

**UK Awards for AHPs and healthcare scientists
2009
WINNING ENTRIES**

Overall winner

Hilary Harris (clinical lead radiography) and Geoffrey Naisby (consultant radiologist) of the James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough are overall winners of the 2009 award for their invention of device, the HILINA, to speed up breast biopsies.

The judges selected this overall winner because it is already making a real difference to patient comfort by speeding up biopsy time. It's an invention by radiographers which is likely to vastly improve the patient experience of breast biopsies in the next few years. They already have additional units in production by the hospital medical engineering department and hope very soon to be able to offer the device to other radiology departments in the UK.

This award was sponsored by NHS Employers and presented by Alastair Henderson, joint acting director.

Innovation in recruitment and careers development sponsored by NHS Employers and presented by Caroline Waterfield, deputy head of employment services.

WINNER

Tracey Howe and Susan Kerr (directors), HealthQWest graduate school, Glasgow Caledonian University, for HealthQWest, a research consortium for the West of Scotland to build research capacity among AHPs, nurses and midwives.

The team achieved an extraordinary turnaround in just three years: the research standing for AHPs and nurses went from bottom of the UK league to the top. Along the way students were encouraged to develop their research skills and research-mindedness for the benefit of patient care. The judges said it was an incredible feat to get several major academic institutions to work together in this way.

OTHER SHORTLISTED ENTRIES

Claire Chapman and Claire Madsen (physiotherapists), Bristol PCT for their initiative in developing a clinical supervision model to support newly qualified physiotherapists.

Jayne Lavin (dietetic lead for education) and Jacqui Thornton, (CPD lead, occupational therapy) Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust, for their innovative scheme to create credit-based learning for therapy support workers using the Open College Network.

Sarah Wilson (occupational therapist) and Heather Reed (OT services manager) from Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Trust who developed a bank for OT staff to meet service needs in times of staff shortages.

Achieving excellence in learning, teaching, development or mentorship

sponsored by GateHouse and presented by Joy Shepherd, course co-ordinator.

WINNER

Hannah Grainger (cell salvage co-ordinator) Danny McGee (specialist practitioner in operating theatre blood conservation) and Catherine Howell of the UK Cell Salvage Action group for their achievement in designing a pathway to help train practitioners in intraoperative cell salvage, a technique which enables a patient's own blood, lost during surgery, to be collected and returned to them.

The judges felt that this education project was well managed and had huge potential for use throughout the NHS. Salvaging blood during operations is a valuable but relatively rare procedure. This educational project shows practitioners how to do it safely and effectively so that can be used more widely as an alternative to blood transfusion.

SHORTLISTED ENTRY

Lesley Shipgood (principal speech and language therapist) and Elizabeth Reed-Beadle (educational audiologist) at Addenbrooke's Hospital for their CICFAST project, which is designed to keep staff, patients with cochlea implants, and their families up to date with the wide variety of speech processors.

Innovation in patient or client services, sponsored by the Department of Health, England and the Northern Ireland office and presented by Sue Hill, chief scientific officer and Karen Middleton, chief health professions officer, England and Fiona Hodgkinson, NI.

WINNER: AHP

Hilary Harris (clinical lead radiography) and Geoffrey Naisby (consultant radiologist) of the James Cook University Hospital in Middlesbrough who have invented a device to speed up breast biopsies.

The HILINA device, designed department of radiology staff, halves the time for x-ray guided breast biopsy in patients who are suspected of having breast cancer. This is very much appreciated by patients and has resulted in improved workflow with reduced waiting time for the investigation. Previously it was carried out elsewhere which meant that the patient had to maintain the position for up to 8 minutes. The device reduces this to less than 10 seconds so dramatically improving the patient experience.

WINNER: HEALTHCARE SCIENCE

Lorna Tasker (clinical scientist) Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust and Peter Watson, (principal bioengineer) Musgrave Park Hospital in Belfast who have revolutionised the way specialised wheelchairs are built.

This is a joint project between Swansea and Belfast. This project has substantially reduced the cost of producing specialist wheelchair seating for people with complex postural needs (£2,000 per seat) and speeded up delivery times. The Digital Seating Services in Swansea have revolutionised the method of capturing shapes by adapting a method developed in Belfast and using a desk laser scanner to pick up the shape of a bead bag where the shape has been captured from the client.

SHORTLISTED ENTRIES

Sarah Reynolds (head coach, occupational therapist) and Sara Byrne (occupational therapist), Mersey Care NHS Trust, for their outstanding work in bringing cognitive rehabilitation techniques to patients with severe impulsive, aggressive behaviour.

Gilbert Wieringa (consultant clinical biochemist), Samantha Ekin (senior biomedical scientist) and Andy Bacon, (associate director, commercial reform and reconfiguration) of the Association of Greater Manchester PCTs, for their scheme to offer patients choice of access to High Street pharmacies for management of diabetes and coronary heart disease.

Manworth Hirving (specialist dietitian) and Karen Taylor (support worker) of the Bill Yule Adolescent Unit at the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust who created a garden and transformed the way the young people viewed mealtimes -- and gardening.

Promoting health and well being in hard-to-reach communities, sponsored by the Welsh Government and presented by Jan Smith, therapy adviser for Wales

WINNER

Geraldine Teague (service lead) Lisa Montgomery (team leader) and Maurice Crozier, Northern Health and Social Care Trust in Northern Ireland for their work in MASTS: multi-agency support team for schools, helping children with difficulties to flourish into the mainstream education.

