



GP events: Cardiac Care in the Community, December 2006 Evaluation

Project mandate:

To communicate with GPs and other general practice staff via a Network communication card, outlining the role of the North West London Cardiac Network, and providing an update in cardiac care provision in a relevant area(s).

Research methodology:

Discussion with GPs, GPwSIs, practice nurses, GP tutors and Network colleagues to identify the most effective means of communicating with general practice staff, the most relevant subject matter to communicate, and the most appropriate venue(s) if an educational event deemed most appropriate.

Results:

A number of GPs felt that the most effective way of communicating with general practice staff was through an education event, which would address current cardiac topics, whilst informing attendees about the Network's role. The topics identified for inclusion were: JBS2 guidelines and primary prevention; atrial fibrillation; the role of the GPwSI and training requirements; and heart failure.

Outcome:

In response to the feedback received from across the North West sector, the Network arranged two educational events, entitled 'Cardiac Care in the Community' at an inner and outer London location. Possible venues were visited and assessed for their accessibility, catering facilities, car parking availability, capacity and cost. Subject areas were determined based on feedback from discussions with GPs, GPwSIs, practice nurses, GP tutors and Network colleagues (see programmes: Appendix 1).

To ensure consistency across both events, the subjects and speakers, were, to as great an extent as possible, the same. Speakers were identified from across the sector, however, due to the short time period during which the events were organised, presenters from across North West London was not as representative as the Network would ideally have liked.

A flyer advertising the two events was sent to all GP practices in North West London. The flyer was also distributed via e-mail by PCT representatives. GPs and other general practice staff were invited to attend on either date according to their preference.

Attendance:

The two events were attended by 89 delegates: 56 on 13 December at the Northwick Park venue (Playgolf), and 33 at the Royal Society of Medicine.

Attendees came from each of the eight PCT areas in North West London with a greater turnout from outer London PCTs.

The majority of delegates were GPs (72%) whilst the remaining attendees were comprised of primarily practice nurses and PCT CHD leads and a dietician.

