

Patient Safety



Sussex Community
NHS Foundation Trust

March 2023

Welcome to the Patient Safety Newsletter...

This month's shout out goes to Cathy Hayden (Specialist Physiotherapist at Community Neurological Rehabilitation Team) Worthing. Cathy is trialing the GripAble which is a handheld assessment and training device that connects to a mobile app. It can be used to play activities and games in a fun and engaging way. The device helps to increase the amount of upper limb rehabilitation undertaken independently, at home, by patients who have had a stroke. This was considered as the team are unable to provide more face to face input. The app provides feedback to users on how much practice they have done and how many repetitions they have achieved and provides an incremental challenge to the activity to progress their practice. Further information is available [here](#). Cathy will be evaluating the trial using feedback and outcome measures.

This is a great idea to support patients with their rehabilitation! Well done to Cathy and all involved!

Best Wishes,

Debbie, Charlotte, Hannah and Mary Jo

The new AEDs

The new Mindray C2 AEDs have been rolled out, with 65 new AEDs within the TRUST. There have been several incidents reported of flashing red lights and in all cases, this has been caused by staff leaving the AED in Paediatric or child mode. To avoid this happening please ensure that, after completing the device checks, the AED is left in Adult mode. This ensures that the AED performs the Adult energy level checks and the child energy checks.

The current MR62 pads are also suitable for children. The AED will automatically detect a child or adult and configure itself. If it fails to do so, there is also the option to manually move the Adult / Child selection switch.

Any mechanical, pad or battery issues should be reported to / ordered through EME. Clinical or training issues should be reported to the Deteriorating Patient and Resuscitation lead.



Patient Safety News Flash!

The Patient and Public Voice Policy has now been ratified and will be available to staff! The recruitment has therefore started for Patient Safety Partners at SCFT! The role is currently being advertised on the Trust Website and social media channels! If you know anyone who is interested in the role and would like to know more, please direct them to the Trust website [here](#) to find the full details of the role, or they can email the Patient Safety Team on sc-tr.patientsafetyteam@nhs.net

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Clostridium Difficile Infection (CDI)

CDI occurs when gut bacteria are eliminated/reduced allowing C.diff bacteria to grow and produce toxins that damage the gut and cause diarrhoea.

CDIs are one of the patient safety indicators monitored by the Infection Prevention and Control Team.

Recent Learning from an incident identified that effective management of CDI requires;

- Patients with diarrhoea to be promptly isolated in a single room
- A stool sample must be obtained for analysis.
- The patients status needs to be effectively communicated among unit staff and
- The IPC Team must be promptly notified and IPC processes followed.

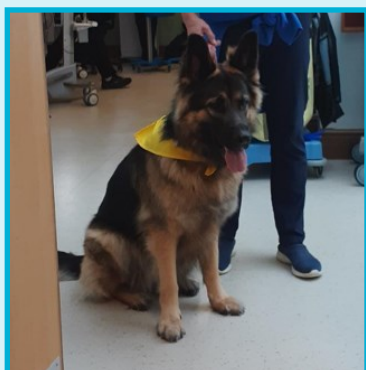
Bivona Tracheostomy tubes

Our Community Children's Nursing (CCN) Team have identified issues with Bivona Tracheostomy tubes over the last year, which is highly unusual. The issues relate to flanges splitting and have been reported to MHRA. Local actions in response to these concerns include;

1. Asking parents/carers to be extra vigilant with inspecting tubes at tie changes and changing of tubes for any damage/splits.
2. Asking parents to report any concerns to CCN, requesting that they keep the batch number (or boxes) for those tubes in use.
3. Increasing to three monthly tracheostomy risk assessment with a CCN.

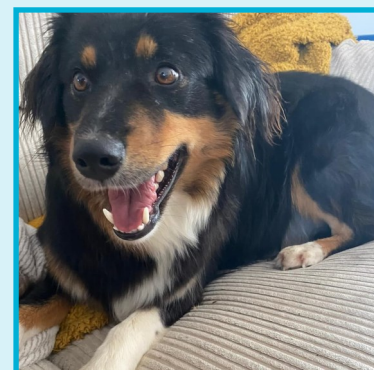
Mascot of the month - Geoff's Gossip

Hello I am Geoff (the rather handsome fellow below right!), and my human is the Nurse Consultant for Dementia/Delirium. She, alongside her colleague, work to ensure that patients with dementia across the Trust get the best care, and support the staff who look after them. There are many ways that services can be dementia friendly and one which is very close to my heart is the use of therapy dogs, which I hear happens across the ICUs! For example Crowborough ICU have a regular visit from a fellow furry friend (see photo to the left and below), and Kleinwort have a visit from a therapy dog every couple of weeks!



My canine chums come to the unit and provide that lovely interaction between human and animal. It has been shown that people living with dementia benefit from having interactions with therapy dogs, and it can reduce any anxiety and distress!

I think that is a great initiative all round!
Woof! x



For further information on all things Patient Safety please visit our team page on [The Pulse](#), or follow us on twitter at @scft_quality. You can also the contact the team on: sc-tr.patientsafetyteam@nhs.net