

Wanted! Just a few minutes of your time



June James

June James is Consultant Nurse in Diabetes University Hospitals of Leicester, Leicester

Yes, DSNs, I'm just asking for you to spend 15 minutes to register with the Diabetes UK DSN Consultative Group and complete the 2012 DSN Workforce Survey.

Why? Because times are tough for DSNs and likely to get harder with new employers, service redesigns, job freezes and cuts.

DSNs need to reinvent themselves to meet the needs of clinical commissioning groups and people with diabetes. Many work in isolation and, since the demise of the Directory of Diabetes Nurses, DSNs are harder to find. The annual workforce survey captures all the information needed for Diabetes UK, NHS Diabetes, the RCN and other professional bodies to work on your behalf to promote DSN posts. It will highlight where there are gaps in workforce and services to the detriment of people living with diabetes. The survey

closes on 10 February and can be completed online at <http://svy.mk/xQlfIA>.

Last year's survey had a really poor response, with just 500 DSNs taking the time to complete it. These numbers do not adequately reflect what is happening in the real world of diabetes nursing and make it difficult for national groups to act on your behalf in times of significant financial challenges

You do not have to be a member of Diabetes UK to be included on the Consultative Group. Once registered, you will have a voice and be able to contribute to issues that affect you and your patients. Diabetes UK will also ensure that any issues relating to your profession are sent directly to you. To register to join the Consultative Group, visit <http://bit.ly/zR0V6f>.

For more information, contact June James at JJJames2@NHS.net. ■

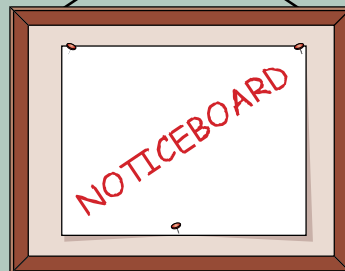


Maureen Wallymahmed, Nurse Consultant, Liverpool

Do you ever wonder if other people are doing the same as you and that you might just be re-inventing the wheel?

Now is your chance to find out by using the Noticeboard section in the *Journal of Diabetes Nursing*. As a member of the journal's editorial board, I know that this feature creates a welcome opportunity for nurses involved in diabetes care to pose a quick question or share a fleeting thought with other healthcare professionals without having to write a whole article or phone round an array of colleagues.

Noticeboard is a place for people to share requests,



thoughts and ideas. Please send any questions or answers you may have to:

Maureen Wallymahmed, Noticeboard, SB Communications Group, 1.03 Enterprise House,

1-2 Hatfields, London SE1 9PG

Tel: 020 7627 1510; Fax: 020 7627 1570

Email: jdn@sbcommunicationsgroup.com

Supporting the travelling community

Q Does anyone have any experience with supporting people who are part of a travelling community, more specifically the Romanian Roma travelling community?

If so how have you managed to engage them?

Jackie Webb, Birmingham