

**PRESS RELEASE – April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Wireless is way forward for South Tyneside heart patients**



Exciting potential developments for South Tyneside’s heart patients linked to wireless technology will be highlighted at a meeting for members of South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust on Thursday (*April 12<sup>th</sup>*).

Dr Mickey Jachuck, Consultant Cardiologist & Physician at South Tyneside District Hospital, explained: “Wireless technology plays an integral role in many aspects of our lives today and, whilst the basic principles of cardiac pacemaking have changed very little since the first pacemaker was implanted in 1958, wireless technology is increasingly being adopted in cardiac implantable electronic device (CIED) therapies.”

Already, the Cardiology team at the hospital is using wireless transmitters in patients' homes, similar to a broadband router. These enable data from the implanted device to be sent to a secure server and it can then be accessed by the team and viewed in real time.

Dr Jachuck said: "Wireless technology offers several advantages, for example, reducing the need for patients to attend hospital for routine visits and allowing for earlier detection of problems. Just as the smartphone has revolutionised telecommunications, fundamentally changing both how and what we communicate, in the next few years we will, doubtless, see more advances in the use of wireless technology to manage diagnostic information in patients with implanted devices, which is a very exciting prospect."

Dr Jachuck's talk, '*Cardiac Devices – a wireless future?*', will be on Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, at 2.30pm in the Lecture Theatre in the Education Centre at the hospital.

Medicine for Members meetings are an opportunity to find out about the work of South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust. Anyone wishing to attend is asked to contact the membership line on 0191 2024121 during office hours or to leave a message. This is also the number to ring if you are not currently a member but would like to find out more about joining. The Trust provides hospital services in South Tyneside and community health services in South Tyneside, Sunderland and Gateshead. Membership is free and is open to North East residents who are over the age of 16. Members receive regular updates about the work of the Trust and are invited to events, meetings and presentations on health issues.

## **Ends**

*Photo caption: Dr Mickey Jachuck, Consultant Cardiologist & Physician at South Tyneside District Hospital*

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

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