Council of Governors

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Executive Summary

The Committee met on 29th July 2021, the meeting was quorate, the Minutes approved and the actions from previous meetings were reviewed and closed or continued as agreed by the Committee. There were no declarations of interest.

The Council of Governors are asked to accept the content of the Report and note the items highlighted below:

In addition to the regular standing agenda items the following items of significance were discussed:

Project Evaluations

<u> RITA – (Dragons Den)</u>

RITA (Reminiscence, Interactive, Therapeutic, Activities) is a pre-loaded system that can be used by patients themselves or with nurses/therapists/carers to engage patients with a wide variety of activities, including relaxation music, BBC archive clips, photos, interactive games, famous speeches and full length movies etc. Evidence suggests that the use of reminiscence therapy improves psychological wellbeing, it helps patients recall past events and to make sense of their surroundings. It has been linked to reducing isolation, depression and behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia and improvements of quality of life. RITA was used on Ward 12. The ward staff were able to set an individual profile up with the assistance of a relative for a patient with Lewy Body dementia. They completed my collage passport on RITA for this patient, this included her likes and dislikes, food preferences, former hobbies and career. Using reminiscence therapy through RITA supported the staff and the patient and increased the opportunities for social interaction.

The benefits supported by RITA for this patient has included a shorter length of stay in hospital, chemical restraint has not been used as the patient has been less agitated during this admission and has aided a patient centred approach to nursing care.

<u> Upper GI simulator – (Dragons Den)</u>

An upper GI simulator is a safe way to teach & supervise intubation of the oesophagus, allowing trainees to focus on this and the handling of a scope without the worry of distressing a patient. This type of training has been proven to have many advantages which help improve practitioners' competencies, and in return, improve patient safety. The simulator has been used on nurse training days, to help the nurses understand the importance of their role in supporting the patient and managing the airway, which improves patient safety.

Ward 12 dementia care environmental improvements- £98,000

The objectives of the project were to make dementia friendly environmental improvements to Ward 12 to enhance the quality of care for patients:

- Create a dementia friendly environment
- End of life care room
- Multidisciplinary room

The benefits realised include:

- The removal of the nurse's stations has reduced noise levels on the ward especially overnight allowing patients to rest and recuperate and lower confusion.
- Murals on the ward to make the ward welcoming.
- Sitting areas on the ward including a day room with a replica fireplace to replicate a living room.
- A bus stop on the ward for dementia patients to use.
- New flooring, light calming colours in the bay to replicate patient's home environment.
- MDT room to allow all notes to be kept together and accessed with a computer present.

Fundraising Appeal Update

Committee received an update regarding fundraising and agreed to revise the communication strategy for the Charity to include areas to which donors may wish to contribute, not particularly specific appeals but specific areas of need.

Risk Register

The risk register for the charity was reviewed and no changes were recommended, it was agreed a further review early 2022 would focus on any risks regarding investments.