

A genuine e-mail from the 'front-line'

From: xxxxxxxx
Sent: 20/12/2014 21:08
To: xxxxxxxxxxxx
Subject: Current pressures at the front line

I have been nursing now for nearly 40 years, the majority of it being spent in the hospital environment. Never in all those years have I ever experienced pressure like we have had to endure over the last 3 weeks. It is totally relentless and no matter how hard you work or how many hours you put in you just can't seem to make it better for patients.

Staff are on their knees, talk about going that extra mile; they are going an extra 1000 miles.

I will share a secret with you. I was on call this week so as well as putting in 13 hours a day I was on the phone throughout the night.

On Thursday I cried; I thought I had experienced most emotions in my career but this was an all-time low. I had to cancel patients who had waited months for their ops but the final straw was seeing those ambulances lined up outside our ED.

I am not emailing you for sympathy but really to let you know how awful it is out here at the front line. We have to recognise the challenges they currently have to deal with, hour after hour, day after day.....

Season's greetings
XXXXX XXXXX