The Chilvers Renal Nursing Award

Award: Jenny Williams  
Staff Nurse, Department of Nephrology, Morriston NHS Trust, Swansea  

Jenny Williams was described by one of the judges as a ‘wonderful nurse’, not only for her innovative change to the Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis (CAPD) catheter exit site, but also for her determination, as a recently qualified staff nurse, to challenge current practice. Jenny recognised that an increase in infection rates in renal patients with newly inserted Tenckhoff catheters called for methods to be reviewed. The new procedure has resulted in the reduction of infection and discomfort for patients and has created more nursing time which can be used to improve named nurse/patient relationships. Jenny’s inspiring work demonstrates the way in which clinical nurses should be evaluating their everyday practice.

Community Nursing Award

Award: Nancye Carr  
Practice Nurse, Birtley Medical Centre, Birtley, County Durham  

Nancye Carr initiated a nurse-led oral anticoagulation clinic, providing a service for clients who previously had to undertake lengthy journeys to hospital and, once there, face an impersonal and reactive service. The clinic was met with enthusiasm from patients; however, it highlighted a number of pitfalls in anticoagulant management, not least the fact that some clients, ‘lost’ in the system, were not being monitored. Nancye has obtained funding for a decision support computerised package and a ‘coagucheck’ machine which will standardise client care, reduce the incidence of Warfarin side effects and encourage client participation and education. With the current demand for primary rather than secondary care, Nancye warns that nurses must prepare for this and not merely respond to situations as they occur.

Commendation: Liz Quinn  
Liz Quinn, Senior Practice Nurse at The Albert Road Surgery, Cleethorpes, north-east Lincolnshire, is awarded a commendation for designing a new clinic for patients with existing coronary heart disease, a task she completed in an impressive nine months.