



Agenda for the Derriford User Group

February 6th 2020



1. Read through the minutes from the last meeting



2. Vote in the new chair and vice chair for DUG



3. Comfort break



4. Talk by Cath Atkins and Stuart Quarterman and on changes that are happening to ED (also known as the Emergency Department or A&E); how can DUG help?



5. Nominations for LD champions award



Derriford User Group Minutes December 5th 2019

Present: Ali, Lin, Saoirse, Antony, Colin, Jess, Chloe (a student nurse on placement at Westbourne), Ken David S, Susie, Jill, Carol, Gemma, Heather (a link practitioner at the Eye Infirmary), Abi (a student nurse on placement at Derriford), John, Andy, Sue, Russell, Debbie, Albina, Jill and Dave



Apologies: Lesley, Becca, Judy, David F, David M, Claire, Sam, Bob, Anne James and Richard Crompton

Guest: Julie Smart, an OT from Derriford



1. Ali welcomed everyone to the group and asked people to introduce themselves.



2. Susie read the minutes from the last meeting which were agreed by the group.



3. Ali handed the meeting over to Julie. Julie explained that she was an Occupational Therapist at Derriford. She had brought along some cutlery for the DUG to look at.



The group were impressed with the weight of the cutlery but were horrified that each piece was £10 and that wards have to fund their own sets.



A set is made up of a knife, fork, dessert spoon and tea spoon. We also talked about the size of the handles, how easy they were to hold and whether they should have grips on them.



The group felt that every ward in Derriford should have at least two sets as patients with many different conditions would benefit from having the tools available so they could independently feed themselves. For example: people with limited mobility, people recovering from strokes, people with arthritis, people with Dementia.



Some members said that they did not like the hospital cups as they looked like children's beakers. Carol said she preferred to have two handles on a cup to hold it more securely. Should cups be see through so people know there is still liquid inside or patterned like well known coffee shop cups? David and Ken were worried people with larger hands could burn their knuckles and fingers if the handles weren't big enough.



Saoirse said she and Judy would conduct an audit to see how many wards had adapted cutlery already. The DUG decided that they would like to look at this in more detail after Christmas.



Saoirse said we would need to tie in with other patient groups in the hospital to discuss cups and cutlery.



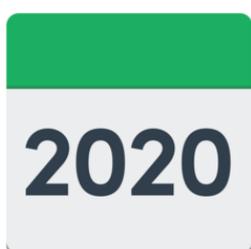
Staff who go around with the menus are called housekeepers. It was suggested that housekeepers could identify if a patient needed adapted cutlery when they went around collecting meal choices.



People had forgotten that there was an eating section in the hospital passport. Jill reminded the DUG members that it was important for them to have and bring in passports when going into hospital. How would staff know people's needs without this important information?



Perhaps we could mystery shop meal times reasonable adjustments when we go out in the new year to check that communication boxes are out and being used on the wards?



4. Jill handed out the dates for 2020. In February we will vote in a new chair and vice chair for the DUG. Stuart Quarterman and Cath Atkins will also be invited to involve us in the consultation being run around the new ED (emergency department/ A&E).