



June 9th, 2016

You're all heart

The League of Friends of South Tyneside Hospitals has donated £10,680 to provide vital equipment to help diagnose symptoms in heart patients.

The latest presentation of monitors brought the total number of the devices bought by the League for South Tyneside District Hospital from six to 14.

Jakki Colwill, South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust's Cardiology service manager, said: "I would like to express a huge thank you to the League of Friends for their generous donation. These devices provide our patients with a continuous, electrocardiogram (ECG) recording, from 24 hours up to three weeks, which is a vital investigation, supplying information such as rate and rhythm of the heart. The recording enables the doctor to correlate symptoms which might not happen all the time, such as palpitations, with heart readings, and to diagnose the cause. It may show an abnormally fast or slow heart rate or an irregular rhythm that may need treatment."

The test is safe and painless and can be done as an outpatient. One type of digital device is worn on a belt around the waist. Three ECG leads from it are attached to the chest and the electrical activity of the heart is recorded whilst the patient carries out normal, daily activities. The other type is wireless and allows the patient to activate the recorder when they feel their symptoms.

ends

Pictured above: Cardiology Service Manager Jakki Colwill, centre, with left to right, Josie Wigham, Win Patterson, Sue Goddard and Margaret Whittington, of the League of Friends.

Issued on behalf of South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust by Kay Jordan

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