The judges thought this was an excellent example of interagency working and responding to a clearly identified need. Parents and teaching staff report huge benefits to children whose confidence and educational performance has improved as a result of this innovative child-centred service.

SHORTLISTED ENTRIES

Anna Reeves (head occupational therapist) and Fran Bristow (general manager) from South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust for their project to help people with complex mental health problems to develop social networks and participate in sport, leisure and vocational activities.

Nicola Nairn (physiotherapist) and Hazel Kelly (occupational therapist) NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde for their work with elderly people living in the community who have fallen, to speed recovery and prevent recurrence.

Rethinking the patient care pathway, sponsored by the Scottish Government. and presented by Jacqui Lunday, chief health professions officer, Scottish Executive.

WINNER

Darren Brand (senior orthoptist) , Connie Murray (occupational therapist) and Hazel McWhinnie (area head orthoptist) NHS Ayrshire & Arran for their initiative in spotting and treating visual problems in patients who have had a stroke.

Orthoptists are not usually brought in to the treatment of stroke patients who suffer visual defects: patients are often inappropriately referred to ophthalmologists. This scheme ensured that all staff working with stroke patients were aware of the orthoptic

service so that referrals were increased, diagnosis and treatment improved in a highly cost effective way.

SHORTLISTED ENTRIES

Christine Austin (head speech and language therapist) and Andrew Barlow (social worker) Mersey Care NHS Trust for the outstanding work with adults with Aspergers syndrome, many of whom have not previously accessed the services they need.

Diane Butland, (podiatrist) Carol Amery (diabetes consultant) and Tom Dickie (foot health manager) from Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust for their Hot Foot Phone to give diabetes sufferers, their families and healthcare professionals a quick response to foot problems.

Promoting healthcare science sponsored by the Department of Health, England and presented by Sue Hill, chief scientific officer, back to the stage.

WINNER

Julie Martin (head of healthcare science and AHP education) and Alison Day, (work-based learning co-ordinator) of Southampton University Hospitals NHS trust for their DVD entitled Appliance of Healthcare Science.

Healthcare scientists throughout the trust were involved in making an in-house DVD in conjunction with AimHigher. The aim was to reach out to the local community to promote the range of opportunities for training and careers in the various branches of healthcare science.

Joint working between allied health professionals and healthcare scientists sponsored by Unite the Union and presented by Helen McFarlane,

WINNER

Isobel Skypala (director of rehabilitation and therapies) and Stephen Till (clinical scientist fellow) Royal Brompton and Harefield NHS Trust, for their innovative work in setting up a food allergy clinics for adults.

The judges felt that the creation of this unified service for adults from the previous ad hoc arrangements brought great benefit to patients, giving them everything they need in one clinic. They see the dietitian and the doctor at the same time and, working with the biochemistry team, have the skin prick tests carried out there and then. The judges particularly liked the example of the young man coming up to legal drinking age and suspected he was allergic to beer: he was.

SHORTLISTED ENTRIES

Jackie Stubbs (principal speech and language therapist), Diana Anderson (senior specialist dietician) and Sue Tye (occupational therapist), North East Essex PCT, for their clever device to help carers to thicken fluids accurately for patients with dysphagia.

Pauline Humphrey (specialist radiographer) and Helen Appleby, (deputy head, radiotherapy physics unit) Bristol Haematology and Oncology Centre for their work in setting up a new service including therapy radiographers and medical physicians to deliver high dose rate brachytherapy for patients with prostate cancer.

Best of Wales award, sponsored by the Welsh Government and presented by Jan Smith, therapy adviser.

WINNER

Andrea Basu (community development dietitian team lead) and Lisa Williams (project co-ordinator) Wrexham Maelor Hospital, for their course on community food and nutrition skills.

The judges admired this initiative to set up an accredited community food and nutrition skills course for a wide range of community-based workers to enable them to cascade basic food and nutrition messages to the groups they work with.

SHORTLISTED ENTRIES

Gudrun Jones (art therapist) and Nest Howells (complementary therapist) Hywel Dda NHS Trust for *Listening to the story teller* – a lottery funded project to capture the experiences of cancer patients in order to help train health professionals in palliative care.

Cara Hopgood (physiotherapist) and Lisa Powell (occupational therapist), Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust for the Abergavenny therapy outreach service, a joint venture between OT and physiotherapy to meet rehabilitation needs in the community.

The Judges special award, sponsored by *Employing Allied Health Professionals and Healthcare Scientists* and presented by its editor Judith Podmore.

Jackie Stubbs (principal speech and language therapist), Diana Anderson (senior specialist dietician) and Sue Tye (occupational therapist), North East Essex PCT, for their clever device the TIM tube to help carers to thicken fluids accurately for patients with dysphagia.

The judges thought this entry was a brilliant example of creative problem-solving but it did not fit the category in which it was being judged. The judges were deeply impressed by this invention which has the potential to save the lives of many people with learning difficulties and others with dysphagia. It is series of tubes like egg-timers which show carers the exact thickness of liquids needed for individual patients who are dysphagic. Previously there were only written descriptions of the different thicknesses available. Now carers can see at a glance whether the consistency is right.