

# Healthcare Science Programme

## November 2020 Newsletter

### We have moved!

On 1st October, the National Healthcare Science Programme transferred from the NHS Wales Health Collaborative to Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW) and is part of the Workforce Transformation Team.

This is an exciting move and provides us with an opportunity to maximise existing resources including comms support to help promote the diverse array of rewarding and fulfilling career choices within healthcare science, and strengthen existing relationships in order to achieve the strategic vision for health and social care across Wales contained within our 'Healthcare Science in NHS Wales - Looking Forward Framework'.

If you are not familiar with our framework then make yourself a hot drink and start reading...

This is healthcare scientists time to shine!!



In addition to the move we are pleased to announce that Dr Delia Ripley, Senior Programme Manager for the National Healthcare Science programme, has been successful in applying for the new position of Deputy Chief Health Science Advisor for Welsh Government and commenced her post on the 1st October.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dee on her new position, and thank her for all her hard work, support and guidance over the last 18 months.

## Healthcare Science Logo

The programme team are excited to announce that the National Healthcare Science Programme now has a logo!



We worked with Scarlet Design, who also created the Dragon's Heart Hospital and the Wales Infants' & Children's Genome Service (WINGS) logos, to design our national logo. This was co-produced with our Healthcare Science Network Board and our healthcare science colleagues across Wales.

**Scarletdesign**

Thank you all for your valued contributions!

The biggest challenge for our logo was to communicate the broad range of disciplines that exist within the healthcare science profession. Twelve icons were decided upon that aim to reflect the wider scope of healthcare science. The approach to our logo aligns with the trend and feedback that Scarlet Design have received since COVID-19, which is that people connect with logos of a strong visual narrative.

This logo will help to build internally a 'one organisation' culture, whilst communicating externally our real strength - the true breadth of healthcare science in Wales.

## NHS Wales COVID-19 innovation and transformation study report

Healthcare Science will have a dedicated chapter to showcase the amazing work of our colleagues in the NHS Wales COVID-19 Innovation and Transformation Study Report.

The National Healthcare Science Programme is capturing the novel and innovative ways of working demonstrated by the healthcare science workforce in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



We are pleased to be collaborating with the Welsh Government Transformation Team, Gwent Regional Partnership Board, the Welsh NHS Confederation and the wider NHS Wales Innovation leads group to co-resource and commission this report. Swansea University have been successful in their bid to undertake this work and the report findings will be launched by March 2021.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the survey, we really appreciate you taking the time to tell us about the amazing work you have been doing since the start of the pandemic.

## Meet the Healthcare Scientist

The NHS has a strong tradition of nurturing the brightest and best healthcare scientists, and we are so proud to celebrate the fantastic scientists we have working day-in-day-out to deliver high quality care for all.

In each edition of our newsletter, we will be shining the spotlight on our amazing healthcare scientists. Next up is Matthew Thomas, an Assistant Practitioner in the Welsh Transplant and Immunogenetics Laboratory, Welsh Blood Service.

## Tell us about your healthcare science discipline?

My role is to support registered healthcare scientists and registered clinical scientists in day-to-day practical tasks in the laboratory. We perform tissue typing on patients that need organ transplants and bone marrow transplants. I do a large amount of routine testing such as clinical antibody testing, which is then signed off by a registered scientist. I also assist in the general running of the laboratory by purchasing stock, processing and logging patient samples, and preparing reagents and equipment for every day use.

## What do you enjoy about your job?

I like that I am helping to improve the lives of very ill patients such as renal transplant patients and patients in need of a bone marrow transplant. I get to use a variety of technical equipment which utilises both my problem solving and clinical skills.

## What are your career ambitions?

I am currently studying at Cardiff Met completing top-up modules in order to become a registered scientist and I am also completing the IBMS portfolio. I hope to complete this by summer 2021.

## How did you get here?

I studied Biology at the University of South Wales and graduated in 2015. I have previously worked in the Welsh Blood Service as an Medical Laboratory Assistant, as well as in another private laboratory.

## What sort of person would your job role suit?

This role would suit something who is clinical, and wants to help others. The job role also provides a great experience for individuals who are looking to enhance their career.



