

In this extract John Bayes discusses the use of general anaesthetics in dentistry

TRACK 06 – 00:00:01 – 00:03:04

John, you were telling me about the Poswillo report and its effect on dentistry.

Yes, as I was saying, the one good thing that came out of the Poswillo report, which was needed, and was the fact that one had to be properly trained to actually participate in giving general anaesthetics, be you medical or dentally qualified. The only people who were an exception to this rule were of course consultant anaesthetists who had to have a consultant appointment in a hospital and they were... And the way it worked was you had to attend so many training sessions and you were appointed by a consultant anaesthetist who was your, if you like, your guardian angel, who had to-- , who had to oversee what you actually did and had to make visits to when you were working and seeing whether you were competent or not and make a report on those visits.

And in Lincoln this was John--, Richard Thornton who did it.

This was Richard Thornton in Lincoln. There were three of us in--, three dentists in Lincoln who signed up for the course two others and me and Richard Thornton was our, if you like, our overseer and was very, very good, very, very helpful to us and--, and came and watched us work and also provided us with support or--, if we needed it. We then had to have a certain level of equipment, again defibrillators, pulse oximeters, blood pressure monitors, etc, etc. And we had to provide evidence that our team, our staff who were working with us, were sufficiently trained in resuscitation techniques, etc, etc. I thought this was very valuable. And in fact I enjoyed the course and part of the course as well was spending, I think it was something like 20 sessions in theatre in a district general hospital where one was working under the tutelage, if you like, or support of consultant anaesthetist and sitting in or actually participating in the provision of the anaesthetic for patients in hip operations or any other sort of surgical techniques apart from oral surgery. And the oral surgery department and maxillofacial department in Lincoln was very helpful as well.