

John Welch

President of the international Society for Rapid Response Systems



John has degrees in psychology and in nursing. He worked as a Staff Nurse, Charge Nurse, Senior Nurse and Lecturer in critical care through the 1990s, was then appointed to one of the first Consultant Nurse posts in the UK, and set-up one of the first Critical Care Outreach services.

John is currently Consultant Nurse at University College London Hospitals (London, UK), and was previously Deteriorating Patient Lead and then Clinical Lead for sepsis across thirteen UCL Partners hospitals in a NHS England funded Patient Safety Programme Breakthrough Series Collaborative – as well as former Programme Lead for Critical Care Outreach at the Department of Health Modernisation Agency.

John was the first Chair of the UK National Outreach Forum, co-wrote the Department of Health *Quality Critical Care: Beyond 'Comprehensive Critical Care'* report and sat on the Royal College of Physicians National Early Warning Score Design & Implementation Group. More recently, he has been a member of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Sepsis Clinical Advisory Group.

In 2013, John co-wrote, developed and delivered a novel Nurse Intensive Care Skills Training programme in Sri Lanka which is now a gold standard course in that country. He is currently co-investigator on two National Institute for Health Research studies, evaluating i) the impact of interventions aimed at recognising and rescuing deteriorating patients across the NHS, and ii) nurse-led psychological interventions for at-risk patients. John is also co-lead of a new European Union Horizon 2020 funded programme to develop a novel, integrated system for identifying and communicating deterioration - in and out of the hospital - which will facilitate patient and carer contributions and participation too.