Effective Health Care

CONTACT · HELP · ADVICE · INFORMATION · NETWORK

c.h.a.i.n.

How can C.H.A.I.N.s (Contact, Help, Advice & Information Networks) support Work-based Learning?

In what ways can N.H.S.U. be using 'C.H.A.I.N. 1', and how can we make maximise the potential of 'C.H.A.I.N. 2'?

David Evans, Lead, NHSU C.H.A.I.N.s Development, NHSU

This session will...

- ◆ describe the C.H.A.I.N. background, approach and plans within NHSU
- ◆ demonstrate the network directory
- ◆ consider how we can be using it now
- ◆ consider how we ensure that a second network (C.H.A.I.N. 2) is most effective in supporting work-based learning

Origins of C.H.A.I.N (1)

- NHS Research & Devt. Programme

- lack of *map* of people involved in research, evidence based practice (EBP), & related education/training

- need for channel of communication *with* and *between* interested people researchers, clinicians, teachers +++

Purposes of C.H.A.I.N. (1)

- show *who* is interested in *what*
- facilitate *multi-professional* and *inter-organisational* collaboration
- remove barriers between research and practice - potential benefits for both the service *and* research
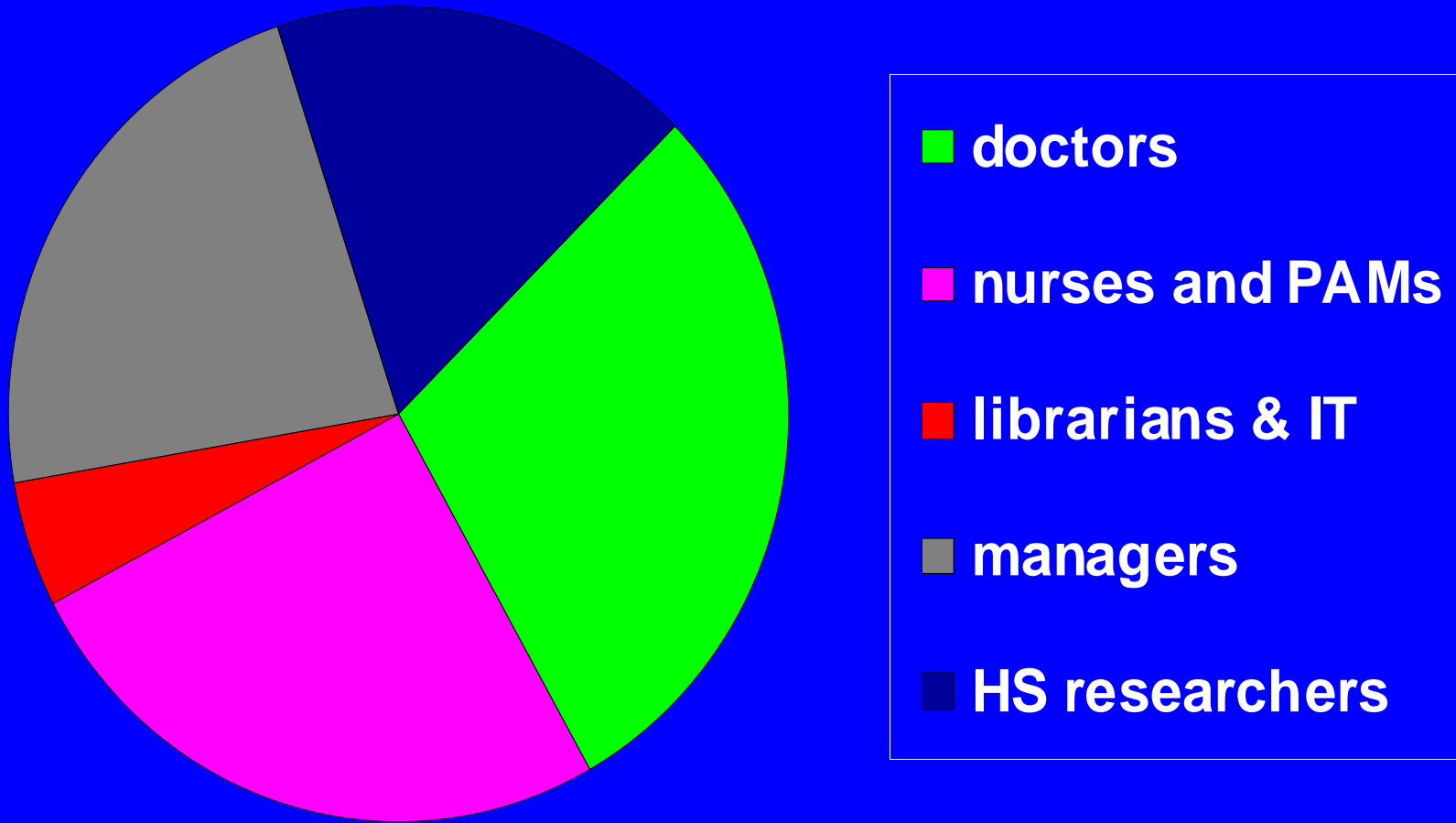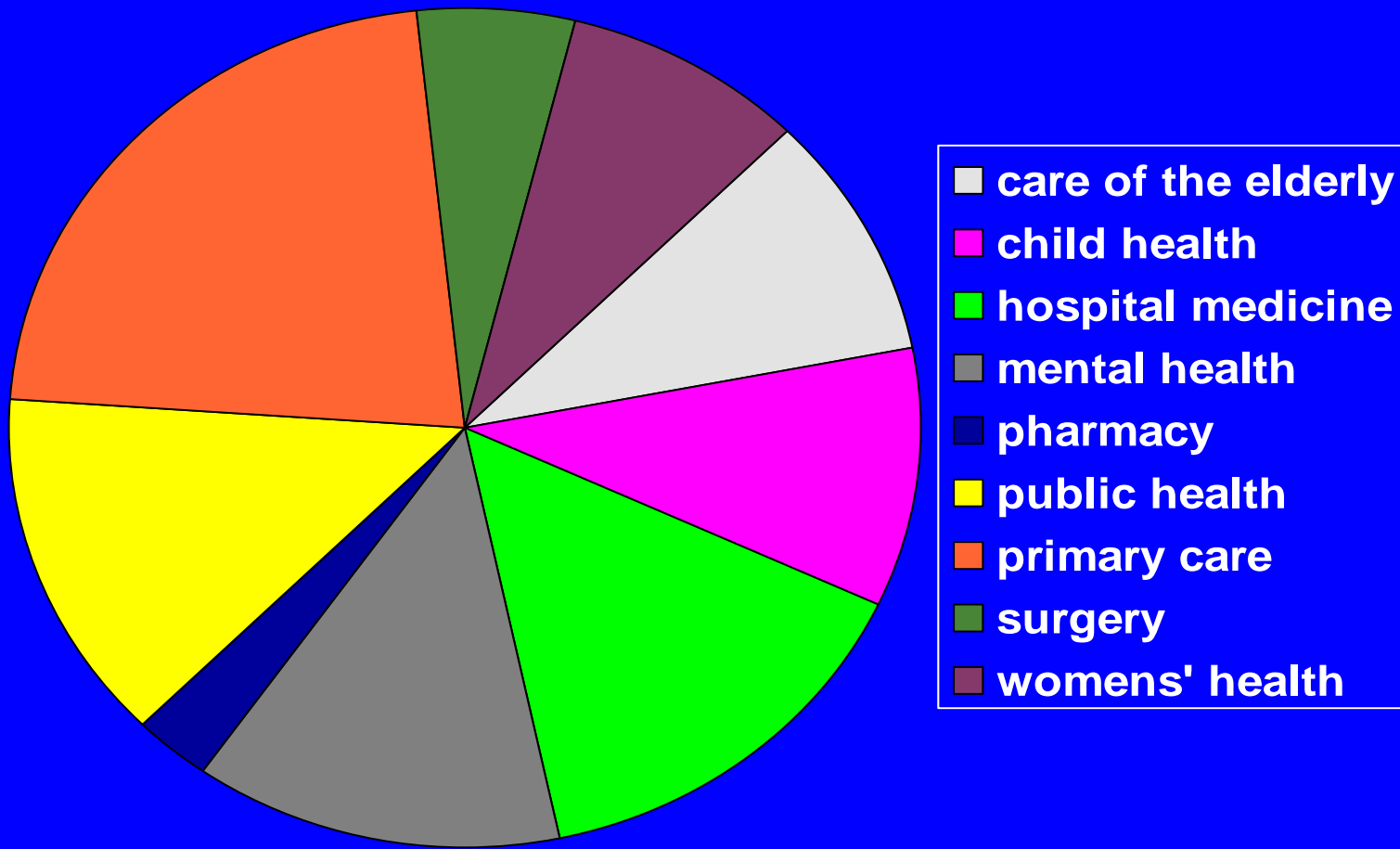
C.H.A.I.N.(1) membership*

