

# International Clinical Trials Day

The Research Department took part in International Clinical Trials Day on the evening of Friday 20th May 2016 by holding an open presentation and informal buffet dinner for staff, patients and other members of the community. The Clinical Trials Team all pulled together to prepare the Lecture Hall with bunting, balloons and a friendly atmosphere to bring awareness of the role of Research within the Trust. We had a whopping fifty to sixty guests arrive to share our Clinical Trials Evening, which turned out to be a real success.

The presentation had speeches by the Lead Research Consultant, Professor Sriprasad who also acted as Chair and introduced all presentations. Next to speak was Professor Madaan who spoke about why Research was important and why we do clinical trials. After that, Dr Sisson spoke about his experience of Research and discussed how safe patients were when undertaking clinical trials by presenting different laws such as the Declaration of Helsinki, first introduced in 1964.

Next to speak was our Lead Clinical Trials Nurse Sherma Turner, who talked about When Heels don't Heal, giving the background of the Leucopatch II study which aims to heal diabetic foot ulcers by turning patients' blood into a patch, inserted into the foot ulcer to promote healing. This was followed by Mr Pollard who spoke about research from a patient's perspective. Mr Pollard highlighted the fear of being diagnosed with cancer, the side effects of being on the trial drug but how it became easier to live day-to-day life with, and, perhaps most importantly, how happy he was with the care and compassion of the nurses and research nurses.

We then heard from our Research Nurses, Lou and Kate and CTAs, Zoe, who spoke about their

role within clinical trials. This light-hearted presentation was to show that the Clinical Trials team ensures patients get the best care whilst showing the importance of being part of the team and how everyone's role is important. We then heard from Dr Nandini Cossons who works at Pfizer to talk about the process of how clinical trials start. Dr Cossons talked through the interesting way in which clinical trials progress through different stages and what those stages mean to research departments, hospitals and patients in general.

Another key member of the Research team, Gagan Kaler, the Clinical Trials Pharmacist spoke about her role within research. At this point, it all seemed to come together, demonstrating that while the Research Team is quite widely spread, we all work well together in order to ensure the patients' needs are upheld. We then had another patients' perspective on his experience of being involved in Clinical Trials. Mr Emmerson, a patient then used this opportunity to thank Dr Martin and Nurse Specialist Geraldine Smith for their help in a trial he was in. the trial.

The Chief Executive, Susan Acott completed the evening by affirming the importance of research in healthcare and how it can affect many changes for the better and overall improve healthcare. After the presentations, Dr Martin gave an impromptu speech about the importance of Clinical Trials and thanked nurse specialist Geraldine Smith for her help in the PARADIGM Extension study that is currently still running.

The evening was a great success and received a lot of positive feedback. The Research team are already planning next year's International Clinical Trial's Day!