

Working with the NHS Northwest Innovation Agency October 2022

At the October meeting of the Patient and Public involvement Senate, the first presentation was from the Agency: <https://www.iplato.com/>

The project that they were presenting was one to help GPs with asthma reviews, as they believe that currently only 35% of patients with asthma are attending for an annual review at their surgery. They are looking at more innovative ways of conducting these reviews including the use of a digital platform.

We then heard an update about the development of the socks for diabetics about which we initially received in November 2021. (Wellheeled) (<https://www.wellheeled.net/>)

Then, the presenter explained how he has designed some socks that are suitable for diabetic people as well as others with foot problems. They are made with a sustainable yarn and have seams that are unlikely to cause irritation as well as a wide cuff meaning that the socks will not restrict the circulation. The socks have been manufactured in Pakistan and the company is awaiting delivery.

SME (Small and Medium Enterprise) update – Pellitec Blister Prevention Pads (<https://pellitec.co.uk/>). These have apparently been shown to reduce the risk of diabetic foot ulcers by helping to prevent blisters forming on the feet. The pads stick inside footwear, thus reducing friction on the skin. More information is available on their website.

The Patient Safety Group met later in the month and reviewed the updated draft of Patient Information Material for Cytosponge™, which is starting to be used as an alternative to gastroscopy for some patients. More information is available at <https://cambridgebrc.nihr.ac.uk/the-cytosponge/>

Julia Bate

October 2022