

The APGAF met in Westminster for the second time

Tuesday 25th October 2011: The All Party-Parliamentary Group on AF (APGAF) met in Westminster for the second time this year. The aim of the group is to raise awareness of atrial fibrillation (AF) and ensure the diagnosis, care, treatment and management of AF is a priority for the NHS.

The meeting celebrated the launch of the booklet '[Healthcare Pioneers](#)' and informed MPs, peers and policy-makers about innovative ways of commissioning for the diagnosis and treatment AF in England and Wales.

Presentations were given by David Coates, reperfusion lead, Great Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust, Suzanne Harris (nee Robson) from Waltham Forest PCT and Dr Lena Marie Izzat, bringing examples of the Healthcare Pioneers booklet to life.

Lively discussion followed considering actions which had led to adoption of successful models of practice, and ensure that local brilliance did not remain isolated.

The APGAF meeting took place ahead of ACT on AF Friday 28th October. This campaign is being used to spread the examples of successful AF practice further across England and Wales. To read more about ACT on AF Friday, [click here](#)

Following the meeting questions have already been tabled:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201012/minutes/111027/ldordpap.htm>

[Lord Laird](#) to ask Her Majesty's Government what proposals they have to improve the care for those who suffer from arrhythmia. HL12850

[Lord Laird](#) to ask Her Majesty's Government what proposals they have to improve the level of information available to the medical community on arrhythmia. HL12851

Ends



News Release

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Notes:

1. The Atrial Fibrillation Association (AFA) is an international charity which provides information, support and access to established, new or innovative treatments for Atrial Fibrillation (AF);
2. AF is the most common 'arrhythmia' – a heart rhythm disturbance. It is estimated that more than one million people in England are living with AF, and between 50,000 and 100,000 new diagnoses are made each year.