

News from the Future

And the winner is ... Community Pharmacy Future!

We are delighted to tell you that all your hard work in delivering our Community Pharmacy Future services has been recognised with the project winning a major award.

The COPD Case Finding and COPD Support Services won the BMJ Award 2014 for “Respiratory Medicine Team” of the year. This is a particularly noteworthy achievement, as the CPF team was the only pharmacy-led project to be shortlisted for any category in what are often called the “medical Oscars”.

The judges said that our services are an “excellent example of integrated care by broadening professional roles in case-finding and implementation of high-value, low-cost interventions for patients with COPD”. They noted that the cost effectiveness of the service has been demonstrated through an independent health economics evaluation and welcomed the fact that “patient involvement was clearly integral to each stage”.

This was not an easy award to win. As well as making a detailed submission on our services and their outcomes, we had to make a presentation to judges, including leading respiratory medicine experts, at BMJ House a month before the winners were announced.

The award was presented at a gala dinner in London on 8 May. Members of the CPF team were accompanied by guests from Wirral LPC, the PSNC and NHS England, as well as pharmacists representing our local teams.

The COPD Case Finding service has also been shortlisted in the Clinical Service of the Year category in the C&D Awards. The result will be announced on 12 June.

The overall CPF project has been entered into the Pharmaceutical Care Awards and we have been asked to present on our results at the Commissioning Live show in Birmingham this month, and at the RPS Conference in September.



Picture courtesy of BMJ Publishing Group

The photographs show (above) the team and guests collecting the BMJ Award on the night and (right) the award itself



Picture by Jonathan Buisson

Wigan MP praises contribution of CPF services



Picture by Mark Minard

Yvonne Fovargue MP, Nayan Patel, Cllr Nigel Ash

Yvonne Fovargue, Labour MP for Makerfield, visited Rowlands Pharmacy in Ashton-in-Makerfield on 9 May to hear about the Four or More Medicines Support Service from pharmacist Nayan Patel.

The MP was accompanied by Cllr Nigel Ash, Chair of the Adult Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Board at Wigan Borough Council. Both were told about the service and the benefits that patients are seeing from it. Cllr Ash said that the service fits with the Council’s desire to keep people out of hospital and in their own homes for longer.

The visit was covered by the *Wigan Evening Press* with Ms Fovargue telling the paper that pharmacists are “well placed to be providers of patient care” and that this was “a unique opportunity to influence the shape of primary care in the years to come”.