

Schools celebrate science quiz success

In an on-going collaboration between Cardiff University School of Medicine and ABPI Cymru Wales, September 2019 once again saw Year 10 pupils from north and south Wales brought together to pit their scientific wits at the Science in Health Live! quiz.

The event features parallel competitions for Welsh- and English-medium schools, which this year attracted almost 500 participants. It aims to inspire pupils to consider careers involving science and encourage curiosity about the natural world. Each team comprises four members with an interest in maths, science and the world around them.

The quiz began with preliminary stages in February and is run by PhD students, medical students, scientists and early career researchers. The finals, which took place on 13 September in the main lecture theatre at the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff, saw finalists from Brynteg School (Bridgend), Ysgol Brynhyfryd (Ruthin), Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg (Barry) and Ysgol Tryfan (Bangor). Winning schools, having beaten off competition from dozens of schools from across Wales, are presented with a trophy and a cheque for £150 to be spent on science within the school, sponsored by the ABPI. This year's winners (pictured) were Ysgol Tryfan and Brynteg School.

The quiz forms part of the School of Medicine's Science in Health programme of activities. This also includes the annual Science in Health Live! event in March, the public lecture series, which runs from October to March, and the Work Experience Scheme, which takes place in June/July (www.cardiff.ac.uk/scienceinhealth).



Brynteg School with Dr Rhian Goodfellow, Director C21 Curriculum, School of Medicine, Cardiff University after winning the English-medium Quiz



Ysgol Tryfan with Dr Rhian Goodfellow, Director C21 Curriculum, School of Medicine, Cardiff University after winning the Welsh-medium Quiz

Wales triumphs at prestigious UK and Ireland Diabetes awards

NHS teams from Wrexham, Cardiff and NHS Wales were among those recognised at the ninth annual Quality in Care (QiC) Diabetes awards. Held on Thursday 17 October at Sanofi UK headquarters, QiC Diabetes 2019 recognised initiatives that improve the quality of life for people living with diabetes, as judged by the NHS, patients and industry.

“Sanofi is proud to be involved in the QiC Diabetes awards since its inception in 2010. Diabetes teams across the UK and Ireland are so familiar with the QiC awards that each time they develop a new initiative, they’re thinking about how it can be measured and entered into the awards. The quality this year was once again outstanding and the real winners are the people doing their jobs to benefit their patients; and supporting them with awards like this is really fantastic.”

**Becky Reeve,
Head of Professional Relations,
Primary Care Business Unit,
Sanofi UK & Ireland**



Dr Sam Rice receives his award from Dr Julia Platts

The awards ceremony opened with a talk from keynote speaker Dr Sam Rice, Consultant Physician and Endocrinologist at Hywel Dda University Health Board and Honorary Senior Lecturer at Swansea Clinical School, on empowerment for people living with diabetes. Dr Rice went on to win the inaugural NHS Wales Outstanding Contribution Award for Services in Diabetes, presented by Dr Julia Platts, National Clinical Lead for Diabetes in Wales. Dr Rice was also part of the team that won the Diabetes Education Programmes – Healthcare Professionals category with their initiative Digital Safety Training – Improving Ward Staff Insulin Competency and Confidence, by Cambridge Diabetes Education Programme.

NHS Wales teams continued to triumph, picking up multiple awards in several categories:

Mind and Body Healthy Together – Emotional Wellbeing Programmes for People with Diabetes – Children, Young People and Emerging Adults category – this category recognises initiatives that deliver emotional wellbeing support for people with diabetes of all ages and/or their families and carers. Wrexham

Maelor Hospital (Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board) initiative ‘Wrexham Young Adult Diabetes Service – Getting Our Heads around Diabetes’ was the winner, and highly commended was the Department of Paediatric Diabetes, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board’s initiative ‘Engaging young people with their Type 1 Diabetes through sport’.

