



Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Stevenage Doctor Wins Outstanding Achievement Award

A Stevenage doctor has won an Outstanding Achievement award at a national awards ceremony for his work over the past 20 years to support people struggling with mental illness.

Dr Maqsood Ahmad, Medical Director at Cygnet Hospital Stevenage, a specialist inpatient mental health service on Graveley Road for men and women with mental health problems, was singled out during the Cygnet Annual Psychiatrists Conference and National Awards 2022 for his dedication to supporting service users on their recovery journey.

Organised by Cygnet Health Care, one of the UK's largest independent providers of specialised mental health services for the NHS and local authorities, the awards recognise excellence in the healthcare industry.

Upon receiving his 'Swan' award for Outstanding Achievement, Dr Ahmad, who has worked at Cygnet Hospital Stevenage since 2014, said: "Winning the Swan Award for Outstanding Achievement in Psychiatry 2022 meant the world to me.

"Hearing Dr Tony Romero, our CEO, explain how fortunate he felt the organisation was to have me on board was the icing on the cake. I try every day to make a difference to the lives of those we support and winning this award filled me with pride."

Dr Ahmad completed his higher psychiatric training in London, and was appointed as a Consultant Psychiatrist at Charing Cross Hospital, London; one of the major teaching hospitals in the country. During his time in this post, he was given association with the Imperial College as an Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer in recognition of his valuable contribution to both research and teaching.

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 difference our motivated, compassionate and value-driven doctors and teams make for our services users 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.

"As CEO I am proud to count these exceptional individuals as colleagues who exemplify our values at Cygnet. This accolade is testament to the hard work, commitment and dedication of Dr Ahmad.

"At Cygnet Health Care, we strive to provide the highest quality and standard of care and always put our service users at the heart of what we do. This is demonstrated impeccably by Dr Ahmad."

Dr Ahmad joined Cygnet Hospital Stevenage from Alpha Hospitals, an independent provider of medium/low secure and mental health rehabilitation services. He worked there for over seven years as a Consultant Psychiatrist and Clinical Director, and helped develop their medium secure mental illness and low secure PD services from scratch. Previously he played a pivotal role in establishing a brand new psychiatric intensive care unit (PICU) in Goodmayes Hospital, North East London NHS Foundation Trust.

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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.

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