



18 August, 2017

For immediate release

National award for medical educator

Dr Eleri Clissold works hard to ensure young doctors receive the highest possible level of training at Waitemata DHB.

Her efforts to develop and enhance training systems and materials were today honoured with a national Open for Leadership Award from The Health Quality and Safety New Zealand Commission (HQSC).

The award recognises, celebrates and shares the work of emerging health leaders whose efforts have made a difference to patient care.

Dr Clissold was presented with a trophy and certificate by Associate Minister of Health Hon Peter Dunne at North Shore Hospital.

HQSC has also offered her a place at one of its forthcoming events.

Dr Clissold is as proactive about patient care as it is possible to be.

That's why she volunteered to join the crew of a hospital vessel delivering health care through the Mercy Ships organisation to some of the world's poorest people in Africa after graduating from a UK medical school in 2013.

It's also why she took a job in the Medical Education and Training Unit at North Shore Hospital two years later after immigrating to New Zealand.

She soon immersed herself in a number of ground-breaking training initiatives as a Fellow of the Waitemata DHB's Institute for Innovation and Improvement (i3).

Among those initiatives was the design and implementation of a teaching programme for post-graduate year-two doctors with a focus on quality and safety of patient care.

"A highly skilled clinical work force directly translates to better patient outcomes which is why I am drawn to medical education," she says. "The Fellow's programme gives early career professionals an opportunity to gain experience working on the system rather than in it. It enabled me to do all the work that is now being acknowledged by this award."

Dr Clissold is now employed in the urgent care department of Apollo Medical on Auckland's North Shore but continues to work part-time at i3.

Today's ceremony recognises her efforts to develop and enhance training experiences for post graduate year -two and junior doctors.

It also acknowledges her part in trialling virtual reality technology as a learning tool.

“Virtual reality brings aspects of medical training to life in a highly engaging and interactive way,” she says. “This work is ongoing and I am now part of a team researching and developing its use in junior doctor education.”

Waitemata DHB Chief Executive Dr Dale Bramley says Dr Clissold’s example epitomises the DHB’s organisational goal to be better best and brilliant in all that it does.

“Our DHB supports the training needs of nearly 7000 people who are tasked with providing quality patient care to a population of over 600,000.

“This award recognises the high value we place on training and developing that workforce to constantly put patients first and make us a national leader in healthcare delivery.

“Dr Clissold’s work with and through our Institute for Innovation and Improvement is very much an example of Waitemata – the largest DHB in the country – providing an environment where improved patient care is absolutely paramount.”

Caption: Dr Eleri Clissold is the recipient of a national Open for Leadership Award from The Health Quality and Safety New Zealand Commission (HQSC)

Ends

For further information contact:

Waitemata DHB Media Line

Ph. 4871276