

NIHR CLAHRC for Northwest London launches My Medication Passport

London, 17th April 2013:

NIHR CLAHRC Northwest London today announced the launch of My Medication Passport. The passport was designed and tested by patients and is a tool to help them manage their health by keeping track of their medications and key medical information. The passport is now available as a pocket booklet and downloadable smart phone application for both Android and i-Phones.

The passport allows patients and carers to keep an up-to-date list of their medications by recording medicine name, dose, and timings for all their regular and as-needed medicines; it also allows changes in treatment to be kept and will facilitate the communication of medical information between patients and healthcare professionals. Both booklet and electronic versions of My Medication Passport are flexible enough to enable patients to add details pertinent to their health and/or specific medication condition such as allergies and sensitivities, dates of vaccinations and screenings, home treatments and medication aids as well as hospital information if warranted.

Of use at any point in the patient's care, community or hospital, My Medication Passport provides the user with easy to retrieve key information to communicate to healthcare professionals, thus saving time for both and ensuring accurate information transfer.

The booklet and electronic passports [MMP and eMMP] are supported by an ongoing evaluation programme which focuses on the use of the passport in practice and the impact it has on patients and healthcare professionals.

The passport was initially developed as part of a joint NIHR CLAHRC NWL (hosted by Chelsea and Westminster Hospital) and Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust initiative to improve prescribing for the Elderly. It has been produced with support from AstraZeneca under a joint working agreement*.

Professor Derek Bell, Director of NIHR CLAHRC for NWL, says "I and the NIHR CLAHRC have been privileged to be part of this work. It reflects the drive and commitment of patients to work with health care professionals to make beneficial and rapid changes in health care delivery"

Fran Husson, patient representative with NIHR CLAHRC for NWL, says "Patient and Public Involvement informs all CLAHRC activities and projects to improve healthcare using innovative methods. It is therefore not surprising that a group of patients working very closely with front line medical staff on quality improvement projects developed My Medication Passport which brings a new dimension to care by empowering the patient to understand and manage medications across different care settings."

ENDS

More information including how to download the app and where to order the booklet version can be found at: <http://goo.gl/5YFfk>

For patient and Healthcare Professional interviews , and further information material, please contact:

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Note to Editors

NIHR (National Institute of Health Research) CLAHRC (Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care) NWL is an alliance of academic and healthcare organisations working to develop and promote a more efficient, accelerated and sustainable uptake of clinically innovative and cost-effective research interventions into patient care.

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust comprises Charing Cross, Hammersmith, Queen Charlotte's & Chelsea, St Mary's and Western Eye hospitals. With more than one million patient contacts each year, it is one of the largest acute Trusts in the country and, in partnership with Imperial College London, is the UK's first Academic Health Science Centre (AHSC). It has an annual turnover of around £950 million.

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust provides a range of specialist services for patients as well as general local services for people living locally. One of the top 5 hospitals in England for low mortality rates in the latest Dr Foster Hospital Guide, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital treats more than 350,000 patients each year and achieves high rankings in patient surveys.

AstraZeneca is a global, innovation-driven biopharmaceutical business that focuses on the discovery, development and commercialisation of prescription medicines, primarily for the treatment of cardiovascular, metabolic, respiratory, inflammation, autoimmune, oncology, infection and neuroscience diseases. AstraZeneca operates in over 100 countries and its innovative medicines are used by millions of patients worldwide. For more information please visit: www.astrazeneca.com

*What is joint working?

Joint Working is an approach to collaboration between the pharmaceutical industry and the NHS, on a national, regional or local level. This has been a focus for the Department of Health and the ABPI (Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry), of which AstraZeneca is a member. By applying our resources and expertise to improve patients' lives, we can help the NHS achieve its targets, as well ensuring that more people can access the innovative medicines they need, when they need them.

<http://www.astrazeneca.co.uk/astrazeneca-in-uk/who-do-we-work-with/working-with-the-nhs>