THE CHAPLAINCY TEAM:
12 substantives, 6 honorary contract chaplains, 17 bank chaplains, 12 PG cert students, 37 chaplaincy volunteers, 20 Mothers Union volunteers, 2 patient reps
Facts and Figures – at a glance

GUY’S*

Patients referred to our service: 3,826
Total patients visited on wards: 8,500
Total times patients visited on wards: 4,628
Total times support given staff: 644
Total times support given to relatives: 606

Total times visits attempted but patients unavailable: 484
Total times we were not able to visit patients referred to our service: 408

Patients referred to our services
Having Christian faith: 2538
Having Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist or other beliefs: 260
Not specified beliefs: 794
Agnostic: 16
Having no religion: 218

Number of spiritual and religious care: 3,230
Blessings, baptisms, anointings on wards: 52
ST. THOMAS’ HOSPITAL*

Patients referred to our service: 11,974
Total patients visited on wards: 16,000
Total times patients visited on wards: 13,771
Total times support given staff: 2,803
Total times support given to relatives: 2,903
Total times visits attempted but patients unavailable: 1,568
Total times we were not able to visit patients referred to our service: 2,444

Patients referred to our services
Having Christian faith: 7,780
Having Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh or other beliefs: 624
Not specified beliefs: 3,290
Having no religion: 280

Number of spiritual and religious care, prayers and holy communions given during visits: 9,871
Blessings, baptisms, anointings on wards: 179

Emergencies

No of emergency baptisms: 26
No of emergency call outs: 330

Funerals/Services

Total number of funerals conducted: 187
Number of services led: (Church of England/Roman Catholic/Muslim/Buddhist/Memorials: 320

(* all figures are approx.)
FOREWORD:
Revd Mia Kyte Hilborn,
Head of Spiritual Health Care

This has been an incredibly busy year, with terror attacks, the Grenfell fire, and the new PG Cert starting. We have been blessed by the crop of new chaplains, and I am very pleased to now have two new deputy team leaders in post: Abdul and William. They are a delight to work with, and it is wonderful to get some time to do things that have been forgotten. Our manager, Rachel Hill, has changed to Dawn Harper, and we have moved from Palliative Care to Haematology and Oncology. Both Rachel and Dawn have been very supportive of both the team and me personally. I will like to record my thanks for their wisdom and kindnesses over a difficult year.

This year we have started asking all new chaplaincy team members to attend the same training – it used to be called the chaplaincy volunteers training, it has been revamped and is now called ‘Chaplaincy Basic Training’. It covers the basic elements (at level 1) of spiritual and pastoral care, communication and listening skills, Sage and Thyme, psychological first aid, trauma intervention, resilience and ethics, plus mandatory training. And the Simulation! This year, we also trained the fire chaplains and the new disaster chaplains (called in if there is a major incident), although they do not have to complete the whole course. Any new chaplaincy volunteers, bank staff and PG Cert students are expected to attend all 4 days.

It was very good to see Uttara back from Burma for a few days. He has said there is a possibility of funding coming from the Burmese government to set up chaplaincy training in Rangoon for Buddhists, Muslims and Christians, which seems extraordinary given the crisis in the country. We have together drafted a course which is currently with a Burmese government minister for consideration. We are also, through Harrie Cedar’s contacts, talking with a university and hospitals in Israel about training Jewish, Christian and Muslim chaplains in London, and then working with them to put on a training course in Jerusalem. Nana and I are waiting to be trained as virtual classroom facilitators so that we can offer virtual chaplaincy training. There are also plans afoot to start a GSTT MA in chaplaincy…but not this year!

Disasters and traumas bring out the best and the worst in people. 2017/8 has brought out some of the finest in our team, and it has been a privilege to work with them.
Minnie Kidd House

Minnie Kidd House is a NHS Adult Continuing Care Home. It has 28 beds and is on Hazelbourne Road in Clapham South which provides treatment and care for Palliative patients. Dorothy Penniecooke (Honorary Chaplain) is the team chaplain who visits the unit providing spiritual, religious and pastoral care.

Pulross report

Pulross is the trust’s rehabilitation centre in Brixton, it has outpatient facilities and 20 inpatient beds including 6 neurology beds and takes patients from King’s, St George’s and GSTT.

Rosy Skinner (Honorary Chaplain) visits once a week as part of the team and often gets invited meeting about patients and about their discharges. She feels it’s a great place to work.

