

Working with the NHS Northwest Innovation Agency June 2023

The June meeting of the Patient and Public Involvement Senate hosted three presentations. speakers.

The first talk was about dementia-friendly photography workshops which have been set up with the aim of assisting patients with dementia to use their creativity in photography which it is also hoped will help to integrate them back into society. Patients can attend the workshops with their carers who can assist them with their projects.

We then received a presentation from a representative from the company Healum Ltd (https://sbrihealthcare.co.uk/companies/?company_name=healum) who have developed a mobile phone App linking GPs (and other healthcare professionals) to patients whereby long-term conditions can be managed using goal-setting, for example for people with diabetes to adjust their diet and develop and exercise plan, and steps towards the goal can be recorded on the app for the healthcare professional to see and monitor. It also gives patients access to test results.

The last presentation was from a representative from Philips regarding their portable ecg monitor which can be worn for up to 14 days to help to detect atrial fibrillation, which could lay undetected if only brief ecg monitoring is used. More information is available on the website: (<https://www.philips.co.uk/healthcare/resources/landing/epatch>)

The Patient Safety Ambassadors met later in the month.

The first topic was regarding a system for assisting patients following knee surgery (<https://www.bodii.uk/>).

The idea is that physiotherapists can monitor patients' progress with the exercises they prescribe via a device which is strapped to the leg below the knee which measures how far the leg can be bent and records the information on a mobile phone app. This data can then be transmitted to the physiotherapist or doctor.

The system is only limited in its availability on the NHS, so the disadvantage is the weekly subscription of £9 for the patient if the NHS does not fund the service. It is hoped though, that because patients are able to see improvement in their movement after completing the exercises, they will be more likely to continue these exercises.

The second discussion was around a patient survey that is going to be carried out with patients who have been provided with devices to monitor their blood pressure at home, to assess how they found the use of home-monitoring, and the advantages and disadvantages. The review of the questionnaire is ongoing.

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