Bickerton, Consultant in Yeovil has aided the roll out of MyDiabetesMyWay in Somerset. The service now has over 1,200 active users in the area.

Footcare

Scott Cawley, Podiatrist in Wales has developed a network across Wales to share best practice and identify areas needing further development as part of his work measuring his Trust's work against the 2016-2020 diabetes delivery plan. Scott has also developed a new patient infographic, Healthy Me: My Healthy Feet, aimed at increasing patients knowledge on self-care for their feet and understanding the support available to them. This is now available across Wales in both English and Welsh. At a local level, Scott has been involved in developing a training programme for Healthcare Support Workers in primary care. The

aim is that these trained professionals will increase the standard of care around annual foot checks and play a key role in patient education in the primary care setting.

Dr Elizabeth Martin, GP from Leeds successfully secured funding from NHS England to set up a new extended Foot Protection Service/MDT. This funding allowed for the production of new Foot Care Guidelines which have been distributed throughout primary care in Leeds. The Podiatry Team involved in the new service have provided education to approximately 200 Practice Nurse and Health Care Assistants.

Healthcare Professional training

Dr Vinesh Sobha, GP in Lancashire has received excellent feedback from the training he has provided to GPs and nurses in primary care. In total, Vinesh has provided training to over 300 healthcare professionals in diabetes over the last 12 months.

Debora Brown, Diabetes Specialist Nurse in Harrogate has developed an insulin delegation programme which is currently being trialled in two care homes. The aim of the programme is to provide comprehensive training to staff to be able to administer once daily insulin to residents with Type 2 diabetes. Debora has also been working in collaboration with CCGs to launch MDT clinics in primary care. The aim of these meetings is to discuss cases, offer education in diabetes management and upskill primary care staff.

Inpatient care

Elizabeth Hackett, has recently changed jobs and is now working in Medicines Information. She is continuing to argue the case for her development as a diabetes specialist pharmacist, focusing on diabetes care.

Integrated care

Dr Karunakaran Vithian, Consultant in Colchester is continuing to improve care processes and treatment targets across North East Essex through their integrated diabetes service. Vithian has also been working to reduce insulin errors in collaboration with the lead inpatient DSN and inpatient pharmacists. This excellent example of collaborative work was recognised at the 2018 QiC awards and won the top prize as Best Collaborative Project.

Service redesign

Dr Ana Pokrajac, Consultant in Hertfordshire has incorporated a diabetes renal pathway into West Hertfordshire's new service model which aims to prevent duplication of clinical management as well as prevent decline in renal function. Ana has also written guidelines for the management of hyperglycaemia in patients with diabetes and CKD.