<https://www.medway.nhs.uk/news/national-recognition-for-new-training-scheme/80595>

National recognition for new training scheme



A new training programme helping overseas trained doctors get to grips with delivering NHS care in Medway has been recognised at two major national healthcare awards.

Implemented by Dr Manisha Shah and our Simulation Team, the ‘Medical Training Initiative (MTI) for Overseas Physicians’ was highly commended in the education category at the BMJ Awards on 24 April 2019, and is also in the running for ‘Training and Development Initiative of the Year’ at the HSJ Value Awards on 23 May 2019.

With a national shortage of doctors, overseas trained medics can help hospitals fill staffing gaps – but the change to working in an NHS environment is not always easy.

Dr Shah explains: “Doctors are experts in providing medical care, but in many countries they are used to being the only perspective in delivering that care.

“Listening to what patients want and what other doctors think, not just making a decision just on their own judgement, isn’t how some doctors are trained in other countries.

‘’Our training programme supports overseas trained doctors in developing communications skills to listen to patients and colleagues, but also giving them the confidence to assess their own expertise in a collaborative way,” she adds.

The MTI is delivered in just one week through a mixture of talks and hands-on simulation exercises, supporting doctors to fit in with NHS culture, working practices and values.

As well as communication, the course develops decision-making, teamwork and leadership skills, along with confidence on some clinical care procedures that are less common outside of the NHS.

Dr Shah adds: “These are great doctors, who are able to provide our patients the great care they deserve. We are just developing their confidence and skills to so they can give their best in an NHS environment.”