Amputee Rehabilitation Unit

The ARU provides specialist rehabilitation for adults who have undergone major amputation, who are medically well and if ready to complete an intensive amputee rehabilitation programme in therapy. The unit has 12 beds and is located at Lambeth Community Care Centre in Kennington, London. William Sharpe provides spiritual support to the patients. When requested, we provided religious care including prayers in the patients’ own faith tradition.

Annually, we hold Christmas Carol service for the patients, families, and staff in all three community hospitals.

Parish Midwife

The Chaplaincy Parish Nurse and Midwife has been an initiative project undertaken in collaboration with the Church of England, the Bishop of Southwark’s Advisor on Urban policy and with Guys and St Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust Department of Spiritual Health Care Team in 2009. An excellent project that begun at St John's Church- Brixton, under Revd Canon Rosemary Mallet’s leadership and Angie Sheridan (Honorary Chaplain) for the GSTT chaplaincy. We have handed over leadership of the project to St John’s and withdrawn from the management committee.
Multi faith and Belief Chaplaincy – Imam Abdul Choudhury, Deputy Team Leader

This year has been a very busy year for Multi-faith/belief. We began the year with celebrating Buddha's birthday in May. Ramadan also began in May with Eid marking the end of the month in June. There is also Eid al-Adha which will taking place in mid August.

Sikh Prayer Day took place in November, we had guests who came as part of the National Sikh prayer Day. This also took place in interfaith week where we held an Interfaith Stall.

We also had 2 Jewish festivals; Sukkot took place in October and Hanukah (Jewish Festival of the Trees) in December. We have more festivals coming up this year and very much looking forward to them.
During the last year, we continued to provide spiritual support to the children and families in the Evelina London Children’s Hospital, which includes the neonatal unit. Our chaplains and volunteers regularly visit families in the hospital. When requested, we provided religious care including prayers in the family’s own faith tradition, blessings and emergency baptisms. We also conducted baby funerals and memorial services for patients, both in the hospital chapel and in the community. Our Time to Remember memory services were held in the summer and in December and were well-attended by families whose child or baby has died in the Evelina.

In summer we hosted a visit by children and leaders from the Children Changing Nations charity.

At Christmas we organised the annual Evelina Carol Service and were joined this year by the Springs Dance Company performing extracts from their Christmas production ‘Journey of the Magi’, as well as welcoming back the Brass Group from Archbishop Tenison’s School. The Scripture Union supported us once again with a donation of Christmas books for the children.

In partnership with the Southwark Mothers’ Union, we continue to run a popular ‘Tea at 3’ drop-in tea and cake session for parents on the neonatal unit every Wednesday afternoon. The Tea at 3 team currently comprises 18 volunteers. As well as running Tea at 3, the Mother’s Union volunteers also provided hand knitted baby clothes and crocheted octopi for the premature babies which are greatly appreciated by our neonatal unit.

Our paediatric chaplain Sue Taylor co-leads two sessions on the Parenting course run by the Neonatal Unit for parents, covering ‘Coping with Stress’ and ‘Will my baby be all right
We also provided teaching on spiritual care when a child or baby dies to staff, both from GSTT and other Trusts, at the quarterly Evelina Bereavement Study Day and also on the wards. Sue also represents the Evelina in the Paediatric Chaplaincy Network (‘PCN’) and is a member of its Working Group. The Working Group recently completed an agreed set of paediatric chaplaincy standards and competencies for the UK Board of Healthcare Chaplaincy.

Roman Catholic provision –
Fr Jake Dicto

We visit patients, like all chaplaincy volunteers and chaplains, to provide Spiritual and/or Religious support. We currently have 4 lay people (2 days/Month); 5 nuns (3 Days/WK); 1 Student Seminarian (1 Day/WK), 1 Full Time priest (5 days/WK); 3 Bank and 3 on standby. As Catholics, we are committed to a sacramental view of the world wherein clergy, religious and lay ecclesial ministers all minister to the sick as well as their family and friends who accompany them in the journey of suffering. The Catholic Team offers the sacraments of the Holy Mass and bringing Holy Communion, Anointing of the Sick, Confession and Baptism. In Canon 840 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law note that sacraments are ordered for the sanctification of all people and to build up the Body of Christ in order that they may render worship to God.

We recognised how important it is for us to become a minister of presence. We all feel enriched and blessed in our encounters with people at their deepest pain and their journey towards acceptance and peace. Our patients are the face of the Suffering Christ. We liaise with the parishes, to make sure that patients will be able to continuously receive care if necessary.
The past year has been very busy for renal chaplaincy. We responded on behalf of spiritual care department to government consultation on organ and tissue donation.

