



Press Release

For immediate release

7th September 2017

Lindsay Leg Club Foundation adds two new consultants to its team of experts

The Lindsay Leg Club Foundation (LLCF) is delighted to announce that two new consultant advisers have joined its team of experts.

Liz Grogan is Senior Infection Prevention Nurse Specialist at Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust and Prof. Mark Whiteley MS FRCS (Gen) is a Consultant Vascular Surgeon and founder of The Whiteley Clinics and the Leg Ulcer Charity.

A highly experienced infection prevention nurse, Liz was introduced to the Lindsay Leg Club Foundation when working with commissioners from her local CCG in Leeds to set up a Leg Club. Liz was impressed with the way the Leg Club treated patients holistically and the potential it had to impact their mental health and overall wellbeing. In addition, she found bringing patients, either those with existing leg ulcer problems or those at risk of developing one, together with nursing staff in a community setting to be a highly effective programme for the local area which encouraged her to become involved at a national level.

Prof Mark Whiteley is a specialist in venous disease and the founder of the Leg Ulcer Charity. A joint conference between the LLCF and the Leg Ulcer Charity was held in early 2017 where, despite differences in approach, the

two charities found the experience and exchange of ideas to be extremely useful. Consequently, Ellie Lindsay and Prof Whiteley decided to offer their skills and expertise to each other's organisation, forming a symbiotic relationship that would to enhance everybody's understanding and practice for the benefit of patients.

Liz Grogan said: "Leg Clubs are not just a fantastic way of providing holistic treatment within the community. They also offer a positive learning opportunity for the staff involved, bringing them to a location where they can share evidence based practice with other nurses and HCAs. In my role as consultant advisor I am really looking forward to sharing infection prevention best practice to facilitate the continued clinical integration and bringing together of communities the LLCF encourages."

Prof. Mark Whiteley said: "I am excited to be forming this new relationship with the Leg Club Foundation and I am sure that the exchange of ideas and knowledge between our two charities will be an extremely useful and positive experience."

Ellie Lindsay OBE, Lifetime President of the LLCF, said: "We are delighted to have Liz Grogan and Prof. Mark Whiteley as consultant advisors. Their input and expertise will be without doubt hugely supportive and beneficial to the Foundation."

Notes to editors:

1) Leg ulcers (and other chronic leg problems like lymphoedema) can affect people at any age, but are particularly common in people over 60. At present, over 80 per cent of all leg ulcers are treated in patients' own homes by district nurses or by practice nurses in GP surgeries. However, patients often find it difficult to adhere to treatment plans, or to maintain the preventive measures needed to avert recurrence of the ulcer. Many leg ulcers consequently reoccur, or remain unhealed for many months or even years.

2) The Lindsay Leg Club Foundation exists to promote the national development of Leg Clubs. The Foundation also provides the necessary support and training for nurses to establish Leg Clubs and follow the Foundation's guidelines, as well as ongoing training in new developments in leg care.

3) The Leg Club is an innovative model of care that has been shown to improve the health and wellbeing of people with chronic leg conditions. By healing chronic leg wounds and keeping them healed, Leg Clubs also have the potential to save commissioners up to 80 per cent of their wound care budget in comparison with conventional leg ulcer treatment. A Leg Club is a local partnership between community nurses, patients and members of the community. Run by a committee of members and local people, each Leg Club operates according to strict guidelines of care, monitored by the Lindsay Leg Club Foundation. The Leg Club title, the wording and logo are protected by Registered Trade Mark in the UK and Australia.

For further information about the Leg Club Foundation and Leg Clubs visit: www.legclub.org

For media enquiries please contact: Juliette Lobley, Communications Consultant, The Lindsay Leg Club Foundation, email: Juliette.lobley@legclubfoundation.com