13 July 2016

Press Release

Award winning blog for Kingston Hospital

Sepsis Specialist Nurse

Theresa Weldring, a Kingston Hospital Sepsis Specialist Nurse, has won the 2nd birthday competition for the Sign up to Safety campaign by writing a blog to raise the profile of Sepsis.

The project at the Trust has helped raise awareness of sepsis, which is also known as septicaemia or blood poisoning. It has also provided training to medical staff through funding obtained from the initiative. The Emergency Department at the Hospital has been the main focus of the project, where new trials have been implemented to improve sepsis recognition and management and improve patient safety. This includes the introduction of a new screening tool and a ‘Sepsis Six’ bundle pathway.

A sepsis steering group has also been set up at the Trust to drive forward improvements which have different representatives from around the Hospital including Theresa the Sepsis Specialist Nurse, Doctors, Nurses, Microbiologists and a patient volunteer.

Theresa supports the programme of work at the Hospital providing specialist knowledge and skills and a number of opportunities to involve other staff. Currently at the hospital, a new electronic alert system is being trialled for early sepsis detection. This system evaluates laboratory results and vital signs, to then trigger an alert if the results signify sepsis. This now means the identification of sepsis is quicker, meaning fewer patients are at risk from the infection.

You can read Theresa's blog here:
https://www.england.nhs.uk/signuptosafety/2016/06/30/theresa-weldring/
Catherine Ede, Regional Lead from Sign up to Safety said:

“We loved it because we felt that it conveyed how they are thinking differently at Kingston Hospital Trust, acknowledging the challenges experienced by busy staff day to day and adapting their approach accordingly to make sure improvements work for them. It shows their work on safety culture across the system and highlights how they’re living the positivity that is at the heart of Sign up to Safety.

Theresa Weldring shares her thoughts on the completion and the Sign up to Safety project:

“It feels fantastic for us to win the award – it was a real surprise and it’s great to have recognition for all the improvement work that the staff at Kingston Hospital are doing on sepsis. We entered because we wanted to support the Sign up to Safety’s 2nd birthday celebrations and share our work and progress with other Sign up to Safety organisations around the country.

Notes to Editors

- Sign up to Safety is designed to help realise the ambition of making the NHS the safest healthcare system in the world by creating a system devoted to continuous learning and improvement.
- As part of the Hospital’s work to continuously improve patient safety, the Trust joined in 2015 NHS England’s Sign up to Safety campaign, aimed at reducing avoidable harm by 50% and save 6,000 lives across the NHS over the next three years.
- For more information about the campaign visit www.england.nhs.uk/signuptosafety

All press enquiries to:

- Press and Communications Team on 020 8934 3613/3614 or email comms@kingstonhospital.nhs.uk
- Visit www.kingstonhospital.nhs.uk and see the News section of the hospital website for our press release archive.