

# Media Information

Press release  
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## **LOCAL PEOPLE URGED TO CHAMPION BORDERS HEALTH HEROES FOR NATIONAL AWARDS**

Nominations sought for Scottish Health Awards 2010

Nominations are now open for the Scottish Health Awards 2010 as the judges begin their search for Scotland's best health workers and unsung heroes who deliver quality healthcare and excellent patient treatment every day.

To make sure that the Border's finest healthcare teams and individuals are recognised local people are being urged to nominate their healthcare heroes for an accolade at this year's award ceremony.

The Scottish Health Awards 2010 acknowledge and reward NHS workers and volunteers who have helped to transform lives, cure illnesses, advance services or improve people's healthcare experience. There is an award category to celebrate the commitment of loyal staff from across every area of healthcare.

The awards are open to NHS staff and volunteers who work in any healthcare setting from hospitals and dental surgeries to GP practices or in the local community.

Have you spotted the hard work and commitment of staff such as therapists, GPs, specialist carers or the cleaners and cooks who expertly deliver an outstanding service or help make healthcare more pleasant? If so, this is your chance to nominate individuals who work tirelessly behind the scenes of NHSScotland.

Cabinet Secretary for Health & Wellbeing, Nicola Sturgeon said:

"All of us will know someone special who works tirelessly in our NHS to help people across Scotland. These Awards provide us with the opportunity to recognise dedicated and innovative staff, wherever in the health service they work, who every day go that extra mile to provide the very best of healthcare.

“I would encourage people to take the chance to nominate that person for an award.”

Mary Wilson, NHS Borders Chair said: “I know from the many letters we receive from patients and carers that the care and commitment our staff show is appreciated. These annual awards give an opportunity for patients and staff to nominate staff members who have gone that extra mile. I do hope you will take this opportunity to make your nomination if you feel you have received excellent care.”

To nominate your healthcare hero visit [www.scottishhealthawards.com](http://www.scottishhealthawards.com). All nominations must be received no later than Monday 6 September 2010.

### **NOTE TO NEWS EDITORS –**

A specially selected panel of judges will select three finalists in every category. The finalists will be invited to attend an awards ceremony at Edinburgh Corn Exchange on Thursday 11 November.

The categories for nominations are outlined below.

#### Categories:

Please note that nominees must work for NHS Scotland, with the exception of NHS Health & Life Improvement, Volunteers, Community Care and Unsung Hero Awards where nominations are open to everyone.

Doctors Award – both doctors and nurses in practices or hospitals across Scotland

Nurses Award – nursing teams in general care, community care or specialist care

Therapists Award – range of therapists from physiotherapy to dental hygiene

Unsung Hero Award – getting on with their work but bringing much more to their job

Support Workers Award – ranging from auxiliaries, cleaners, porters – there’s so many

Volunteers Award – unpaid assistance that makes healthcare experience so much better

Top Team Award – Scotland’s top NHS team can come from any service in the country

Older People Care Award – making life easier and more comfortable for older people

Mental Health Care Award – working with vulnerable members of our communities

Cancer Care Award – specialist cancer care teams who are always on hand

Heart Care Award – working to tackle heart disease across Scotland

Women & Children’s Services Award - providing specialist care for a wide-range of services

NHS Health & Life Improvement Award – working to promote a healthy lifestyle in Scotland

NHS Top Manager Award – rewarding managers who ensure that the quality of care and services offered are the best they can be.

Improvement and Innovation Award – pioneers of new ways of working, new technology, improvements and innovations that make a difference to patient care.

Equality in Healthcare Award – working to meet the needs of excluded or disadvantaged groups and tackling discrimination or prejudice in the delivery of healthcare.

Community Care Award - recognising work within a community setting which improves the lives of individuals through working in partnership with the NHS.

The Scottish Health Awards 2010 is managed by the Scottish Government and the Scottish Daily Record, and is supported by Pfizer and UNISON Scotland. Category sponsors include: University of Stirling, GlaxoSmithKline, Volunteer Development Scotland and Boehringer Ingelheim.

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