

Press release - September 14th, 2017

Nurses raising awareness of deadly lung disease

To mark IPF World Week (September 16th – 24th), the Respiratory Nursing Team from South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust will be having an awareness stand in the main entrance of South Tyneside District Hospital on Tuesday 19th September from 9.30am – 3.30pm where patients, carers and healthcare professionals can learn more about Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF).

IPF is a devastating lung disease, which gradually destroys the lungs, making breathing impossible. It kills around 5,000 people every year in the UK – more than the better-known disease leukaemia - and there is no effective treatment or cure. The average life expectancy from diagnosis to death is between 3 and 5 years.

The team are also hosting a quiz night at the New Crown, Mowbray Road, South Shields at 8pm on Tuesday 19th September. All are welcome – its £2 to enter the quiz, there will also be a raffle.

Beverley Robson, Respiratory Nurse Specialist at South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust said: “For someone with IPF a walk to the toilet is like a ten-mile run – simple, everyday tasks become major undertakings. During IPF Week we’re hoping to raise awareness of the disease and provide patients, carers and healthcare professionals with information.”

Ends

Issued on behalf of South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust by **Sharon Emms**
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