

IHUG report for COG June 6 2019

IHUG members have been very busy in the Sim Centre. On April 25th we took part in a brand new course for Foundation Doctors training. Which was a huge success. The following week we had our own training course; for those of us who already take part in staff training and for members who had expressed an interest in taking part. Half of the session was delivered by Chris Gilbert, a palliative care specialist nurse, the rest by Jo Wesley. As a result we have three new members who are going to join us in staff training. Three members, including one new to staff training took part in the palliative care staff training day on May 10th. This was the first time IHUG had been asked to assist with palliative care and a few days later we all received the loveliest email from a member of the faculty thanking everyone for giving up their time and saying how valuable IHUGs input had been and asking if they would consider taking part in the next one!

Two weeks ago it was 'Bleep Week' where over 50 scenarios were played out over four consecutive days. Seven IHUG & user group members covered all the sessions. We find it very rewarding and Jo and her team were as always incredibly appreciative of our help, which makes it all worthwhile. We are told that using IHUG brings a more realistic dimension to the scenarios and from our perspective we find the role play interesting and we also learn a lot.

IHUG member Graham Noble sits on a few of the EOL committees and with the full support of IHUG facilitated an event on May 16th, to coincide with Dying Matters week. Members from several user groups attended and we were delighted to welcome Catherine Morgan & Angela Tillett. Our remit was to look at some of the literature available around the various issues which arise when dealing with end of life. The literature, which was in the form of books, booklets, pamphlets & cards was evaluated by those attending, working in pairs and a report of the findings will be produced in due course.

On May 17th we held a follow up partnership working half day. This second meeting was very different to our first and I think we all left with more questions than answers! With so much to discuss it was no surprise that we ran out of time and only got through two of the four agenda items. So we are going to pick those up shortly. There were several lively and thought provoking discussions and it became clear to members just how much has changed over the last year and how much will change going forward. We will need to set ourselves certain tasks in order to function effectively within the ESNEFT strategy going forward. We recognise that there is a huge need for IHUG to build relationships with new members of staff, including the Trust Board. There are many people who have no idea who IHUG are, what we stand for and what we do. So we are busy putting plans in place to rectify this. At our very core is the aim to work in partnership with staff to improve the patient experience. We also want to work alongside our sister group the CoHUG & governors.

We were very pleased to welcome Anne Rutland to our IHUG meeting on May 24th and also Rebecca Pulford, who shared her excellent presentation on mental health with us and took lots of questions. It was our busiest IHUG for some time regarding feedback, all of which will go onto our action log.

This week we are doing our silver level QI training, which has been arranged by IHUG member John Abbott. We are then aiming to get involved with QI projects, fully informed and willing to bring the patient perspective to QI.

Gill Orves
IHUG Chair