

# MYCO WELL D-ONE STUDY NEWSLETTER

## RESEARCH NEWS

Issue 2 March 2018

As the New Year marches ahead, so too does the MYCO WELL D-ONE study at the Integrated Sexual Health Department at Dewi Sant Hospital, Ysbyty Cwm Cynon and Keir Hardie Health park. Our team of experienced sexual health professionals and research nurses continue to show great determination and enthusiasm. The study is going very well and provisional results look very promising. We are hopeful that the research will benefit patients in the fullness of time. Of course, it would not be possible without the support of our dedicated staff.



---

*“When I was in University the lecturers always talked about research and I didn’t think I’d have the chance to be involved.... I enjoy working on MYCO WELL D-ONE study. It has been good to see how research is done and to be part of something which will hopefully help patients in the future.”* **Staff nurse**

---

Ureaplasma and Mycoplasma are emerging bacterial pathogens associated with disease. There is evidence that they are associated with non-specific genitourinary infection, premature birth and neonatal pneumonitis. Currently there is no standard test available to diagnose these infections. This study will evaluate whether MYCO WELL D-ONE assay can reliably provide improved clinical provision for the detection of Ureaplasma and Mycoplasma in clinical samples and demonstrate their antimicrobial susceptibility.

**Well done to our team at the Department of Sexual Health for recruiting 456 patients in the MYCO WELL D-ONE study!**

**Getting down to the science...**The collection of samples is only the first step towards this study. Samples are processed and research conducted on them in the laboratory at the Division of Infection and Immunity, University Hospital of Wales. It takes several weeks and lots of hard work for experiments to be conducted on each sample. Everyday is spent in the laboratory carrying out research on the bacteria, including on the weekends! Dan Morris is a crucial member of the study team, as the MPhil student for the MYCO WELL D-ONE study. The research will form part of his MPhil at Cardiff University, School of Medicine, supervised by Dr Brad Spiller and Professor Tim Walsh.



Miss Kirsty Rowlands, Mrs Rebecca Davies, Ms Hayley Pope and Mrs Sheila Williams assisting with the MYCO WELL D-ONE sample collection.



**Many thanks to Cwm Taf University Health board R&D department for their assistance with the implementation of this research study.**

## March Staff Profiles:

### Miss Kirsty Rowlands

*'I'm currently a healthcare support worker based between Women's Health Unit and Integrated Sexual Health Department. As I only work on a Thursday I work mainly with Dr Lucy Jones. I've been working very closely with the MYCO WELL D-ONE study. In the beginning, it took me a little while to get used to it because it was something new in clinic. However, as time has gone on working within research has provided me with greater knowledge and skills that will help me progress in my career. More importantly, I've been part of the process which will improve future care of patients that come to our clinic'*

### Mrs Rebecca Davies

*'I am a Band 7 clinical Nurse Specialist in the Integrated Sexual Health Department with 14 years of experience. I haven't had much exposure to research until recently, and so to have this opportunity to do clinical research has been interesting, as well as being a learning curve for myself. I have been an important member of the team and gained additional skills and knowledge about the implementation of clinical research. This has been very worthwhile and good for my professional development and experience. Sexual Health is an ever changing speciality and being involved in a research study that could not only improve our patient care but also the reputation of our service as a whole is very exciting.'*

### Ms Hayley Pope

*'I am currently a support worker in the Sexual Health Department in Dewi Sant Hospital working closely with Dr Lucy Jones. We are currently involved in a research project which is called MYCO WELL D-ONE which involves using left over urine samples for research purposes. Hopefully, when all the information has been gathered and analysed more research can be done. I think it has been an excellent project and I have contributed to it. The only downside was at the beginning of the study, research nurses had to get used to the way clinic runs. When we had the same research nurses every week, it easier for staff and runs smoothly.'*

## Providing patient care and innovation



As the research study has progressed, the research protocol has become more like second nature in the team and is streamlined into clinics. The whole team of health professionals is resourceful and committed to delivering the best patient care and providing opportunities for developing new tests for our patients in the future. Our 5 research nurses Lisa Roche, Kelly Thomas, Heidi Clarke, Lisa Mellish and Joanna Wilson have been instrumental in moving forwards with this study.

*Participating in research studies is not for everyone. However, here is some positive feedback from our patients who consented to be part of the research study.*

### A patients perspective?

When patients were asked about their experience of being part of a research study it gave interesting results which may surprise:

**83%** of patients agreed or strongly agreed that they would be happy to take part in another research study

**89%** of patients agreed or strongly agreed that they had a good experience of taking part in a research study

**95%** of the patients thought that research staff were approachable and professional

**80%** of patients strongly agreed that taking part in research should be part of normal NHS healthcare

**85%** of patients took part in research to help others

Results are from the Patient Research Experience Survey (PRES) that was conducted during 2016/2017 in the North East and North Cumbria.

*This makes me feel I am doing something worthwhile..'*



*If the study can help other people like myself then it's very worthwhile'*

**Look out for our next Newsletter. If you would like to contribute please let us know.**



**WELL DONE to everyone who helped us reach our  
patient recruitment this month**