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# Staff achievements celebrated in Adults Learners Week

Posted on Thursday 23rd May 2013

Staff from across North Cumbria University Hospitals have been presented with certificates for a range of qualifications, to coincide with Adult Learners Week this week.

Healthcare Assistants and Medical Laboratory Assistants from the pathology labs have achieved the QCF Diploma in Health Level 3, while Medical Records staff were presented with the IHRIM (Institute of Health Records and Information Management) Certificate of Technical Competence.



Jean Hill, Training Manager for the Trust, said:

"North Cumbria University Hospitals train and develop our support workers to national standards. This has benefits for all – the Trust has assurance that both those staff with direct caring roles and those with clinical support roles gain a nationally recognised qualification, gain in confidence and self-esteem as well as knowledge and understanding; and most importantly our patients receive care from appropriately qualified, trained and supported staff.

"The qualification structure changed recently and this is our first cohort of learners to achieve the revised QCF (Qualification Credit Framework), formerly NVQ (National Vocational qualification) accreditation, so it has been a learning curve for all involved."

The QCF Level 3 Diplomas achieved covered Clinical Healthcare Support, Pathology Support and Allied Health Profession Support, with 16 successful candidates at West Cumberland Hospital, 15 at the Cumberland Infirmary and more in the pipeline.

The IHRIM Certificate of Technical Competence is delivered in-house by the medical records manager, information governance officer and guest speakers. The course aims to give knowledge and understanding to administrative and clerical staff to help them fulfil their responsibilities towards information management and most importantly patient records. The course covers legislation, policies and procedures, always returning to the key theme of the impact on patient care of an appropriately maintained and organised patient record. There are eight successful IHRIM candidates at Cumberland Infirmary and three at West Cumberland Hospital. The next cohort will commence in September 2013.

In order to encourage more staff to return to education as part of Adult Learners Week, which runs until tomorrow, Friday May 24, a representative from the University of Cumbria has been available in both Carlisle and Whitehaven this week to offer advice and answer any queries.

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