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Marking a decade of high quality patient care

The Endoscopy unit at South Tyneside District Hospital is celebrating a decade of providing patients with care of the highest quality.

It has once more been awarded JAG (Joint Advisory Group on Gastrointestinal Endoscopy) accreditation, which it has achieved every year since it was introduced in 2006.

JAG agrees and sets standards for competence in endoscopy practice in the UK and provides quality assurance that staff are equipped with the right skills and resources. The accreditation scheme involves assessment against recognised standards and is an excellent motivator for continual practice improvements.

South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust Chief Executive Ken Bremner said: "I'm very proud of the whole team, from consultants, registrars, trainee doctors and nurses to support staff, who consistently work to provide a high quality service for our patients. JAG accreditation is important as it takes into account patient feedback, which enables improvement and tailoring of the endoscopy experience. As the unit meets the national standards set out in JAG, endoscopy patients can remain confident that they are receiving a high quality of care."

The Endoscopy department plays host to both the Gastroenterology and General Surgery teams. The Gastroenterology team were recognised in November in the highly prestigious HSJ Awards 2016 for their global impact on clinical research. In winning the Clinical Research Impact Award, they demonstrated how they had targeted research to improve quality of care and drive innovation, which had led to patients locally and more widely being given access to the very latest treatments and technologies. The development of South Tyneside as the most active bowel cancer screening research site in the UK and a key site internationally is just one of their many achievements. The department of General Surgery has developed a centre of excellence for the treatment of bowel cancer and the team have transformed the care pathway for patients with this disease.

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Pictured above: Endoscopy unit manager Zoe Clapham with the JAG accreditation certificate, surrounded by other members of the team

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

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