

## Patient Carer & Public Involvement – what’s happening in your area?

An event to celebrate World Stroke Day took place on 24 October within **Glasgow Royal Infirmary** organised by the **Stroke Research Network**. The event was chaired by the Network’s Director and Clinical Lead, **Professor Jesse Dawson** and supported by SRN Researchers across Scotland.



Speakers from left to right:

Dr Terry Quinn; Ms Bridget Davis; Dr Satu Baylan; Mrs Theresa Clancy; Professor Jesse Dawson

With a varied programme and expert speakers the event proved to be a great success with our invited patients, families and medical staff coming together to celebrate World Stroke Day and the many advances in care and treatment for stroke patients.

**Mrs Theresa Clancy** who suffered a stroke three years ago very kindly agreed to come along and speak about her experiences since her stroke, and also more importantly, how she volunteered to take part in the Vagal Nerve Stimulation (VNS) Study. She described to the audience how she benefitted from taking part and how her arm mobility has improved since her operation to insert a device under the skin just below the collar bone. The device provides electric signals that activate the vagus nerve which is thought to cause release of important chemicals within the brain. Mrs Clancy now finds she is able to undertake tasks she previously found difficult.



Mrs Theresa Clancy

Guest speaker

**Professor Jesse Dawson said:** “World Stroke Day is a great opportunity for us to thank patients, carers and our colleagues who work so hard to try and improve care for people with stroke. Scotland is one of the world’s leading countries for stroke research and every year we make great strides forward. New treatments are being developed every year including intervention to remove blood clots from blocked arteries, novel rehabilitation techniques for arm recovery, new devices to prevent complications like blood clots in veins and new drugs to prevent further stroke.”



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Speaker Dr Terry Quinn

**Dr Terry Quinn:** *'Researchers and people affected by Stroke – working together to answer big questions in stroke'*

**Dr Terry Quinn** (chair of the SRN patient involvement group) discussed the changing landscape of stroke research, moving from a model of 'doing research to patients' to 'doing research *with* patients'. Terry discussed how stroke survivors were helping with many aspects of his program of work around post stroke cognitive decline, from setting the questions to interpreting the results.

Staff from the Stroke Research Network were assisted on the day by **Pamela MacKenzie** (Research Trials Manager) QEUH, Glasgow



Above from left to right: Pamela MacKenzie (QEUG); Karen McBurnie (SRN, Glasgow) Claire McFarlane (Manager SRN); Liz Ronald (SRN, Glasgow); Bridget Colam (SRN Edinburgh)



Above: Some of our SRN nurses

From left to right: Mandy Couser; Wilma Smith; Vicky Taylor; Lyndsey Forsyth; Nicola Day; Angela Welch

**Our nurses** do a wonderful job in recruiting and caring for our patients. SRN nurses cover sites within our health boards across Scotland.