

EDUCATION TEAM OF THE YEAR

This award recognises a project that shows outstanding innovation in educating UK healthcare professionals and improving performance

WINNER

UK ENDOVASCULAR TRAINEES (UKETS)

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE



What they did: UKETS designed collaborative training for those involved or training to be involved in carrying out endovascular procedures (accessing the body through the blood vessels). Virtual reality endovascular simulators are used, supplemented with online lectures, an iPhone app, and instructional videos. The system allows trainee surgeons, radiologists, and cardiologists to practise the procedures repeatedly and receive progress reports. It also gives more junior doctors who have not yet made their career choice an opportunity to try practical skills in a safe environment. The use of simulation not only improved safety, teaching doctors in training how to carry out procedures with the minimum risk of complications, but it also helped identify trainees with aptitude and helped them make career choices. The judges were looking for a project that showed outstanding innovation in educating UK healthcare professionals and improving performance, and the UKETS team stood out for their initiative, good use of technology, and impressive results.

Judges' comments: "We were impressed with their novel approach to the problem. They [UKETS] aren't waiting for medical education to catch up with them, instead they are going for it themselves and innovating to meet the needs of junior doctors, and ultimately patients, by contributing significantly to training doctors."

Judges: Derek Gallen, president, Academy of Medical Educators, the professional standard setting body for clinical teachers, and postgraduate dean at the Cardiff School of Postgraduate Medical and Dental Education; Anne Marie Cunningham, clinical lecturer, Cardiff University, Wales (with a special interest in the use of new technology to further medical education)

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