

Evaluation Report of the Teaching PCTs National Conference 2006 'Leading Into The Future'

Held on 31st October and 1st November 2006
at East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham

INTRODUCTION

The aim of this conference was to provide an opportunity for Teaching PCT staff, partners and stakeholders, to share and celebrate their innovative work and best practice, and to provide opportunities for delegates to engage in networking.



THE CONFERENCE

Venue and Speakers

East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham, provided an excellent specialised and central venue for the conference. A total of 160 delegates attended across both days of the conference, with 26 presentations/workshops running across both days. Posters showcasing some of the excellent projects and initiatives being undertaken by the Teaching PCTs and their partners and stakeholders were displayed on the second day.

Keynote Speakers attended on both days, to talk to delegates around a variety of topics, particularly around potential future policy and direction for the NHS. The Keynote Speakers were:



Picture: Dr Pat Oakley

- Felicity Cox, NHS Networks Associate
- Professor Mala Rao, Head of Public Health Workforce and Capacity, Department of Health
- Dr Pat Oakley – Master Class – 'Challenging Future Learning and Development
- Rachel Carse – Communications Manager, Health Inequalities Unit / NHS Health Trainers, Department of Health – (attended on behalf of Maggie Rae)

The presentations made by the Keynote Speakers, along with many of the individual tPCT presentations and posters, are available to view and download from the NHS Networks website, by clicking on the following link: <http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/page/597>

Teaching PCT Leads Business Meeting

The first day of the conference also provided an opportunity for the Leads from each tPCT to attend a business meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to enable the tPCT Leads to meet and discuss current issues and developments, including the role and development of the tPCT National Network, the tPCT National Network Steering Group, the Regional tPCT Networks, and reapplications for Teaching status. Very positive feedback was received around having an opportunity for the Leads to meet, and a second meeting will be arranged.

You can view/download a copy of the minutes from the 31st October 2006 meeting by clicking on the following link:

http://www.networks.nhs.uk/uploads/06/12/tpcts_nat_conf_bus_planning_mins_31oct06.doc

Quiz Night

To further provide and promote a networking environment, delegates attended an evening meal at the Holiday Inn, Castle Marina, Nottingham, on the 31st October 2006. Julie Wall, Learning and Organisational Development Lead, tPCT for East Lancashire, kindly organised a very entertaining quiz covering music, books and general knowledge, and a deluxe box of Thornton's Chocolates went to the lucky winners. Many thanks to Julie for her hard work preparing the quiz, a fun evening was had by all!

FEEDBACK FROM EVALUATION FORMS

55 evaluation forms have been received to date, and the overall feedback from both days of the conference has been very positive.

Delegates reported finding the presentations and sessions very interesting, and emphasised the importance of networking and sharing good practice. Some delegates did feel that the added value and role of Teaching PCTs is still not clear, and will need some further discussion and clarity.

Some quotes received from the feedback forms for both days, in answer to the question "What one thing did you learn from today?" are:

- "The content of all of the sessions I attended was excellent"
- "LSC funding for essential skills. Value of taking integrated approach to audit and research"
- "Why TEACHING PCT? What difference does it make?"
- "The importance of networking and sharing good practice"
- "That there are others out there in the same boat!"
- "Fantastic business meeting, feels like the National Network is real now"
- "What excellent and diverse works is happening. Just again how very different we all are ' that the 't' doesn't really signify much as a 'label' – and that we need to find ways of working that fit our local networks to continue"
- "There is a light at the end of the tunnel that actually makes sense"
- "Helpful overview of complex political landscape"
- "More insight into national context"
- "Be comfortable not to know everything"
- "Our tPCT is innovative and moving forward"
- "The importance of having workshops hosted by GPs/healthcare workers working on the ground as their perspectives add a very welcome realism to the areas we are addressing..."



WHAT NEXT?

The tPCT National Network and tPCT National Network Steering Group will continue to support, advise and negotiate, where required, on behalf of the national Teaching PCTs. NHS Networks will continue to support the tPCT National Network and the tPCT National Network Steering Group until October 2007, and dedicated administrative support will continue for 2 days per week until the end of March 2007, to the tPCT National Network and the tPCT National Network Steering Group.

Regional tPCT Networks have either been established, or are under development, to promote networking, sharing good practice and collaborative working across tPCTs within each region. Each Regional Network has a representative on the tPCT National Network Steering Group.

If your tPCT has any comments, questions or issues/concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your tPCT National Network Steering Group member to discuss.

Following the successful business meeting on 31st October 2006, the tPCT Leads agreed that it would be useful to meet on a 6-monthly basis. The next meeting will be arranged to take place during April 2007, at a convenient location.

There will be another Teaching PCTs National Conference in October/November 2007. Dates and a venue are currently being sought, and a conference planning team will be formed during February 2007. Further information will be sent to tPCT Leads as and when available.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped to plan, organise and deliver the tPCT National Conference 2006, and for their hard work, dedication and support to ensure that the event ran smoothly. Particular thanks go to the Conference Planning Team:

- Esther Corby, Lincolnshire PCT
- Julie Wall, tPCT for East Lancashire
- Mary McClarey, Plymouth tPCT
- Sarah Orwin, Nottinghamshire County tPCT

Thank you also to NHS Networks for their help and support prior to and during the conference, and to the NHS Institute for contributing some funding towards the conference.