



NIMAST Nurses

The implementation of the Northern Ireland Stroke Strategy brings with it many opportunities within stroke care and is an exciting time to be involved in NIMAST.

Following the establishment of NIMAST (Northern Ireland Multidisciplinary Association of Stroke Teams) in 1999 as a regional forum for stroke professionals, September 2002 saw the launch of one of NIMAST's professional sub-groups, NIMAST Nurses. This group is engaged in supporting evidence based nursing through networking and multidisciplinary educational study days.

NIMAST Nurse's Mission Statement:

"To actively seek out and share on-going developments in stroke care to facilitate optimal outcomes for patients and their families"

Who are we?

A group of senior nurses who represent nurses delivering care to stroke patients in a variety of settings across Northern Ireland. We meet regularly on both a formal and informal basis to provide an active professional support network with the ultimate aim being to enhance the patient and carer experience through the stroke pathway.

How do we deliver on our Mission Statement?

We have contributed to current developments in stroke nursing care through

- establishing and implementing evidence based nursing standards
- developing a competency based framework for stroke nursing



- delivering evidence based practice in stroke nursing care
- developing the knowledge and skills of nurses and healthcare assistants delivering stroke care
- utilising opportunities to improve the patient's experience of stroke care by acting as a patient advocate
- acting as an expert resource on stroke nursing
- sharing and supporting excellence in practice within voluntary, statutory and independent sectors.
- raising the profile of stroke by utilising opportunities within the public domain
- advancing the professional profile of NIMAST Nurses at a local and national level linking with other stroke nursing forums
- promoting the aims and objectives of NIMAST through on-going links with and support from NIMAST.

To find out more contact:

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Leads within Trusts

Belfast Trust

Annemarie Hunter, Royal Group Hospitals
Maria Kinnaird, Belfast City Hospital

SouthEastern Trust

Maureen Matthews, Ulster Hospital, Dundonald
Hazel Montgomery, North Down and Ards Community
Tracy Kane, Ulster Hospital, Dundonald

Western Trust

Jacquie Mc Kee, Altnagelvin Hospital
Alison Allerton, Western Trust
Hazel Mc Ilveen, Erne Hospital
Sheila Grimes, Tyrone County Hospital

Southern Trust

Bronagh Byrne, Daisy Hill Hospital
Diane Crooks, Craigavon Area Hospital
Hilary Thompson, Armagh & Dungannon

Northern Trust

Patricia Holley, Causeway Hospital
Sarah Glass, Antrim Area Hospital
Paula Ford-Hutchinson, Magherafelt

School of Nursing, University of Ulster

Diane Phillips

Useful Resources

Northern Ireland Chest, Heart and Stroke
Ph. 028 90320184 Website: <http://www.nichsa.com>
The Stroke Association: Ph. 028 9050 8020
<http://www.stroke.org.uk>
Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety
(2008) Improving Stroke Services
<http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/recommendations-stroke-services-in-ni.pdf>

www.nimast.org.uk

Intercollegiate Stroke Working Party (2008) National Clinical
Guideline for Stroke 3rd Edition Website:

<http://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/pubs/contents/6ad05aab-8400-494c-8cf4-9772d1d5301b.pdf>

Future Professional Developments

We aim to raise the profile of NIMAST Nurses by

- creating and implementing an audit on secondary stroke prevention services and re-audit of regional stroke audit for acute care
- implementing evidence based nursing standards and a competency based framework
- the on-going lobbying of key stakeholders
- strengthening links with NIMAST and voluntary agencies
- evaluating the role of nurses working in stroke specialist roles.

Upcoming Events

October 23rd 2009: NIMAST conference.

NIMAST Nurses plan a number of events throughout the year which may be of interest to you (To find out more about these contact your Trust Lead)

2009/2010: Launch of evidence based nursing standards and competency based framework for stroke nursing.

March 2010: Launch of Award for Champions of Stroke Care - open to registered nurses, student nurses and healthcare assistants

How to get involved in NIMAST

If you are currently working in an area providing stroke care you should consider becoming a member of NIMAST. If you are interested and want to find out more about NIMAST contact Louise Potts (secretary) at Camowen Bungalow, Tyrone County Hospital Site, Hospital Road, Omagh Co. Tyrone BT79 0AP or

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