



## CHARM Newsletter #2

### New Evidence on Community Hospitals

#### Learning from Community Hospitals Internationally

A fascinating paper has been published by one of the research teams in our Community Hospitals Programme supported by the CHA. This paper sets out what we can learn from community hospital provision internationally. The paper by the RAND team draws on learning from 75 papers from 10 countries, and identifies the diversity of services, and also the key role that community hospitals have in integration. Read more [here](#)

#### Community Hospitals Can Reduce Acute Hospital Admissions

A recently published study from Norway has reviewed community hospitals and concluded that they make a valuable contribution to local health systems.

*"Our findings suggest that this type of intermediate care is a viable option in an effort to alleviate the burden on hospitals by reducing the acute*

*secondary care admission volume.”* Swanson, J and Hagan, T (2016)  
Read more [here](#)

Given the current pressure on acute hospital beds, it is timely to share evidence on the contribution community hospitals make in providing valued intermediate care.

We regularly update our website with recently published research, so we are building an evidence-base on the contribution of community hospital services to patients, communities and local health and care systems.

**Help shape the CHA of the future by completing our [Survey](#)**

In order to be fit for the future the CHA committee is undertaking a review of the CHA, and is seeking views from stakeholders, members and potential members about what sort of service would be valued in the future. Please complete the survey. We would like to hear from everyone concerned with community hospitals and learn of views on the future of the CHA.

Please encourage others to complete the survey and give their views.  
Thank you!

### **CHA Innovations and Best Practice Awards News**

Congratulations to our 6 CHA Award winners! Well deserved. Staff and Volunteers from 6 Community Hospital Services impressed our CHA judging panel with their enthusiasm, dedication, and pride. This years programme has been uplifting and inspiring, and it will be good to share their stories at the CHA conference in June when we officially present the awards.

The Publicity from the awards has been really encouraging.

*“Congratulations to you all - you should be extremely proud. We are very lucky that you and your organisation are there to support the community in such a wonderful*

*way - driven by your determination, passion and hard work.*" Chairman CCG writing about the Friends of Crowborough Hospital, CHA Award winners.

Read more about all the award winners [here](#)

## **A Celebration of Community Hospitals**

Patients and carers are being encouraged to share their views and put comments on websites which are responded to. This provides a valuable source of feedback on the hospital services, an opportunity for learning, and creates a public record. The CHARM website features the [community voice](#) with a selection of reviews that celebrate community hospitals.

*"I would like to thank the personnel involved for a friendly, caring a professional approach to their work. I cannot thank them enough."* [Patient Opinion](#)

*"A wonderful local service, staff friendly and welcoming from reception through to nurses. Competent and knowledgeable staff. Fantastic facility."* [Patient Opinion](#)

*"Dad received the best care ever, from beautiful people and made his end of life very comfortable."* [NHS Choices](#)

## **CHA Membership**

Now is the time to join the Community Hospitals Association!

Whether you are renewing your membership, or joining us for the first time, you will be very welcome. You can join as an individual (£25) or as an organisation such as a community hospital or League of Friends of the Hospital (£100). Membership benefits include support from the CHA committee, networking and reduced rates at our conference.

The CHA is a membership organisation, and it has operated as a social movement to promote the role and function of community hospitals for

nearly 50 years. Do join and be part of the Community Hospitals Association. The more members we have, the stronger we can be, and the more we can do to help.

Be part of the movement and [join the CHA](#).

## **CHA Conference**

The programme and booking form for our annual conference on 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> June in Manchester is now [published](#).

The theme is “Change to Survive.” Speakers include Professor John Young, Roy Lilley and Dr John Howarth. Topics include the latest research on community hospitals, the contribution of Communities through Friends Groups, and clinical learning. Winners of the CHA Innovation and Best Practice Award will be holding workshops. Our annual conference is very popular, giving a unique opportunity to network with those involved in community hospitals and services.

## **NHS Benchmarking Network**

The Community Hospital Survey results for 2016 are out! 179 community hospitals from 46 organisations across the UK completed the survey this year. Read more [here](#) Do join the survey this year.

## **Community Voice**

Members of the CHA are regularly contacting us for advice and sharing their news of local plans and consultations. CHARM features examples of public support for community hospitals in the [“Community Voice.”](#)

The CHA has submitted a response to the consultation in Devon which

proposes reductions in community hospital beds. The CHA has called for a "pause" in the process for further work to be done, corrections made, local communities to be more involved and more evidence to be taken into account. Read [more](#)

The CHA continues to monitor news reports, comment on consultations, and provide information and support to Leagues of Friends, community groups and staff. Please see our [news](#) page for updates.

## Hearing from You

**Please send contributions for the CHARM website and newsletter -**

[info@communityhospitalsresearch.org.uk](mailto:info@communityhospitalsresearch.org.uk) **and follow us on Facebook and**

**Twitter**

*This newsletter is shared with those researching community hospitals, those involved in the Community Hospitals Association, and many others.*

*Please share, and encourage colleagues interested in community hospitals to sign up on the CHARM website.*