Diabetes Collaboration Initiative of the Year – Children, Young People and Emerging Adults category – this award recognises outstanding collaborative projects that demonstrate working with internal and external stakeholders to achieve a common goal, i.e. initiatives created and implemented by multi-organisational partnership. This includes work carried out by teams comprising NHS, charities, social care, etc. that significantly contributes to self-management, avoidance of complications and treatment of diabetes. Noah’s Ark Children’s Hospital for Wales, Cardiff & Vale University Health Board initiative ‘Quality Improvement Innovation to Improve Early Diagnosis of Type 1 Diabetes in Children and Young People’ was the winner and NHS Wales’ initiative ‘National Standards

Continued overleaf

for Diabetes Transitional Care and Young Adult Service' was highly commended in this category.

QiC Diabetes is partnered by Sanofi and supported by the Association of British Clinical Diabetologists (ABCD), Association of Children's Diabetes Clinicians (ACDC), Children and Young People's Diabetes Network (CYPDN), the Diabetes Inpatient Specialist Nurse (DISN) UK Group, Diabetes Specialist Nurse Forum (DSN) UK, Diabetes Research & Wellness Foundation (DRWF), Diabetes UK, JDRF – the Type 1 diabetes charity, Primary Care Diabetes Society (PCDS), Training Research and Education for Nurses in Diabetes (TREND-UK), Young Diabetologists and Endocrinologists' Forum (YDEF) and the United Kingdom Clinical Pharmacy Association (UKCPA).

To view the full list of winners, highly commended, commended and finalist entries of the QiC Diabetes Awards 2019, and to register your interest for further updates, visit www.qualityincare.org/diabetes



The team from Wrexham Maelor Hospital collect their award (CYPEA Category)



Noah's Ark Team collecting their Collaboration Initiative of the Year (CYPEA Category)

Maintaining supply of medicines after Brexit

Speculating about Brexit is always challenging, because no-one knows for certain the situation we will be facing. But whatever the scenario, the focus for our pharmaceutical companies for several years has been to make sure that supplies of medicines to patients are uninterrupted.

Brexit is the biggest logistical challenge our industry has ever faced. There are around 12,300 medicines in use by the NHS, of which 7,000 come from or via the EU.¹

The commitment of our members is absolute - they know that people rely on their medicines every day. Action to protect supplies includes increasing stocks of medicine in the UK, changing supply routes, transferring medicine licences and duplicating quality testing in the EU. To give just a few examples, Novo Nordisk has tripled its warehouse capacity to hold 18 weeks' worth of stock, Eli Lilly of the United States and France's Sanofi have similar stockpiles.² Some members have told us they have built up 6 months' supply of stocks.

Companies have also been working on transporting medicines on alternative

routes, avoiding the 'short strait' channel crossings where Government anticipates there could be delays.

Transporting medicines is a complex process. If a medicine is normally transported between Dover and Calais by ferry - known as 'roll-on roll-off' - it takes a lot of advance planning, testing and validating of an alternative approach or route before you can actually make a change. For example, lorry drivers are only allowed to drive certain distances without a rest, and rightly so. If a lorry has to go on a longer land journey or ferry crossing, companies have to plan to send two drivers, not one. Or, if a medicine has to be maintained at a cool temperature, you have to make sure it is suitably insulated to keep the required temperature for the longer journey, or make sure the lorry is refrigerated.

Companies have been doing this detailed planning for some months, but to complete their plans, they also urgently need to know the details of the ferry and airfreight routes that the UK Government has secured in support of critical goods, such as medicines.

No one knows what Brexit situation we will face, and some things are outside of the control of individual companies or the pharmaceutical industry as a whole. The best thing would be to leave with a deal, and we have been calling for a deal for a long time. But if a deal is not possible, companies are as prepared as they can be, and they will continue to do everything they can to make sure people get their medicines, no matter what kind of Brexit we end up with.

