

Welcome to the fifth Telestroke e-Bulletin. In this e-bulletin, the focus is on the lead up to the launch of the Telestroke Network for Lancashire and Cumbria. The carts have arrived at all the destinations and the training is underway.

Telestroke Training



and

at the Blackpool Stroke Unit Telestroke cart

As part of the Cardiac and Stroke Network's Telestroke project to provide a 24/7 stroke thrombolysis service across Lancashire and Cumbria using Telemedicine, specific ongoing training for medical staff involved in the initial diagnosis and treatment of people affected by stroke has started. To address these training needs, the Cardiac and Stroke Networks have commissioned a series of high profile training events for Telestroke rostered clinicians, and emergency and medical staff, who will be involved in the initial assessment of stroke patients.

Training sessions on the equipment used to provide the Telestroke service, Telestroke carts and Consultant laptops, started on 11 April with Blackpool Victoria Hospital being the first site to be trained.

, Customer Support and Training for Multisense said: “The first training sessions have gone well so far. The intention is to train the key staff who will then cascade the training using a 'train the trainers' approach. The training fully explains how to use the Telecarts and interact with the consultants on call. It entails live training on the cart and connecting with other sites across the Network area.

, Practice Development Nurse at the Cardiac and Stroke Network in Lancashire and Cumbria, said: “As part of the training we have also produced resource folders, which provide full equipment user guides, patient pathways and example documentation, along with a DVD which fully explains the Telestroke process, which will be left in each area for future reference.

Should you require any further details about the training dates and venues, please e-mail on

returns from Afghanistan



Dr in Afghanistan

, Surgeon Commander, was deployed to Afghanistan as a Royal Navy Reservist at Camp Bastion earlier this year. said: “I know some of you couldn't understand why I wanted to deploy to Afghanistan, especially as it's a long way from water, but I can assure you there's plenty to fascinate a physician out there.

“After 2 months of military pre-deployment training, split between Portsmouth training areas and a hospital trainer near York, I flew out from Brize Norton on March 4th. It concentrates the mind a bit as you fit body armour and helmet before the lights go out as you go in to land.”

“They had heavy rain the week before our arrival but steady sunshine thereafter at temperatures ranging between 20 and 30 degrees Celsius. The primary role for the Camp Bastion Role 3 Hospital is to provide first rate trauma care for the international forces, including Afghan National Army and Police, but also providing care for civilian contractors on the base and where necessary, injured local nationals and detainees, not exclusively combat injuries. As there’s just one physician at the hospital, I was not allowed to venture ‘outside the wire.’ After my time in Afghanistan, the NHS will seem rather tame when I return.”

Healthcare Innovation Expo 2011

The Healthcare Innovation Expo generated a ‘buzz’ during March at the Healthcare Innovation Expo held in London every year. Thousands of people from the public, private and voluntary sectors in the UK and overseas (over 50 countries) attended Expo 2011 on March 9th & 10th to hear a wide-range of speakers and see a wide-range of innovations. As well as showcasing ‘game changing’ innovations and what is brightest and best about the NHS and healthcare in the UK, the programme also focussed on three key areas. Firstly, the Quality, Innovation, Productivity & Prevention (QIPP) agenda, and the things that are already happening nationally and locally to drive up quality and value in the NHS. Secondly, the commitments set out in the government’s White Paper – ‘Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS’, and thirdly, emerging provider and commissioner side reforms.

The sheer scale of Expo 2011 was impressive, the largest healthcare event of its type in Europe and the biggest showcase of healthcare ideas ever seen in this country.

If you would like to read more about the expo, visit <http://www.healthcareinnovationexpo.com/>



Telestroke Operational Meeting

A reminder that the Telestroke Operational Pre-Live Meeting will take place at the Holiday Inn, Lancaster on Friday, May 27th 2011.

This meeting has been planned to discuss any operational issues or last minute concerns before the Telestroke ‘Go Live’ date of 6th June 2011.

This event will also provide you with the opportunity to meet colleagues from other Trusts in the Telestroke Network.

For more information or to confirm your attendance, please contact
on _____ or _____



Let's Talk Telestroke...

If you have any concerns, worries or general queries about how the new Telestroke service may affect yourself, patients or your organisation then please direct all questions and comments to:

Telestroke@csnlc.nhs.uk

For further information on any of the news articles featured, please contact:

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