12 month review on KPA Innovation Trial New Cross (2 years) was completed in September. The trial was to show how an embedded chaplaincy service (one day a week) could help those patients having the most difficulty living on dialysis. Because of the presence of a chaplain routine spiritual care and pastoral work was also done with other patients on all four shifts, giving a wider benefit. Staff noticed changes in attitude and better cooperation. As a result of this, KPA have asked us to bid to cover the other satellite units. This would generate a significant demand for chaplains and volunteers trained in issues around long term illness – living well, survivorship, and spiritual resources during progressive illness.

We had community renal study day in May 25, 2017 which attracted religious leaders, patients and staff. It was centred on life impact of dialysis treatment, causes and treatments associated with kidney failure and increasing Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) patient and community awareness towards organ donation.

Working together with clinicians cannot be over-emphasised especially to address difficult patients who refused dialysis on diagnosis of kidney failure and co-organised annual renal memorial service. This is to remember kidney patients who have died.
The cardiovascular unit consists of 6 wards, 147 beds, 158 nurses and 26 nursing assistants. We try to visit the wards once or twice per week. For the past year, we have one substantive chaplain, three volunteers and some PG Certificate students visiting regularly. Wards drop in visits have been well received and staff support has been good. A service improvement survey was conducted recently to gauge the level of staff awareness of spiritual healthcare in the cardiovascular unit. Analysis of the results showed that 94% of participants were aware of the spiritual healthcare services, 98% respondents said they would recommend spiritual healthcare services to patients and their families. 73% of participants envisaged using the services in the future. Overall, 93% of respondents rated our services good, very good and excellent. The results have shared with the wards for their feedback.

Future Plans - the introduction of a memorial service for the cardiovascular unit; a survey about the patient experience of spiritual healthcare services in cardiovascular; to set up a cardiovascular staff support day for staff.
The living well in Dialysis programme, LWD, is targeted at kidney failure patients who are on dialysis. These patients have difficulties with their new conditions and they struggle to adapt to their new lifestyle change which has negatively impacted upon their sense of personal wellbeing, work, family, and sometimes, staff relation, leading to difficulties in compliance with treatment and endangering their health which may sometimes lead to death. In conjunction with the Kidney Patients association, we send out a Chaplain on a once a day weekly basis to cover the four shifts at the New Cross Gate Unit. There are an average of 19 Patients per shift at the unit which means that a total of 38 patients can be seen on weekly basis when the unit attains full capacity. The needs of these patients range from spiritual, pastoral, compliance with treatment and other psych-social challenges. The aim is to spend an average of 30-90 minutes with the particular patients who have been referred by the unit manager and enable them to get to terms with their conditions, settle in well and cooperate with the staff at the unit as well as continue with treatments without any hitch. Patients who are not referred who may develop need to be seen by a chaplain also get visited in between the regular visits. Our list of referrals is likely to increase as we have newer patients with diverse needs who get registered at the unit. So far it has been
successful. Most of the patients who have been referred have been brought to a level of stability in their medical care and other psycho-social challenges while the others continue to receive ongoing care. The programme also supports staff who work in a challenging environment. It is hoped that with the injection of more funds, the Living Well in Dialysis Programme will be extended to other units such as Camberwell, Forrest Hill, and Sidcup.

Cancer Chaplaincy - Revd Joshua Adewumi

Through the efforts of our Development Chaplain and the Chaplaincy Team Leader, we started a Spiritual Care Pilot programme at the Cancer Centre at Guy’s hospital. Measured over 2 years, the evidence showed we have a strong and steady demand for spiritual and pastoral care from chemotherapy patients. The results of the programme was presented to both the Cancer Survivorship Group and the Chemotherapy Patients Group. We are now moving into the Stage 2 of the pilot programme with enhanced objectives. The aim is to show that cancer patients should receive spiritual care, if they require it right from the start of illness and thereafter at each new illness stage.

We were able to perform emergency weddings for two terminal cancer patients recently. Working with other Departments, we would be having a Cancer Survivorship Day on the 24th of June. It is to appreciate Cancer survivors and remember those who have died.
Jewish Chaplaincy - Rabbi Natan Asmoucha

Rabbi Natan Asmoucha has been an NHS chaplain since 2014. He is the rabbi of Croydon and District Synagogue. He became a bank chaplain at Guy’s and St. Thomas’ Hospital Trust in 2015. His focus has been on supporting the chaplaincy team and clinical staff how to best address the needs of Jewish patients and their families, as well as providing pastoral support for patients and their families.