¹ NAO report: Exiting the EU: supplying the health and social care sectors

² Reuters: With a backup to the backup, insulin makers say they are primed for Brexit



HTW Meeting



Technoleg Iechyd Cymru
Health Technology Wales

The innovative national body for health technologies in Wales

An innovative national body for health technology is improving the quality of care in Wales. Health Technology Wales (HTW) was set up by ministerial recommendation at the end of 2017 to develop a strategic approach to the identification, appraisal and adoption of non-medicine technologies. The team, located at the Life Sciences Hub Wales in Cardiff Bay, respond to the needs of service users and care providers through collaboration with partners across the health, social care and technology sectors, ensuring an all-Wales approach. It also acts as an initial point of contact, or ‘front door’ for technology developers and industry. HTW is funded by the Welsh Government and hosted within Velindre University NHS Trust, but is independent of both.

Talking about HTW, Director Dr Susan Myles said: “Our team of nineteen professionals research and evaluate the best available evidence about non-medicine health technologies to determine clinical and cost effectiveness. Based on the evidence, we publish Guidance on whether the technology should be adopted for use in Wales.”

To help support this work, the ABPI has now joined the HTW Industry User Group, which will focus on HTW processes, with a view to enabling the industry, NHS Wales, care services and HTW to work together constructively. Feedback from the Industry User Group will be used to improve HTW processes and develop material to promote understanding of HTW and its guidance processes throughout the life sciences sector. A Patient and Public Involvement Group has also been established, so patient voices are clearly heard.

To date, there have been nine pieces of Guidance published, including: mechanical chest compression for patients with cardiac arrests, radiotracers for recurring prostate cancer and glucose monitoring devices for diabetes. HTW is also collaborating with Midlands-Wales Advanced Therapy Treatment Centre (MW-ATTC) to evaluate advanced therapy medicinal products (ATMPs). The health economics team are providing the economic evaluation and market access section of the project by:

- conducting a systematic literature review of data collection methods to inform the development of a micro-costing toolkit for ATMPs
- analysing a routine data source (SAIL) to provide a more detailed understanding of the natural disease progression of critical limb ischemia
- developing an economic model to estimate the cost-effectiveness of an

ATMP for patients with critical limb ischemia

- reviewing the available evidence on patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs) to estimate the quality of life burden of critical limb ischemia.

Speaking about Health Technology Wales’ first anniversary in November 2018, Vaughan Gething AM, Minister for Health and Social Services, said: “They are delivering high quality, evidence-informed advice to our health boards on a range of non-medicine technologies. This is important work that will ensure our health service in Wales is at the forefront of modern technology.”

Non-medicine health and care technologies make a real difference to people’s lives in Wales. Do you know a non-medicine technology that Health Technology Wales could appraise? Anyone can suggest a topic at www.healthtechnology.wales

Medicines Knowledge Base - The Conversion to STEAM... A new way for students to learn creatively

This latest meeting in the long-running ABPI Cymru Wales Medicines Knowledge Base Programme took place on 8 October 2019 at the National Assembly for Wales and was sponsored by Angela Burns AM.

For the first time, the session was held in association with Chwarae Teg, Wales' leading gender equality charity and Bridgend College, which provides further education to over 6,000 students and employs over 600 members of staff. It highlighted the need to support an increase in the numbers studying STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) subjects in Wales by thinking differently and putting the creativity of the arts at their centre (STEAM).

ABPI Cymru Wales opened the Medicines Knowledge Base session, outlining some of the initiatives taking place within the pharmaceutical industry; not least a series of ABPI Careers webinars

delivered during Autumn 2019. This was followed by Bridgend College, who have recently announced ambitious plans to build a STEAM Academy within the grounds of their Pencoed Campus in a bid to develop further employment and training opportunities in the region. Their presentation, by the College's Deputy Principal, Viv Buckley, provided further information on this initiative and its importance for Wales' future – both economically and educationally. Chwarae Teg closed the meeting, outlining their views on building a Wales where women achieve and prosper through building confidence and skills.

According to 2018 data for the UK, the number of women in core

STEM occupations is still just 22%, and whilst there is better news on the science front, with women now making up 43.2% of the total science professional workforce, women still occupy just 13% of STEM management roles.³ Research published by Chwarae Teg shows that full gender equality could boost the Welsh economy by almost £14 billion and if men and women had the same employment rates, working hours and productivity, it could result in an additional £13.6 billion for the Welsh economy by 2028.⁴ It is important to the ABPI that the pharmaceutical industry can recruit the very best people, regardless of gender.



