

JOIN THE CLINICAL EXPERTISE NETWORK

NHS Innovations East, with support from the Health Innovation Education Cluster and the UK Intellectual Property Office, is appealing to NHS professionals across the UK to help shape future medical technology by joining Clinical Insights, a network of clinical stakeholders wishing to influence product development.

Expert clinical opinion is vital to the medical technology industry in order to ensure clinical needs are addressed and new products are 'fit for purpose'. By joining Clinical Insights, you will have an opportunity to engage with industry, providing real-world insights.

NHS Innovations East recently won £52,000 in the 2012 Fast Forward Awards to help progress Clinical Insights and accelerate interactions between the NHS and industry.

www.clinical-insight.com



ANALYSER TRAINING ONLINE FROM HORIBA

The implementation of HORIBA Medical UK's online training programme for its haematology analysers has been a great success at Spire Pathology Services. HORIBA Medical's ABX Pentra 80 haematology analysers help Spire Pathology Services to test more than 1.8 million samples each year in its 18 laboratories, for hospitals within the Spire Healthcare Group as well as external customers.

One of the biggest challenges is ensuring all appropriate personnel are fully trained and certified to use the analysers. Spire adopted the HORIBA e-Learning Portal (HeLP) to complement its on-site and classroom-based learning. A computer-based, online programme, this not only improves the accessibility of training for staff working shifts and on-call, but also facilitates a multidisciplinary approach to blood analysis.

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BLOOD GAS SYSTEM PREVENTS CLOTS

The clot protection capabilities of the Roche cobas b 123 point of care system have been highlighted in an evaluation undertaken in the intensive care unit at Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport NHS Foundation Trust. Clotting of samples is always a concern in point of care testing systems, and can lead to delayed results or treatment, inconvenient analyser downtime and increased stress and work for hospital staff. The evaluation analysed 175 patient samples, including about 30 samples that were considered 'high risk' for clotting. Tests were performed by nursing staff and quality control testing was performed automatically by AutoQC twice per day.

'We never had a problem with clots throughout the entire evaluation, despite using a wide variety of samples of varying condition and age,' said Samantha Ekin, Point of Care Co-ordinator at the Trust.

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NEW OPTIONS FOR ANEURYSM FOLLOW-UP

The Western General Hospital in Edinburgh, part of NHS Lothian, has installed an Artis zee biplane system from Siemens Healthcare. Located in the angiography suite of the Department of Clinical Neurology, the system extends the range of procedures that the hospital can now undertake because of its excellent image quality and range of three-dimensional applications. The Artis zee system provides excellent results in the diagnosis and treatment of aneurysms, arteriovenous malformations and spinal vascular disease.

Siemens syngo DynaCT provides three-dimensional soft tissue imaging directly within the interventional suite virtually avoiding patient transfers to computed tomography and greatly expanding diagnostic and therapeutic capabilities in neuroradiology.

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