Since November, he has organised and lead two Jewish holy day events, Hanukah and Tu Be’shevat (New Year of the Trees), in a multi-faith context.

Jeremiah 17:14

14 Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved; for Thou art my praise

Psalms 103:2-4

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits;

3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquity; who healeth all thy diseases;

4 Who redemeth thy life from the pit; who compasseth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

1 [A Psalm] of David. Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits;

3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquity; who healeth all thy diseases;

4 Who redemeth thy life from the pit; who compasseth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;
Postgraduate Education and Training –
Revd Nana Kyei-Baffour

This report covers both the informal and formal training which we organised through the year.

Informal Training –

We gave informal training in the form of Placement and Observational Visits to 12 people. Among this lot, 7 of them were seminarians and trainee priests from the Roman Catholic and Church of England Theological Colleges while 5 were public servants who wanted to explore the healthcare chaplaincy ministry.

Formal –

(1) Volunteers Training: we organised two separate training for new volunteers. In March 2017, 10 people attended and in October 2017, 22 people attended. Among these, 5 went to other hospitals to work while others joined the GSTT Chaplaincy Volunteers Team

(2) Pg Cert: On the 3rd of May 2017, our non-accredited Trainee Assistant Chaplaincy course, which had been running for the past 13 years, was validated by London South Bank University at Post-graduate level. So on 25th September 2017, we began our first and landmark hospital-based University level accredited post-graduate course in Healthcare chaplaincy. We had 13 students from various faith and ethnic backgrounds who enrolled onto the programme. The course also received professional accreditation from the United Kingdom Board for Healthcare Chaplaincy in the same year. The course seems to have good prospects with very exciting future as we receive more enquiries and interest from the public every week. At the moment, 22 prospective students have already been admitted onto the programme for 2018/19 academic year.
Tracy Morgan and Ivan Ibuno – Postgraduate Students

“We found our time together on the course a very positive learning experience. As the first set of Post-graduate Certificate students to take the course, we highly recommend this programme run by the GSIT Department of Spiritual Health Care with London South Bank University. We are grateful to all who taught us and the administrative support team.”

"In everything, give thanks." - 1-Thessalonians 5:18
London Fire Brigade Chaplaincy

This has been a challenging year for the London Fire Brigade (LFB), with the Grenfell Tower fire being the largest loss of life in a fire incident in the UK since the Second World War. Chaplains have visited and supported firefighters at the incident and at the fire station post-incident. We have maintained a regular programme of station visits, offering pastoral and spiritual support. We need more chaplains to visit over 100 units/stations within the M25 and just outside. Please pray for the expansion of work and for the chaplains to help provide the trauma care that is needed.
New this year

Humanists

The team has grown to include Lindsay van Dijk (who left January 2018) and now includes Christopher Geake and Carrie Thomas

Other work that the Chaplaincy team is involved with:

Simulation – role playing difficult pastoral situation and helping trainee chaplains practice and hone their pastoral and spiritual skills.

Carol Singing – around the wards at Guy’s and St Thomas’ and in the community inpatient units

Memorial Services – annually for paediatrics, critical care, palliative care, renal, meso, EB. As requested for staff.

Emergency Weddings & Weddings – emergency weddings are for palliative patients and their families and we are also pleased to arrange staff weddings

Volunteers – What do GSTT chaplaincy volunteers do? Volunteer work includes:

- Sitting by Bedside – staying by bedside of dying patients who have no-one to visit them.
- Tea@3 – Run by the Mothers Union (MU), providing tea and cakes for parents in the Neonatal Unit.
- Ward/unit visits- Guy’s, St Thomas’, Evelina wards, Renal dialysis units and community inpatients. We never run out of places for volunteers to visit.
- Holy Communion/Eucharistic services – visits on Sundays and during the week every week of the year

We are always pleased to hear from people who may wish to join our team, whether as chaplaincy volunteers, fire chaplains, disaster chaplains, PG Cert students, placement students or bank chaplains. Everyone has an interview, and if accepted, will normally be placed on a shadowing and basic training course best suited to their role. Please contact Nana Kyei-Baffour on nana.kyei-baffour@gstt.nhs.uk for more information.

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