The productive operating theatre programme

On 13 May I attended the Productive Operating Theatre conference in my capacity as AfPP President. This is one of a series of ‘Productive’ initiatives run by the NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement.

The programme encourages multi-disciplinary working in the theatre. It can save time and improve the working lives of staff ultimately improving patient experiences. Initially piloted at the Royal Devon & Exeter NHS Foundation Trust, Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust and West Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust, the programme will be rolled out nationally in September.

The programme has four aims. These are to:

- Enhance patient experience and outcomes.
- Improve team performance and leadership.
- Add value and improve efficiency.
- Enable modules – these concentrate on non-clinical training such as team working and effective scheduling.
- Process modules – these establish best procedures for theatre efficiency.

AFPP, as a key partner with perioperative expertise, has been and will continue to be, involved at every level in the Productive Operating Theatre programme and will keep you informed. More information is available at www.institute.nhs.uk/theatres.

What are your thoughts on the Productive Theatres programme? Do you have any suggestions which AfPP can submit? Email Diane Gilmour at president@afpp.org.uk.

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