Let's shout out from the rooftops about the amazing work that you do. If you would like to get involved in our 'Meet the Scientist' section, please get in touch with Sam on [samantha.cook3@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:samantha.cook3@wales.nhs.uk).

## We need your help!

We are in the process of collecting a series of job profiles from across healthcare science to capture the following:

- The variety of disciplines in healthcare science
- The different levels of career progression
- The different routes in education and training
- An insight into the different job roles and responsibilities

We want to demonstrate the breadth of healthcare science, and the amazing people that work within it! Please get in touch with Sam on [samantha.cook3@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:samantha.cook3@wales.nhs.uk).

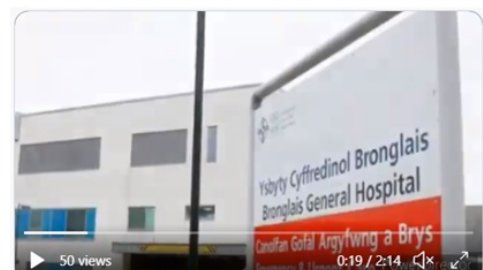
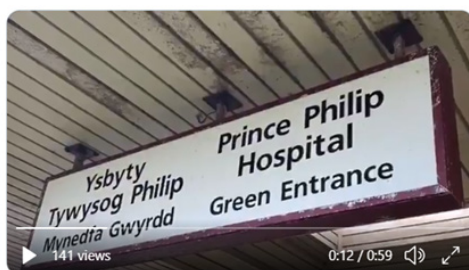


## Global Clinical Engineering Day 2020

On 21st October 2020 colleagues from across the world of Clinical Engineering came together virtually to celebrate Global Clinical Engineering Day. The celebrations aimed to recognise the important contributions of clinical engineers to healthcare.

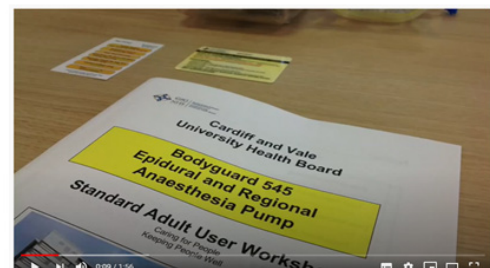
The clinical engineering workforce is essential to the delivery of safe, high-quality care, and provide a pivotal role in providing governance, clinical training, procuring and managing life-saving equipment. Clinical Engineers from across the country took over social media to promote and celebrate the invaluable work that they do.

The Clinical Engineering department in Hywel Dda UHB created videos showcasing their work at Prince Philip Hospital and Bronglais Hospital. A huge thank you to Chris Hopkins and the Clinical Engineering teams for their hard work. You can find out more about them by watching their videos below:



Clinical Engineering colleagues at Cardiff and Vale UHB also created some great videos. We particularly liked how they described the different routes into the profession and the development opportunities available within Clinical Engineering.

These videos are available on the Cardiff and Vale YouTube channel and are linked below:

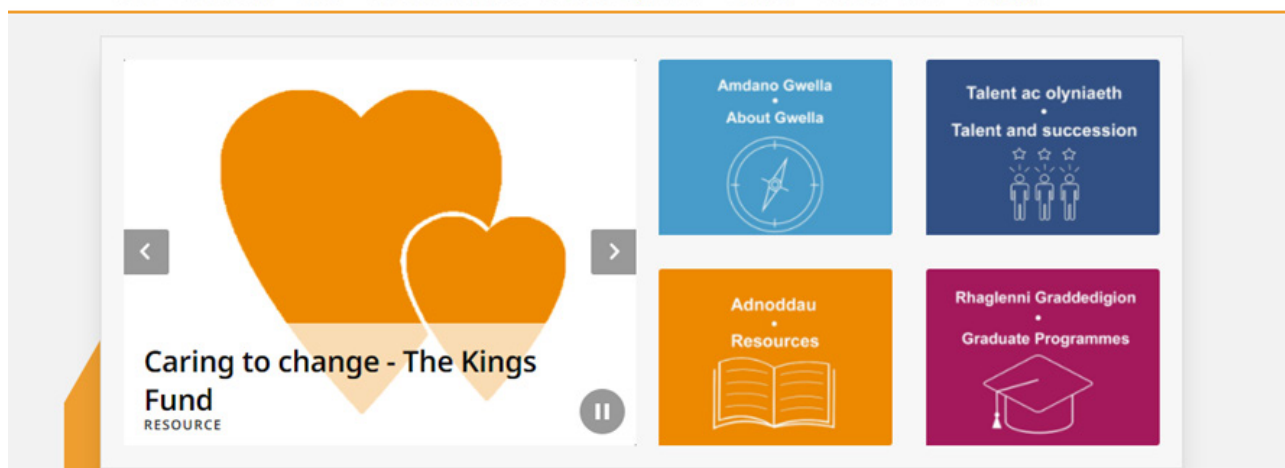


To see more of the fabulous content shared across social media on Global Clinical Engineering Day, you can check out the following:

- The Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine where you can find further videos and resources
- The hashtag #GlobalCEDay2020 on Twitter

## Gwella Leadership Portal

In August, Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW) launched 'Gwella', the bi-lingual leadership portal for NHS Wales. This provides access to a wide range of compassionate leadership and management resources curated from The King's Fund, Open University and colleagues across the other UK nations.



You can also access materials available as teaching resources for organisations to integrate into existing leadership and management programmes. Gwella is designed to enable NHS organisations to create leadership networks, digitised resources, and deliver leadership and management programmes through its integrated virtual classroom facilities.

For further information on how you can maximise this exciting leadership resource, please contact [Emily.Millar@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Emily.Millar@wales.nhs.uk).

## AHA Awards 2020

Following on from the amazing success of last years Advancing Healthcare Awards Wales, the UK-wide Advancing Healthcare Awards 2020 took place on 16th October as a virtual event.

We are super excited to announce our Welsh healthcare science winners:

- The Rising Star Award (sponsored by Chamberlain Dunn) - Maria Burton, Trainee Clinical Scientist, Welsh Transplantation Laboratory, Velindre University NHS Trust
- The Faculty of Public Health and Public Health England Award for Contributions to Public Health - Oliver Williams, Specialty Registrar in Public Health & Cheryl Williams, Principle Health Practitioner, Cardiff & Vale UHB. Staying Steady Schools: Inter-generational Falls Awareness.



A huge congratulations to all of the winners across healthcare science and AHP. There were so many examples of incredible and innovative work from health care professionals across the UK.

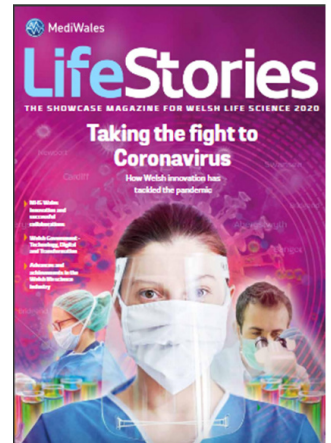
You can find videos of all of the finalists and winners [here](#)!

## Healthcare Science in the news

A great news story has been published in MediWales: LifeStories Magazine 2020 highlighting the work being done with Cardiff University Biomechanics Research Facility. The facility now hosts Wales' first Clinical Gait Analysis Service led by clinicians from the Rehabilitation Engineering Unit at Cardiff and Vale UHB.

Gait analysis measures and assesses a patients' walking pattern using a variety of technologies, and the results and accompanying analysis provide detailed insight for their referring clinician.

You can read the full article here:



## Opportunities and information

We want to know what YOU want to see from us!

In early 2021, the National Healthcare Science Programme Team will be hosting webinars and virtual engagement sessions for our healthcare scientists across Wales. Please let us know:

- Who and what you would like to see from these sessions?
- If you'd like to be involved to showcase the amazing work you do, or share your career journey

Get in touch - we can't wait to hear all of your ideas!

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We would love to replicate 'a day in the life' with our healthcare scientists and disseminate your videos via this newsletter and our twitter account [@HCS\\_Cymru](https://twitter.com/HCS_Cymru).

We can't guarantee our scientists overnight fame, however this is an excellent opportunity to work together not only to increase the visibility of our profession and the highlight the critical roles within it, but also to inspire and enthuse individuals to begin or progress their careers within healthcare science.

It doesn't need to be anything fancy or professionally made - if you have a smartphone, then you have a magical video creating device right in your hand! Email [samantha.cook3@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:samantha.cook3@wales.nhs.uk) to get involved!