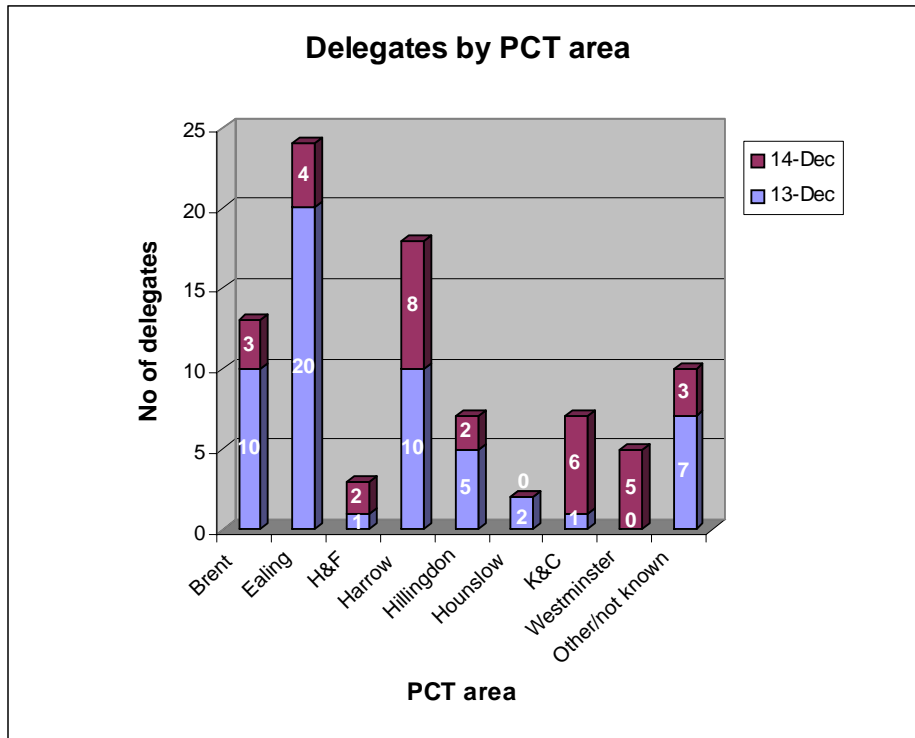


Fig 1

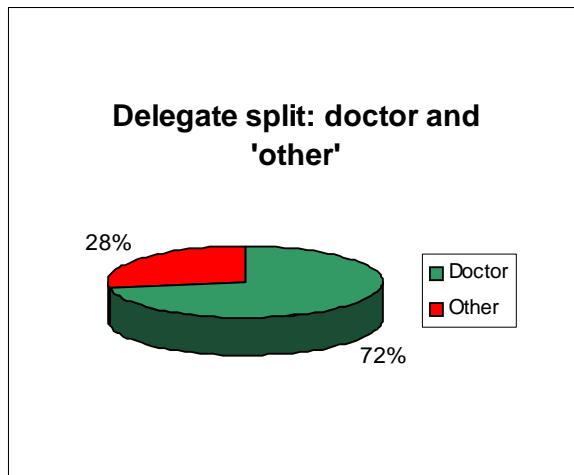


Fig 2

Evaluation:

Evaluation forms were provided in delegate packs asking attendees six questions relating to the usefulness of the event and specific presentations, whether they would be interested in attending future Network events, and if so, what topics should be included. Delegates were also asked to rate the venue and catering, and to provide any further comments.

Forty-seven completed forms were returned on 13 December, and twenty-four on 14 December, which equates to an 80% response rate. In some cases, respondents did not fully complete the form and hence the analysis totals do not always equate to 100%.



Breakdown of evaluation form responses								
Question	Response: 13 Dec (out of a possible 47 completed forms)				Response: 14 Dec (out of a possible 24 completed forms)			
	Extremely	Quite	Not very	Not at all	Extremely	Quite	Not very	Not at all
How useful have you found this afternoon's event in enhancing your knowledge of, and understanding in, this area?	Extremely	Quite	Not very	Not at all	Extremely	Quite	Not very	Not at all
	18	26	-	-	7	14	1	-
JBS2 Guidelines	Extremely	Quite	Not very	Not at all	Extremely	Quite	Not very	Not at all
	30	17	-	-	11	13	-	-
Heart failure and end of life issues	Extremely	Quite	Not very	Not at all	Extremely	Quite	Not very	Not at all
	7	22	14	3	5	13	6	-
Women and CVD	Extremely	Quite	Not very	Not at all	Extremely	Quite	Not very	Not at all
	30	15	2	-	13	9	1	-
GPs with Specialist Interests	Extremely	Quite	Not very	Not at all	Extremely	Quite	Not very	Not at all
	12	33	2	-	4	16	3	1
Atrial Fibrillation	Extremely	Quite	Not very	Not at all	Extremely	Quite	Not very	Not at all
	35	9	2	-	15	8	1	-
Would you be interested in attending future Cardiac Network events?	Yes		No		Yes		No	
	44		-		24		-	
Please rate the venue and the catering	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
	14	22	31	2	9	10	5	-

Fig 3



In addition to asking delegates to rate the event in general and each of the presentations, they were also invited to comment further on the events, examples of which are provided below:

13 December: Northwick Park (Playgolf)

- Very good choice of topics
- Larger slides and microphone for speakers
- Lunch should be provided before rather than a buffet afterwards
- Poor acoustics – difficult to hear speakers at the back
- Interruptions from the back disruptive
- More time for questions would have been beneficial
- Possibly have a whole day event or discuss one or two topics in an afternoon.

14 December: Royal Society of Medicine

- An event well worth attending
- Informative, precise and well-organised
- Presentations too long; shorter presentations and more discussions
- Not that useful learning about services in Harrow – interesting but less focus on specific areas would be preferable
- Shorter session on GPwSIs would have been sufficient
- Great day – well-organised with good speakers; very educational.

