

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **POOLE HOSPITAL CONSULTANT RECEIVES VISITING PROFESSORSHIP FOLLOWING PIONEERING RESEARCH**

A Cardiology Consultant at Poole Hospital has been awarded a visiting professorship by Bournemouth University following a ground-breaking research project into the link between heart problems, diabetes and hypoglycaemia (low blood sugar).

Dr Kim Greaves and his research fellow Dr Omar Rana designed a study to measure blood supply to the heart under low blood sugar conditions in chronically ill hospital patients and people with diabetes.

The results of the study – which was conducted using state-of-the-art echocardiography – indicated that hypoglycaemia causes a 25% reduction in blood supply to the heart, and found that this may be caused by the body's production of a particular chemical. The findings will now be used to aid research into drugs that might inhibit the effect of this chemical and thereby prevent heart problems.

Dr Greaves and Dr Rana worked with Bournemouth University, Southampton University, Imperial College and the Poole Diabetes Centre on the study.

Dr Greaves, who will become a Professor in recognition of his work, said: "I am pleased to have been awarded an honorary professorship by Bournemouth University, which goes some way towards recognising the cutting edge work of my research team and the support of the cardiology department as a whole at Poole. The research into hypoglycaemia and heart problems produced some extremely interesting results, and the findings will now help us to look for a treatment that will help prevent these particular patients from suffering heart attacks."

Dr Gail Thomas, Dean of Bournemouth University's School of Health & Social Care added: "Dr Greaves has met the criteria for Visiting Professorship through his impressive contribution to clinical research and we are delighted that he is keen to work more closely with colleagues in the Centre for Postgraduate Medical Research and Education. We look forward to his increasing collaboration with our academics in this and other important research areas."

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**Note to Editors:**

**Poole Hospital NHS Trust is an acute general hospital with 789 beds. The Hospital mainly serves the 272,000 people living in Poole, East Dorset and Purbeck. It is the major trauma centre for East Dorset and provides a broad range of district hospital care and a number of core services - ear, nose & throat, child health and maternity - for a wider catchment area, including Bournemouth and Christchurch. The Hospital also provides specialist services, such as oral surgery and neurological care, for the whole of Dorset, and is the Cancer Centre for Dorset.**

**We have a unique philosophy embedded in the 'Poole Approach'. This has shaped its development as a friendly, patient-centred organisation that continually strives to improve services**

**Last year we treated 46,815 inpatients, 17,597 day cases, 172,710 out patients and 56,557 people attended accident and emergency. At least 85 per cent of admissions are unplanned emergency cases. As the major trauma centre for East Dorset, the Hospital provides services for all medical, elderly, surgical and child health emergency admissions.**

**Poole Hospital became an NHS Foundation Trust in November 2007. To join us as a member or for more information please visit [www.poole.nhs.uk](http://www.poole.nhs.uk)**