

THE
ARRHYTHMIA
SERVICE
NEWSLETTER

DEFIB NEWS!

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AUGUST 2008

ARRHYTHMIA AWARENESS WEEK

Article	Page No.
Arrhythmia Awareness Week	1
1st ICD Support Group	1
Focus Meetings	2
Contacts	2

The Arrhythmia Alliance held a parliamentary reception on 10th June 2008, to mark the launch of Arrhythmia Awareness week.



Janice and Jacqui outside the Houses of Parliament

Jacqui Kemp and Janice Bailey (BHF Arrhythmia Nurse Specialists) attended this event which aims to increase

awareness and understanding of cardiac arrhythmias and their treatments.

This event was also attended by Roger Boyle (National Director for Heart Disease and Stroke - Dept of Health).

Jacqui and Janice felt this was an excellent opportunity to help highlight the needs of Somerset Arrhythmia Patients.

1ST SOMERSET ICD SUPPORT GROUP

INVITATION



You are invited to join the
Somerset ICD Support Group



At
The Cardiology Department
Musgrove Park Hospital

2.00 to 3.30 pm
on
Saturday 27 September 2008
Hot Topic

“Living with an ICD at Home and Abroad!”

Question and Answer session with
BHF Arrhythmia Nurses

Refreshments will be provided

This is for patients with an ICD and their partners/family members/friend

RSVP by 19th September

BHF Arrhythmia Service **Tel: 01823 343595**

Janice Bailey and Jacqui Kemp
BHF Arrhythmia Nurse Specialists
Level 2 Duchess Building
Musgrove Park Hospital TAUNTON

ICD FOCUS MEETING

We had two very successful meetings at Musgrove Park Hospital to discuss the possibility of setting up an ICD support group. In total 25 patients and 17 partners/family members attended. A short presentation was given by the BHF Arrhythmia Nurses on the relevance of an ICD support group and then smaller groups allowed everyone to express their thoughts and ideas. A lively discussion then followed about issues such as venue, frequency, funding and content of meetings.

Refreshments were kindly provided by the Cardiac Catheter Lab (pm) and the regional Cardiac and Stroke Network (am).

Following this, a smaller group met to consolidate all the ideas and information gathered. *The SOMERSET ICD SUPPORT GROUP* was born!

The Somerset ICD Support Group will meet three times a year. This will rotate each time between the evenings, daytime and weekend. At each group there will be a speaker on a relevant subject, a time for Questions and Answers and a social time with refreshments. The BHF Arrhythmia Nurse Specialists will organise each meeting and will be present.

Aims of the Support Group will include:

- ♥ Enabling patients with ICD's to meet other people (whether patient or partner or family) with similar experiences, and to share worries and achievements.
- ♥ Sharing relevant, accurate information and advice regarding lifestyle and ICD's
- ♥ Wider networking via Arrhythmia Alliance

Contacts: ☎

Musgrove Park Hospital—(MPH)

Janice Bailey and Jacqui Kemp
Tel: 01823 343595
BHFarrhythmianurses@tst.nhs.uk

Yeovil District Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (YDH)

Sandy Jackson
Tel: 01935 384884
sandra.jackson@ydh.nhs.uk

Other Useful Contacts

- ♥ Pacing Sister (MPH)
Tel: 01823 333444 (bleep 2352)
- ♥ Cardiac technicians (MPH)
Tel: 01823 342953
- ♥ NHS Direct (24 hours/day)
Tel: 08454647

♥ British Heart Foundation

The British Heart Foundation is a National Charity dedicated to improving understanding of Heart Disease. "This is achieved through pioneering research, vital prevention activity and ensuring quality care and support for everyone living with heart disease."

They provide booklets, videos audio tapes and DVD's on many heart problems. They can be contacted by post, telephone or via their comprehensive website:

14 Fitzhardinge Street
London
W1H 6DH
Tel. 020 7486 5820
www.bhf.org.uk

Confidential heart information line (for information and support on anything heart related)

Tel: 08450 70 80 70

♥ Arrhythmia Alliance

The Arrhythmia Alliance is a National Charity "committed to promoting a better understanding, diagnosis, treatment and quality of life for individuals with Cardiac Arrhythmias."

They provide information booklets on many problems related to cardiac arrhythmias. They can be contacted by post, telephone or via their comprehensive website:

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Warwickshire
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www.arrhythmiaalliance.org.uk

Moderated ICD message board
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/icdsupport>

Group email
icdsupport@yahoogroups.com