

“Personal and Professional Development – An Ideal Partnership”

The Wellington Hospital 18th May 2010

A Seminar for Private Medical Secretaries

After cocktails and tasty food, Dr. Abina O’Callaghan, Consultant in Pain Medicine and LCA Trustee introduced Julie McLean to the 20 medical secretaries attending.

Julie was born in rural Scotland in the 60’s and was destined; it would appear, from an early age, for a career in classical singing. After a world premier opera appearance in London in the early 80’s and a tour with a company abroad, she decided this was not her dream after all. Her other major interest was the world of medicine, so it was off to secretarial school, then a course in medical terminology. Her first post was as secretary to a Consultant Medical Oncologist. Since then she has enjoyed a fascinating career, ranging from posts in paediatric metabolic diseases, private general practice and latterly, as the practice manager of a high end private women’s health centre in Fulham, which she helped to set up. Her other achievements include secretarial recruitment for Consultants in private practice and organizing health care conferences.

Today she works alongside ‘PPM’ Software, promoting and demonstrating the programme to consultants and their secretaries in London and the South East. She has just been assigned a regular column in Independent Practitioner Today Magazine, answering readers’ non-clinical questions related to admin and HR. See her four page spread in the April 2010 issue, entitled ‘Is Your Secretary good for your £health?’, which is both helpful and controversial.

In her presentation ‘Personal and Professional Development – An Ideal Partnership’, Julie showed us how our personal life and interests can positively influence our career and standard of work and how we can turn the life/work balance from a battle into a partnership.