



## 1. Using technology to improve patient safety

**Patienttrack, an electronic observations and warning system**, has been used widely at BSUH since January and is now embedded in nearly all wards. The system is used to capture bedside observations and patient assessments digitally. It automatically calculates the National Early Warning Score (NEWS2) Paediatric Early Warning Score (PEWS) and Maternity Early Obstetric Warning Score (MEOWS) and alerts clinicians to deteriorating patients who require immediate medical intervention.



The system has already delivered significant benefits to patient care and operational management. We now have a much better overview of who our most poorly patients are and invaluable early identification of deterioration. Since using Patienttrack we have also seen a reduction in Medical Emergency Team (MET) calls – down 15% compared to 12 months ago.

The success of the project has been possible due to the positivity of our staff to change. Even in these difficult times, the wards have maintained a high standard of care; ensuring observations are

completed on time despite the overall increase in acuity.

### More functionality coming soon

This month, a newer version of Patienttrack will enable us digitise some of the risk assessments and an updated fluid chart including electronic versions of:

- MRSA assessment
- Stool chart &
- Clinical frailty score

*“Early identification of deteriorating, or 'at risk' patients using this tool aided early initiation of treatment and escalation of care; this may well have contributed to low ICU mortality within the trust. I don't know what we would have done without Patienttrack in those early COVID days” Kat Dalton  
Critical Care Outreach Team (CCOT).*

Wards will be supported with face to face training, MS Teams group work, [e-learning](#) and videos. Contact [bsuh.eobs@nhs.net](mailto:bsuh.eobs@nhs.net) for further information.

This is an exciting next step for BSUH in moving towards a digital future:

- ✓ Enabling automated alerts for assessment
- ✓ Understanding patients status
- ✓ Keeping patients safe, free from risk and error

*“We were able to produce a report to see the demand for oxygen throughout the Trust, this enabled us to foresee any issues and ensure we had enough.” Denise  
Hinge Critical Care Nurse Consultant.*

...using technology to improve patient safety.

## 2. Giving joy to others – Organ Donation Week 2020



With Organ Donation Week around the corner from 7-13<sup>th</sup> September, the partner of 32 year-old organ donor Louis has shared her brave and honest tribute to him. Louis sadly passed away at RSCH last year, awaiting a transplant himself. However, as you will read through his partner's words - his legacy lives on.

“It was love at first sight with us and we were inseparable from the moment we met. Louis was a wonderful partner. I have so much respect and love for him. We had a wonderful life. We shared a love of travel and visited many places together. He was an amazing cook and we loved cooking, eating and trying new restaurants. He always beat me and everyone else at scrabble and we loved doing crosswords too. He was the light and joy in my life and we just loved being together. We laughed so much.

“Having been diagnosed with Diabetes Type 1 in childhood, Louis encountered so many health battles. He faced these with such courage. He almost went blind twice and had multiple eye surgeries and then developed kidney failure. When we learned that he needed a transplant we discussed me donating my kidney to him as a live donor, but due to his [loss of hypo awareness](#) we decided that a kidney/pancreas transplant would be the best option.

“When, after two dialysis sessions he collapsed suddenly, we were faced with the devastation of his brain stem death. At that moment, the decision for organ donation was instant. Louis would help anyone in need and he wouldn't have hesitated to extend his kindness to giving others a chance to live. He lived his life fully and would want the same for others. For me, the opportunity to save just one family from the devastating loss of their loved one and prevent their grief was so important. The fact that more lives have potentially been saved by his donation offers comfort and some light in the darkness of my own grief.

“I have also decided to donate one of my kidneys as a live donor and have started the process. Hearing that one of his recipients is doing really well makes me so very proud of him. Even in death he is still giving joy to others - that's so Louis.”

Visit [organdonation.nhs.uk](http://organdonation.nhs.uk), or use our handy QR code, to register your decision and find out more about the power of organ donation to change lives. You can also follow #organdonationweek activities on our dedicated [Workplace group](#) run by BSUH organ donation nurses, including live Q&As on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday 11<sup>th</sup> from 10-11.30am with clinical lead for OD Dr Alex Harrison.



## 3. Celebrating our physios

World Physiotherapy Day takes place every year on the 8<sup>th</sup> September and this year's event focuses on the role of physiotherapy in rehabilitation and responding to COVID-19. Buzz caught up with RSCH lead ICU physio Katy Osbaldeston to learn more about her day job, her COVID experiences and why she won't be becoming a masseuse anytime soon...



Katy leads a team of seven providing chest physiotherapy, physical rehabilitation, re-ablement and discharge support for critically unwell patients and those who have had digestive disease surgery. She jointly leads the ICUSteps support group for patients and relatives and is on the non-invasive ventilation and tracheostomy steering groups. Katy provides training to nursing and medical staff as well as students at Brighton and Sussex Medical School and the University of Brighton in Nursing and Physiotherapy.

### BSUH physio facts:

- We have 178 physios across all sites
- We have physios in neuro, major trauma, ICU, paed, rapid discharge unit, care of the elderly, cardiac and amputees – to name but a few!
- All our physios are educated to at least BSc level, but many new B5s have completed the MSc course
- Physio Matt Sanderson is also a BAME volunteer. Read on to hear from Matt about this new role.

“During the peak of COVID, we supported four critical care units over a seven day service with six therapists working across six wards. This meant we provided a more intensive rehabilitation programme than normal and saw patients more regularly. It was incredibly hard work and caring for critically unwell patients at such an uncertain time was emotionally tough, but very rewarding. It’s safe to say working in PPE and rehabilitating very weak patients was also rather hot and sweaty!

