

Catherine Plowright, Registered Nurse

Conference attended Deteriorating Patient Summit 20th April 2021

I have been a registered nurse since 1986 and worked in critical care units and outreach services for many years and laterally in acute medicine. I have always recognised the advantages of being able to recognise patients' before they deteriorate to the point of needing admission to a critical care unit.

This last year has at times been difficult for lots of reasons to maintain our CPD and this event gave me the opportunity to do some CPD, which was not about C-19. I was fortunate to be able to attend the Deteriorating Patient Summit as the BACCN and HealthCare Conferences UK have a reciprocal agreement that enables BACCN members to attend free of charge.

This event in April 2021 was a virtual zoom conference. The power of a zoom conference enabled networking in a different way with healthcare professionals across the UK and the programme enabled presentations and small group discussions. I had opportunity to speak with colleagues, which at a "live" event I may not have had.

Professor Derek Bell, who was part of the team that developed the NEWS score, chaired the morning session as well as gave a presentation on recognising and responding to deteriorating patients and reminded us all of using standardising language with our patients in particularly NEWS2 scores. One of the most powerful sessions was from Jessica Tuffield a young lady who graphically spoke about her journey into deterioration and sepsis and as a listener I was acutely aware of all the steps that her deterioration could have been identified and perhaps halted, and yet so many healthcare professional "failed" her.

Geoff Cooper from the Wessex Academic Health Science Network chaired the afternoon session and also presented on the RESTORE2 programme, which I had not heard about before being an acute hospital nurse. RESTORE2 is a tool to recognise physical deterioration for care / nursing homes based on nationally recognised methodologies including early recognition (Soft Signs), NEWS2 and structured communications (SBARD). Further information regarding this tool can be found at <https://wessexahsn.org.uk/videos/show/316>

Other presenters included Nicki Credland (University of Hull and Chair BACCN) who told us about Advanced Nursing Practice and Emma Coutts who told us about what they had achieved regarding communication and escalation at Medway Hospital in relation to deteriorating patients. Dr. Ron Daniels gave a presentation on sepsis and Covid 19 which was thought provoking as usual, and one take away message I have from that is the similarities between sepsis survival and long Covid and the lengthy road patients will have ahead of them

I would encourage all BACCN members to visit the website to see which sessions you can benefit from and take up the opportunity.