



Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Birmingham Doctor Wins Medical Educator of the Year

A Birmingham doctor has won Medical Educator of the Year at a national awards ceremony for his work to educate those supporting people struggling with mental illness.

Dr Sohail Zafar, Consultant Psychiatrist at Cygnet Raglan House, in Smethwick, an inpatient rehabilitation hospital for women with mental health problems, was singled out during the Cygnet Annual Psychiatrists Conference and National Awards 2022 for his dedication to the education of others working in mental health.

Presenting the award, Subodh Dave, Dean of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, said: “Dr Zafar has been one of the CPD Programme Organisers for the last seven years and played a key role in setting up the Midlands CPD Programme. He has been widely appreciated by his colleagues in conducting one of the best teaching sessions in the UK.

“He liaises with speakers in and outside of Cygnet Health Care and also leads the West Midlands Peer Group.”

Upon receiving his award, Dr Zafar, who has worked for Cygnet Health Care since 2010, said he was extremely proud to receive the award.

He added: “I started this CPD teaching for doctors and other staff in 2014, the longest running CPD program by any educator in Cygnet Health Care. It is very pleasing to see how much I have been appreciated by my organisation and colleagues.”

One of his most significant achievements to date is to have drafted the Daily Risk Assessment tool (DRA) which is used daily in all Cygnet hospitals for assessing the daily risk level in services. He also helped draft the modified Global Assessment Progress tool (GAP) which is used to assess the progress of patients in Cygnet hospitals. GAP is a key tool that acts as a measurement of service users’ achievements and how far they are in their journey to discharge.

Dr Tony Romero, CEO of Cygnet Health Care, said: “We are a clinically-led organisation and doctors are the engine here at Cygnet.

“These awards recognise the achievements and the difference that motivated, compassionate and value-driven doctors and their teams make for our services users and our residents every single day.”

“We have seen so many wonderful examples of our doctors and other clinicians, going above and beyond over the last year and stepping up to work beyond their role and sacrifice their time and dedication for the benefit of the individuals in their care.

“It makes me proud to be the CEO of these exceptional individuals who are a living embodiment of our values at Cygnet. In particular, Dr Zafar has demonstrated an extraordinary level of commitment to support the education of other. We are extremely lucky to have him with us and to witness the positive difference he makes to our service users each and every day.”

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Notes to Editors:

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About Cygnet Health Care

Cygnet Health Care has been providing a national network of high-quality, specialised mental health services for the NHS and local authorities for the past 30 years.

Cygnet Health Care’s pioneering services support people with complex and acute mental health needs across the UK.

As one of the best quality providers in mental health services in the country, Cygnet Health Care’s focus is always on the best outcomes for those who use or commission its services. 85% of Cygnet’s facilities are rated as good or outstanding, which is above the national average.

www.cygnethealth.co.uk