“As I have progressed in my career, I have taken an interest in education, leadership and staff development. I really enjoy guiding junior staff through my rotation and seeing their confidence grow, as well as learning from staff in other professions. Of course I still relish working with patients, it really keeps you on your toes as no two days are the same. However, it can be challenging to find the time to do what we were trained for and provide holistic, patient centred rehabilitation. This can be rather demoralising for us as therapists as it is such an important part of a patient’s stay.

“People would be surprised to learn that physios rarely, if ever, do massage - I only had a one hour lesson in my first year of university! What’s more, we cover nearly all areas of health care and physios are now taking on matron roles nationwide. Some physios also have extended/advanced skills including acupuncture, imaging and prescribing.”

Look out for more profiles of our wonderful physios on [Workplace Communications & News](#) next week.

## 4. BAME volunteers: Introducing Matt Sanderson



Matt is a Team Lead Physiotherapist working in the Musculoskeletal Outpatients department, based at Brighton General Hospital. He’s been working for BSUH for almost 2 years after relocating to Brighton from London. Here he tells us what motivated him to join the BAME COVID-19 Support team.

“The recent events with the Black Lives Matter Movement and the death of George Floyd, along with the ever-growing evidence that Black Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups are being disproportionately affected by COVID-19, have highlighted to me the importance of being a better ally to my BAME colleagues (and within wider society).

“Coming to work during the COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging for everyone, but I cannot imagine what it has been like for BAME colleagues who have also been expected to keep coming in and doing a good job, whilst being aware of the increased risks to themselves and their families. COVID-19 has highlighted the underlying health inequality within the UK, and whilst I have not personally experienced inequality based on the colour of my skin or my heritage, I have observed some of my colleagues having to deal with these additional challenges and concerns on a daily basis.

“As a result, I hope to provide support during these anxious and stressful times and to give a safe, non-judgemental space to talk about any concerns. It is so important that our BAME colleagues are listened to, supported and not harmed, and I hope that as a team of volunteers we can provide this support. I’m here if you need to talk - contact me at any time on [matthew.sanderson2@nhs.net](mailto:matthew.sanderson2@nhs.net) or give me a call on 01273 665018.”

Outside of work, Matt describes himself as a below-average runner and a parent to a 20-year-old cat called Abuela (full marks to those who can translate!).

**BAME COVID-19 Debriefs:** Join a group debrief run by the HELP service. Sessions are 1.5hrs. Max 10 staff per event (socially distanced, wearing mask) so **book your place ASAP!**  
Contact: X64487 or email: [Victoria.Fernandes@nhs.net](mailto:Victoria.Fernandes@nhs.net) for info or to attend.

- Tuesday 15th September, 11.30am, LT2b, Euan Keat, PRH
- Wednesday 23rd September, 2.30pm, Common Room AEB
- Thursday 1st October, 2pm, Lecture Hall 2nd Floor AEB

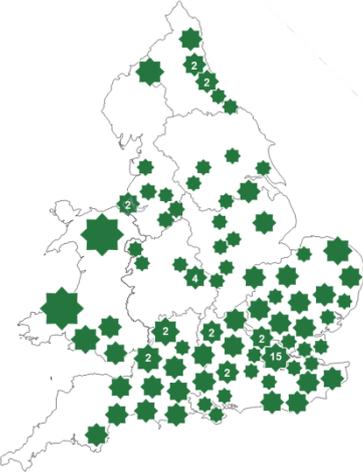


## 5. Sharing evidence across England and Wales



With COVID-19 reshaping health care across the world, it's more vital than ever to have evidence available to make the best decisions. The KnowledgeShare service, developed here at BSUH by our Library and Knowledge Service, helps to connect you with the evidence you need and with the clinical librarians who can find the evidence for you.

In recent years we have licenced KnowledgeShare to other trusts across the country and there are now over 100 NHS library and knowledge services in England and Wales using KnowledgeShare from BSUH to keep their staff informed! That's more than three hundred health care organisations, with around 60,000 NHS staff registered on the system, and the number is growing all the time.



If you are not already registered on KnowledgeShare [sign up with your NHS OpenAthens password](#), or just send a request to [bsuh.library@nhs.net](mailto:bsuh.library@nhs.net). Through KnowledgeShare you can:

- ask for research to answer a question about clinical care, management or research.
- receive regular email updates, each providing a few new hand-picked publications that we think you'll find useful (including updates on the latest COVID-19 research).

[Our recent evaluation of the service](#) showed that 80% of respondents had made use of the publications they received and rated the impact on their work as good or excellent.

### Hydroxychloroquine prevention of COVID-19



### Join an important research study

We are looking at whether hydroxychloroquine prophylaxis can protect healthcare workers from catching COVID-19. Trial involves taking hydroxychloroquine or placebo tablets for 3 months and attending monthly visits for up to 5 months. Must have a smart-phone. Interested? Register at [www.copcov.org](http://www.copcov.org).

### It's cycle September!

What better time to embrace all the new cycle lanes popping up around our cities? The Transport bureau have all the info about our cycle to work scheme VIVUP so you can get a new bike and there is free bike servicing from Dr Bikes on 10th Sept to book too. Contact [bsuh.transport.bureau@nhs.net](mailto:bsuh.transport.bureau@nhs.net) or call x67607.



### Farewell to Christine Crawford

Clinical Site Manager (CSM) Christine Crawford is retiring from BSUH today. Christine started in January 1989 and worked for many years in A&E, and then also with a dual role as lecturer at Brighton University.

After a short stint working at SASH, Christine returned to A&E at BSUH and for the last 3 years has worked as a CSM based at RSCH.

"We'll miss her greatly!" says Christine's manager Natasza Beresford-Theurer. "She is a dedicated and hugely experienced CSM. We wish her all the best for her retirement."

**All the best from all of us at BSUH Christine!**

*Christine with her long service award for 32 years.*