

6 October 2010

Worthing Hospital's Department of Anaesthesia punches well above its weight

Worthing Hospital's Department of Anaesthesia won a remarkable 4 (2 winners, 1 second and 1 third prizes) out of a total of 12 possible prizes at the recent Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland (AAGBI) annual congress, held at the Harrogate International Centre between 22-24 September 2010.

A panel of expert judges from the AAGBI considered various submissions by members and participants over a two day period from various institutions across the UK.

Dr Johann Willers, Associate Specialist in Anaesthesia at Worthing Hospital proudly said: "Worthing Hospital's Department of Anaesthesia's contribution to original research is all the more remarkable because it has been conducted by staff in their own time without funding. All competing presentations in the original research category had been submitted by academic institutions with fulltime researchers, funding, support staff and in some instances a long research pedigree."

Dr Willers further explains why winning these prizes are such a great achievement for Worthing Hospital: "The total number of anaesthetists at Worthing Hospital represents less than half of one percent of the anaesthetic workforce in the UK. Nonetheless, the department contributed 8.6% of the selected academic presentations to this year's AAGBI congress, the biggest contribution from any single UK institution. Abstract presentations submitted by the department constituted 14.3% of projects selected for oral presentation. As far as original research is concerned, a third of the contributions were sourced from the department at Worthing."

This translates into a remarkable statistic as Worthing Hospital collected a third of all the available prizes from a high profile national specialty meeting.

Marianne Griffiths, Chief Executive, added her congratulations: "I'm very proud of the anaesthetics team at Worthing. Winning these prizes demonstrate our commitment to provide high quality care to our local community."

Ends

Notes to Editor:

1. The Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland (AAGBI) annual congress is a high profile national speciality meeting, bringing the leading anaesthetists and their latest research, work and papers from across the UK under the same roof for discussion, debate and critical appraisal.
2. The AAGBI regularly publishes works by its members in *Anaesthesia*. It is the official and internationally recognised journal of the AAGBI and publishes original, peer-reviewed articles on all aspects of general and regional anaesthesia, intensive care and pain therapy, including research on equipment.
3. Submitted works are assessed by a panel of experts from the AAGBI.
4. After the assessment by the panel of expert from the AAGBI, the authors of the selected submissions are invited to present their works in 4 categories:
 - (a) Original Research
 - (b) Case Report/Case Series – these are papers/research work based on real patients
 - (c) Oral Presentation – these are submissions that have been authorised to be orally presented by their respective authors by the AAGBI
 - (d) Poster Presentation – these are submissions that are presented on poster of up to A1 size paper
5. There are 3 prizes – (a) winner; (b) second; and (c) third – for submissions deemed exceptional for each 4 categories. Worthing Hospital's Department of Anaesthesia submissions were judged outright winners in the Case Report/Case Series and Poster Presentation categories. It was also awarded second and third prizes in the Original Research category.

Ends

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