Delegates were also asked what topics they would like to see included in future Cardiac Network events. The following areas were suggested:

- Lipid management
- Obesity/smoking management
- More on prevention
- Pharmacology (for hypertension – statins, beta-blockers)
- Lifestyle
- Diagnostics/investigations
- More about what to do as a GP
- Any topic with focus on new information rather than things GPs should already know
- More on practical management – possibly practical clinical scenarios, interpreting echos
- Angina
- Grown-up Congenital Valvular Disease
- Arrhythmias
- Post MI patients and complications
- TIA, syndrome X
- Paediatric cardiology; heart disease in pregnancy
- Interventional cardiology
- Cardiomyopathies
- Rehabilitation after MI/PIC/CABG



Lessons learned:

Venue

- Ensure that microphones are available and working for events with over 30 attendees so speakers are audible to everyone in the audience regardless of where they are sitting.
- Ensure against the collection/provision of tea and coffee during presentations to reduce distractions and disruption.
- Provide refreshments during the break (morning or afternoon) so all delegates are present rather than before or after the event when a significant proportion of attendees are prone to arrive late or leave early.

Topics

- Provide more detail about the event presentations in the literature disseminated prior to events so delegates are clear about the content, level and focus.
- Give speakers a clear mandate and inform them of the delegate make-up (ie. profession, area of work) to enhance the suitability and appropriateness of the presentation content.

Format

- Incorporate more interaction and opportunities for discussion and questions.
- More focus on practical issues that will be of benefit in the audience's working environment.
- Remind speakers of the vast spectrum of knowledge and understanding of, and interest in, cardiology amongst general practice staff across the sector.
- Attempt to get presentations from speakers prior to the actual event to reduce the risk of IT problems occurring.

Finally the Network would like to acknowledge the support of stakeholders from across North West London who have helped with these events. The ongoing interest and time given, by the speakers in particular, to support these events is much appreciated.

Anna Kilpin
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Cardiac Care in the Community

Educational Session for Clinicians in General Practice

Wednesday 13 December
Northwick Park Golf Course
(Watford Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 3TZ)

- 1.00** **Registration**

- 1.30** **Welcome and introduction:** Maria O'Brien, Director, North West London Cardiac Network

- 1.45** **Joint British Societies' Guidelines on CVD prevention (JBS2):** Dr Iqbal Malik, Consultant Cardiologist, St Mary's Hospital NHS Trust

- 2.15** **Heart failure and end of life issues:** Susie Pemberton, Heart Failure Nurse, and Deepa Patel, BHF Heart Failure Nurse, Harrow PCT

- 2.45** **Coffee break**

- 3.15** **Women and CVD:** Dr Ghada Mikhail, Consultant Cardiologist, St Mary's Hospital Trust

- 3.45** **GPs with Specialist Interest (GPwSI):** Dr Amol Kelshiker, GPwSI, Harrow PCT

- 4.15** **How to effectively manage patients with Atrial Fibrillation:** Dr Prapa Kanagaratnam, Consultant Cardiologist, St Mary's Hospital NHS Trust

- 4.45** **Summary of event:** Maria O'Brien, Director, North West London Cardiac Network

- 5.00** **Buffet Reception**



Cardiac Care in the Community

Educational Session for Clinicians in General Practice

Thursday 14 December
Royal Society of Medicine
(1 Wimpole Street, London, W1G 0AE)

- 1.00 Registration**
- 1.25 Welcome and introduction:** Maria O'Brien, Director, North West London Cardiac Network
- 1.30 GPs with Specialist Interest (GPwSI):** Dee Hannah, Cardiac Nurse Consultant, Harrow PCT
- 2.05 Joint British Societies' Guidelines on CVD prevention (JBS2):** Dr Susan Connolly, Consultant Cardiologist, Hammersmith Hospitals NHS Trust, and Honorary Senior lecturer, Imperial College
- 2.40 The role of the North West London Cardiac Network:** Maria O'Brien, Director, North West London Cardiac Network
- 2.55 Coffee break**
- 3.20 Heart failure and end of life issues:** Dee Hannah, Cardiac Nurse Consultant, and Susie Pemberton, Heart Failure Nurse, Harrow PCT
- 3.55 How to effectively manage patients with Atrial Fibrillation:** Dr Prapa Kanagaratnam, Consultant Cardiologist, St Mary's Hospital NHS Trust
- 4.30 Women and CVD:** Dr Ghada Mikhail, Consultant Cardiologist, St Mary's Hospital NHS Trust
- 5.00 Canape Reception**