



11 August 2009

Dear Colleague

**DEVELOPMENT OF RCN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH WALES**

I am writing to introduce myself as the Chair of RCN Occupational Health Wales. The group originated from a vision by the late Lynda Spear to bring together the views of all occupational health nurses and technicians in Wales. The three key aims are to:

- Represent the views of occupational health nurses and technicians practising in Wales
- Influence Occupational Health Policy at Government and Corporate level
- Promote excellence in occupational health practice

Since the group's original inception there have been many changes in the political arena within the United Kingdom. Significantly, the profile of occupational health has been considerably raised in Wales. This is in part due to the Government's Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the publication of Dame Carol Black report in 2008 "Working for a Healthier Tomorrow"; which focused attention on the important role of the workplace in promoting and protecting the health of the working population. Credit must also be given to the hard work and tenacity of occupational health professionals who strive to provide excellent services, in often challenging situations.

I am keen to open dialogue with all occupational health professionals and representative groups in Wales, in order to progress our aims and work cohesively to influence the direction of Public Health. Please see our web page for further information [www.occupationalhealthwales.org](http://www.occupationalhealthwales.org)

I look forward to hearing from you with your views of how we can work together in the future.

Yours sincerely

*Caroline Whittaker*

Caroline Whittaker RRC RSCPHN (OH)  
Chair RCN Occupational Health Wales



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