

Embargoed until 00:01 on 8 February 2019

Press Release

Saving lives through better sepsis awareness Greenbrook Healthcare launches focussed training programme

Sepsis is a potentially deadly condition, notoriously difficult to diagnose, but which can be treated very effectively with antibiotics if caught early on. According to the UK Sepsis Trust, 52,000 people lose their lives to sepsis every year in the UK. This is more than breast, bowel and prostate cancer combined.

Doctors and nurses need to “Think Sepsis” from the first contact a patient has with health services, to help diagnose sepsis early.

Greenbrook Healthcare treats approximately 700,000 patients each year in its Urgent Treatment Centres and has identified greater sepsis awareness as critical to meeting its commitment to delivering excellent patient care. Greenbrook Healthcare became aware of the campaigning around the issue by Melissa Mead with the Sepsis Trust, in the wake of her son William’s tragic death from sepsis, and approached her and the Sepsis Trust for support in helping doctors and nurses understand the importance to “Think Sepsis”. The campaign has included:

1. Greenbrook Healthcare commissioned a video of Melissa Mead telling the story of her son William’s tragic case, in order to provide a real-life example to help doctors and nurses to understand what can happen if sepsis is not diagnosed early-on.
2. Greenbrook Healthcare has customised UK Sepsis Trust guidelines into posters for easy reference of all its doctors and nurses and made them visible in all clinical rooms and working spaces.
3. Greenbrook Healthcare has provided a rolling programme of training for all its doctors and nurses in sepsis awareness and diagnosis, including face-to-face training, videos and sepsis competency assessments.
4. Greenbrook Healthcare runs a rolling audit of urgent care consultations to ensure clinicians are considering sepsis where appropriate and recording and acting on key clinical observations.

Dr Sally Johnson, Greenbrook Healthcare Group Medical Director commented:

“Hearing from Melissa Mead about her son William’s story has had a major impact on everyone working in Greenbrook Healthcare. Working with the Sepsis Trust and



Embargoed until 00:01 on 8 February 2019

having this video as part of our sepsis awareness campaign has brought to life the critical importance of this hard to diagnose condition, helping our doctors and nurses to catch sepsis early, and potentially save lives."

Dorthe Swaby Larson, Nurse Practitioner at Greenbrook Urgent Treatment Centres said:

"I found the video so impressive - I always have the image of Melissa holding William's teddy at the forefront when I assess children"

Dr Ron Daniels, CEO of the UK Sepsis Trust commented:

"It's fantastic that Greenbrook Healthcare are launching this programme to raise awareness and educate their doctors and nurses. Equipping healthcare professionals to diagnose and treat sepsis as fast as possible is crucial if we are to improve sepsis care across the NHS, from General Practice to care homes. As a charity, the educating of healthcare professionals and the provision of support for those affected by the devastating condition are two of our core aims so we welcome any initiative that helps us achieve these aims, and adds to our suite of available resources."

-Ends-

Note to editors

For press enquiries please contact Dan Annetts, Chief Operating Officer, Greenbrook Healthcare on 07971 038 216

Social Media

For up-to-date information, please visit the following social media profiles:

Greenbrook Healthcare:

Twitter: @GreenbrookHC

Sepsis Trust

Twitter @UKSepsisTrust and @SepsisUK

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheUkSepsisTrust>



Embargoed until 00:01 on 8 February 2019

WHAT IS SEPSIS?

Sepsis (also known as blood poisoning) is the immune system's overreaction to an infection or injury. Normally our immune system fights infection – but sometimes, for reasons we don't yet understand, it attacks our body's own organs and tissues. If not treated immediately, sepsis can result in organ failure and death. Yet with early diagnosis, it can be treated with antibiotics.

WILLIAM MEAD'S STORY

To see the video of Melissa Mead telling the story of her son, William, please visit www.greenbrook.nhs.uk

About Greenbrook Healthcare

Greenbrook Healthcare is an innovative primary care organisation caring for NHS patients across London. Greenbrook Healthcare is focussed on delivering services for NHS patients in a growing number of Urgent Treatment Centres, GP Practices and community services.

Greenbrook Healthcare is the leading provider in London of NHS Urgent Treatment Centres co-located with A&Es, working in close partnership with NHS hospital and community trusts. Greenbrook Healthcare treats approximately 700,000 patients a year in its Urgent Treatment Centres.

Greenbrook is passionate about high quality NHS care and putting patients first. Underlying this approach are a significant investment in clinical leadership, a highly rigorous approach to clinical governance and an extensive clinical training programme.

For more information about Greenbrook Healthcare please visit www.greenbrook.nhs.uk

About the UK Sepsis Trust

The UK Sepsis Trust is a coalition of experts and key influencers who aim to save lives and improve outcomes for survivors of sepsis by instigating political change, educating healthcare professionals, raising public awareness, and providing support for those affected. The UK Sepsis Trust is a registered charity (registration number 1158843, company number 8644039)