

## 2010 winners of the APTUK Katherine Miles Poster Award

A number of posters were on display throughout this year's conference at Cranage Hall Cheshire and gave the authors an opportunity to expand upon their abstracts informing of their projects. Again this year, the posters covered a range of different topics and pharmacy practice showing the diversity of roles undertaken by pharmacy technicians. They were all of a good quality and challenged the decision making process; a tough job for the judges!

Topics this year included supporting patient safety through reducing missed doses and prescribing errors; delivering a timely pharmacy service by communicating processing times through an enhanced prescription tracking and developing training and assessment using a standardised model.

The poster winners, sponsored by Helapet Limited, were announced by Ruth Hewitt, Helapet Product Manager, at the end of the second conference day, Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June. Winners of the competition were presented with a certificate and prizes of £250 for the 1<sup>st</sup> prize, £150 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and £100 for the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Liz Fidler RegPharmTech, CertEd



Liz Fidler & Sally Kemp, both Pharmacy Education specialists, won first prize for their poster, 'Standardising Training and Accreditation within a Nationally Recognised Framework using Pre and In-Process Checking (PIPC) as a model. The poster described the benefits of developing standard training and assessment curriculum to be used across South of England. The project focused on combining the pre & in process checking programmes delivered by the two pharmacy education providers and reducing waste on duplication of training and accreditation.

Standardising Training and Accreditation within a Nationally Recognised Framework using Pre and In Process Checking (PIPC) as a model.

Liz Fidler RegPharmTech, CertEd & Sally Kemp RegPharmTech

Liz: Principal Pharmacy Technician, Pharmacy Support Staff South East Medicines Management Education & Development (SEMMED)

Sally: Technician Development Officer, South West Medicines Information and Training

Theresa Leach

Theresa Leach, Dispensary Manager, from Worthing Hospital in West Sussex was awarded second prize for her poster, 'The Impact of the Implementation of a Prescription Tracking System on Dispensary Services Improving and Communicating Prescription Processing Times'.

Theresa's poster described how implementing bar-coding reading technology to monitor the progress of dispensing prescriptions has improved turnaround times and enhanced communication for service users.



The Impact of the Implementation of a Prescription Tracking System on Dispensary Services Improving and Communicating Prescription Processing Times

Theresa Leach: Technician Team Leader/Dispensary Manager Pharmacy Department Worthing Hospital West Sussex

Sean Brock RegPharmTech



Sean Brock, Pharmacy Technician for Specialist Pharmacy Technician, Theatres & Anaesthetics, Pharmacy Department, Wansbeck Hospital Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust was awarded third prize for his poster, 'Reducing missed doses and prescribing errors from pre-assessment onwards'. Sean's poster describes his project undertaken to evaluate whether introduction of a pharmacy technician taking medication histories from elective orthopaedic patients in the pre-assessment clinic could reduce 'missed' prescribing and 'missed' in-patient doses errors.

Reducing missed doses and prescribing errors from pre-assessment onwards  
Sean Brock, Specialist Pharmacy Technician Theatres & Anaesthetics  
Wansbeck Hospital Pharmacy Department, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

The posters were judged by APTUK Education Officer: Tess Fenn, APTUK and Ruth Hewitt Product Manager, Helapet Limited. The judges reviewed each poster for its content, presentation and innovation looking specifically for the posters topic, introduction to the topic, clarity and logical sequencing, layout, use of language, colour, diagrams and graphs, and lastly originality and impact on patient care.

It was very encouraging for delegates, conference organisers and APTUK officers to learn about the different roles that pharmacy technicians are undertaking and we very much look forward to more posters at next years conference. Guidance notes and an article on 'Tips for poster presentations' can be found in the Autumn 2006 edition of the Pharmacy Technician Journal. Calls for poster abstracts and poster criteria will be published in the Spring 2010 journal: so start your projects and watch this space!

Tess Fenn: APTUK Education Officer.