Andrew Goodall, Chief Executive NHS Wales opens proceedings



The WAST Winning Team



Joe Ferris, ABPI Cymru Wales joined by Steve Lister (Deputy Chair) and Lee-Ann Farrell (Chair) of the Wales Industry Group

Winners of NHS Wales Awards 2019 announced

Organised by 1000 Lives Improvement, the national improvement service for NHS Wales, the NHS Wales Awards were launched in 2008 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the NHS and recognise and promote good practice across Wales. Sponsored for the first time by ABPI Cymru Wales and the Welsh Life Sciences Hub, the eleventh Awards ceremony was held in Cardiff on 19 September 2019.

Nine awards were presented to organisations across Wales for their innovative work, which has transformed the experience and outcomes for people in Wales. The winning projects, which came from across Wales, included a Motor Neurone Disease Care Network, Trauma Risk Management Service and the Learning Disabilities 'dream team'. The final award of the night, the Outstanding Contribution to Transforming Health and Care Award, was won by the Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust - Welsh Ambulance Service Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service End of Life Care Rapid Transport Service.

Minister for Health and Social Services, Vaughan Gething said:

"Each year I'm overwhelmed by the dedication, ingenuity and drive of our NHS staff to make a positive change on behalf of the people of Wales. Given the unprecedented uncertainty that we are living through, the need for hope and inspiration is even greater than usual. The awards are a celebration of your commitment and hard work. I extend my congratulations to each of the winners and finalists. Thank you for continuing to be a beacon of hope and inspiration."

³ Porkess, S. 2019. "Balancing for Better: Encouraging women in Welsh STEM", ABPI Blog, 08 March. Available at: <https://www.abpi.org.uk/media-centre/blog/2019/march/balancing-for-better-encouraging-women-in-welshstem/>

⁴ Chwarae Teg. 2019. "Potential boost of billions with gender equality", 28 January 2019. Available at: <https://chwaraeteg.com/news/potential-boost-of-billions-with-gender-equality>

Introducing... New ABPI Cymru Wales Representative on AWMSG

Tommy Price (Pfizer)



Tommy Price – Commercial Manager (Pfizer Limited)

Tommy Price is a Commercial Manager for Pfizer Limited, who recently became one of the ABPI representatives on the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG).

Tommy champions the importance of investing in UK health, medicines and science through partnership and collaboration to impact patients' lives. With 20 years' experience in the pharmaceutical industry, he has a background in health economics and health policy, and a passion for ensuring Wales thrives as a centre of excellence for health and innovation.

He says: "I am particularly interested in value-based healthcare and the role it can play in ensuring the NHS and patients have access to the most innovative breakthroughs. An exciting area at the moment is how we can use data to show the impact of appropriate medicines usage and support decision-making."

Tommy manages a team of colleagues in Wales and plays an active role in connecting stakeholders across the NHS to develop meaningful

partnerships and collaborations. Previously Tommy was a Regional Director with Pfizer, working closely with NHS England and he hopes to bring the knowledge gained to his role in Wales. Before this, Tommy was a member of the ABPI in Wales, through the Welsh Industry Group and Value Group.

He adds: "I am very much looking forward to contributing to ABPI Cymru and its great track record of working successfully within Wales."

Who we are

The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI) represents innovative research-based biopharmaceutical companies, large, medium and small, leading an exciting new era of biosciences in the UK.

Our industry, a major contributor to the economy of the UK, brings life-saving and life-enhancing medicines to patients. We represent companies who supply more than 80 per cent of all branded medicines used by the NHS and who are researching and developing the majority of the current

medicines pipeline, ensuring that the UK remains at the forefront of helping patients prevent and overcome diseases.

Globally our industry is researching and developing more than 7,000 new medicines.

The ABPI is recognised by government as the industry body negotiating on behalf of the branded pharmaceutical industry for statutory consultation requirements including the pricing scheme for medicines in the UK.

For further information about any of the issues in this Bulletin or about ABPI Cymru Wales, please contact:

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