

For immediate release

Dorset consultant recognised with national research award

A consultant working at Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has received national recognition for his research within anaesthesia and intensive care medicine.

Dr Duncan Chambler was announced as the winner of the Early Career Consultant award by the National Institute for Health Research Clinical Research Network (NIHR CRN) who run annual research awards in partnership with the Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine (FICM).

Recognising research active consultants, the awards celebrate clinical leadership, excellence and innovation in the delivery of NIHR research studies.

Upon being announced as a winner, Dr Chambler commented:

“I’m delighted to win the award, which recognises how non-academic clinicians can engage in the conduct of research trials and the dissemination of research findings into clinical practice.”

“I have been a consultant for 18 months and in that time, I have taken on the role of principal investigator (PI) for my Trust to recruit to a multi-national trial studying two strategies for achieving ideal sedation in critically ill patients.

“I must credit our research department staff Sarah Williams, Patricia Williams, Sarah Horton and Stephanie Dukes for guiding me through my first PI role – they’ve taught me a great deal about the NIHR CRN, assessing feasibility and the ethics of consent. I encourage other newly appointed consultants to engage with their Research and Innovation departments as they will become better clinicians as a consequence.”

Dorset County is a research active hospital, running a number of NIHR portfolio studies each year.

Dr Zoe Sheppard, Head of Research at the Trust, said: “It is fantastic that Duncan has won this prestigious award and that his leadership, patient engagement, and delivery of research at Dorset County Hospital have been put on the map.

“Although it is very much a team effort, it is a testament to the time, effort, and enthusiasm that Duncan puts into research. He still finds the time to remain approachable and involve everyone. Furthermore, he is extremely thorough and takes ownership, going above and beyond. Congratulations Duncan – very well deserved!”

Professor Stephen Smye, an NIHR CRN National Specialty Lead added: “Critical care is a challenging environment for clinical research but the applicants to the joint FICM/NIHR CRN Research Awards described numerous impressive examples of excellent clinical research leadership, with impact extending beyond critical care to the wider clinical research community and NHS.

“The winning applications confirmed that the critical care research community in the UK is vibrant, ambitious and led by outstanding clinical researchers who are determined to increase patient access to high quality research.”

Dr Chambler will receive his award on 6 December 2017, when it is presented to him during the Intensive Care Society State of the Art Meeting which is taking place in Liverpool.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

1. The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR): improving the health and wealth of the nation through research.

Established by the Department of Health, the NIHR:

- funds high quality research to improve health
- trains and supports health researchers
- provides world-class research facilities
- works with the life sciences industry and charities to benefit all
- involves patients and the public at every step

For further information, visit the NIHR website www.nihr.ac.uk

2. Photograph of Dr Duncan Chambler included
3. For media enquiries, please contact Kim Appleby, Communications Lead: kim.appleby@nihr.ac.uk, 01489 771027.