- doctors
- nurses and PAMs
- librarians & IT
- managers
- HS researchers

diagram as at May 2002, N=2730

C.H.A.I.N.(1) members' main interests / specialties*

Legend:
- care of the elderly
- child health
- hospital medicine
- mental health
- pharmacy
- public health
- primary care
- surgery
- womens' health

*diagram as at May 2002, N=2730

The C.H.A.I.N.(1) Directory...

- ◆ internet access (password protected)
- ◆ a *free* resource for *all* members
- ◆ *not* available in libraries or intranets
- ◆ *not* like a phone directory
- ◆ *not* like an e-mail discussion group
- ◆ *definitely not* like *Medline* or *Cochrane*

Targeted messages

◆ members' calls for help - evidence sought

◆ calls for help - advice/examples/policies sought

◆ calls for help - collaborators sought

◆ offers of bursaries, studentships, awards etc.

◆ research calls/funding opportunities

◆ invitations to participate in relevant events

◆ targeted dissemination

C.H.A.I.N.(1) members...

- ◆ motivated & responsive to messages
- ◆ like to broadcast, (but appreciate targeting)
- ◆ pleased with search results
- ◆ pleased with responses to queries
- ◆ pleased to hear of funding & training
- ◆ find it quick and easy
- ◆ evaluated and shown to be effective
- ◆ unparalleled pool of tacit knowledge - > a lifetime's worth of intelligence

C.H.A.I.N. (1) Directory Demonstration

Today - C.H.A.I.N. (1) *in* NHSU

◆ identification of learning needs

◆ recruitment of potential teachers, mentors

◆ rapid consultation on syllabus etc.

◆ peer review of course material

◆ spreading the word about NHSU

◆ *existing* network of 3000 allies in the field

◆ a tool for managing *local* networks

◆ creating events like this

◆ other suggestions???

Tomorrow - *NHSU C.H.A.I.N.s...*

- multiple C.H.A.I.N.s with a range of themes
- *Workplace Based Learning - C.H.A.I.N. (2)*
- Identifiable, coherent communities
- voluntary, facilitated networking & support
- Cross-fertilisation *between* communities
- A tested and effective means of supporting **learning communities**

C.H.A.I.N. (2) - What do we need to capture?

- Basic contact information

- role of individual with regard to WBL - educator/assessor/learner

- about the WBL, eg is it evaluated?

- What else would help you decide whether someone is likely to be a useful contact???

C.H.A.I.N. (2) How might it be used to support WBL?

- ◆ engaging members in mining data
- ◆ sharing innovative ideas
- ◆ exploring patterns of work conducive to WBL
- ◆ sharing information on the mechanisms used by organisations which have been effective in WBL (overcoming barriers)
- ◆ other suggestions???

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CONTACT HELP ADVICE INFORMATION NETWORK

See C.H.A.I.N. website:
http://chain.ulcc.ac.uk/chain/chain.htm

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