

## Wellbeing Group October 2021

The October meeting of the Patient and Public Involvement Senate of the NHS Northwest Innovation Agency received three interesting presentations which are described below.

1. Celsius (<https://www.celsius.com/>)

This is a body temperature monitoring device that can be used in primary or secondary care. The manufacturer claims that it is more accurate than other clinical thermometers and that this is achieved by measuring the temperature of the skin underneath the armpit and then converting the reading to core body temperature via an algorithm. The device can be worn continuously and thus temperature change over time can be detected which can prove useful for the detection of developing illnesses such as sepsis.

2. The Alcohol-Related Brain Injury Project

Dr Lynn Owens gave an update on this project which is ongoing at the Royal Liverpool Hospital. Funding has now been secured for research into the effectiveness of the drug Baclofen in reducing the desire to drink alcohol. The potential for the benefit of this medication is good because it is not metabolised by the liver which is often damaged by the consumption of excess alcohol.

3. Defproc (<https://www.defproc.co.uk/>)

This company has produced a service called 'Push to Talk'. This is a service aimed at helping to combat loneliness by enabling people wanting to talk to connect to someone else who also wants to talk by simply pushing a button on a device which is about the size of a small alarm clock.

The Patient Safety Ambassadors' Group also met this month. Two members of the group had attended the Health Service Journal Patient Safety Congress in Manchester last month and reported back about the various talks and workshops they attended, all based on evaluating patient safety incidents and risks. These included unnecessary stillbirths or neonatal deaths and the risk presented by the backlog of patients currently awaiting NHS treatment.

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October 2021