

# Science for Patient Benefit

“Science for Patient Benefit” is a rallying cry for the invisible army of workers in healthcare science.

The campaign was needed because although nearly every patient who attends hospital will have come into contact with the activities of medical physicists, clinical engineers and technologists, from patient connected equipment they maintain through to planning radiotherapy treatment for cancer, the majority are unaware of their work and they are a largely invisible workforce, even to their peers. Incredibly, five per cent of the NHS workforce actually provides 80 per cent of diagnoses and yet healthcare scientists are the unsung heroes in the delivery of a modern, effective healthcare service to patients.

Behind every good doctor and nurse there is a great scientific team supporting all aspects of clinical work – from diagnosis to treatment to monitoring.



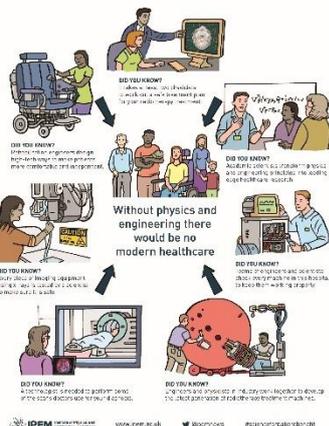
**Prof. David Brett, President  
Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine**

While Science for Patient Benefit was launched by the Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine (IPEM) specifically to raise the profile of medical physicists, clinical engineers and technologists, the time is now right to expand this to embrace all healthcare scientists, to speak with ‘One Voice’ so their crucial role in delivering a modern healthcare service can be heard by patients, the public and their healthcare colleagues.

Remember - without healthcare scientists there would be no modern healthcare.

This IPEM initiative has been shared and adopted by the AHCS Council for all HCS professional bodies to utilise and adapt – see examples below of promotional materials. The posters are easy to read and follow and they highlight the importance of the important work that we all do. The idea is that each professional body will adapt the style and content of the poster to reflect their working practice with patients.

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The IPEM posters have gone beyond UK shores. In fact the President of AHCS, Prof Brendan Cooper, personally delivered these posters to 2 hospitals in Nepal on a recent training visit. Staff in the Pathology Labs of Grande International Hospital, Kathmandu and Amppipal Hospital, Gourka District, were delighted to have their work highlighted for their patients as posters on the laboratory wall.

Prof Cooper stated that “This IPEM initiative was an excellent example of the increasing cooperation between healthcare scientists rallying around our common aims and beliefs, which is raising the awareness of our influence on all patient pathways. Our collective contribution is essential to overcome the difficulties that healthcare is having currently, across the UK and beyond.”

## **How to adopt the “Science for Patient Benefit” initiative**

You must:

- Use the ‘Science for Patient Benefit’ strapline
- Use the original artist – contact details below
- Acknowledge IPEM on all printed materials and websites

Artist contact details: Phil Elliott

Email address: [phil@elliott-design.com](mailto:phil@elliott-design.com)