The Hospital opens new Theatre Admissions Unit

Patients at Rotherham Hospital will soon benefit from a brand new facility which will improve the way planned operations are managed.

The new purpose built Theatre Admissions Unit is now open to the public. It is designed for the admission of patients on the day of their surgery, reducing the need for them to come into hospital the night before their operation. Located near the Main Theatre complex the unit will provide a calm and welcoming environment for patients to prepare for surgery.

Chief Executive Brian James commented: “We are delighted with the brand new Theatre Admissions Unit as it will help us to make real difference to our patients. We know that having an operation or any surgical procedure can be a worry and with the new unit we want to reduce anxiety and stress for our patients.

“The unit has been carefully designed around the patient’s journey from admission to discharge. It ensures patients wait in a relaxed environment with their privacy and dignity preserved whilst they are with us.

“We also know that people feel most comfortable in their home and the unit’s streamlined processes enable us to admit people on the day of their operation and avoid unnecessary time spent in hospital.”

Facilities in the unit include ten individual consultation/examination rooms, where surgeons and anaesthetists are able to talk to the patient before their operation in complete privacy, and comfortable single-sex waiting areas.

The development of the TAU is part of the Trust’s Hospital of Tomorrow project which is focussed on developing and upgrading services and facilities across the hospital. Along with the TAU a brand new operating theatre has been built and another has been refurbished. Future plans include the redevelopment of the hospital’s wards and a total redesign of the main entrance creating a reception concourse which improves access to services and information, and eases movement for patients and visitors.

The ancient woodlands of Silverwood, Treeton, Wath, Canklow, Barber, Fenton, Wickersley and Falconer will now be found at Rotherham Hospital’s new Woodside building.

After a recent competition to name the meeting rooms at the new offices, Margaret El-Asmar from the Clinical Effectiveness department emerged as the winner.

Margaret said: “One of the reasons I thought of these names is because wherever there is ancient woodland there is coal and many people in Rotherham have family members who were miners. In a small way this is a tribute to them and also to the hospital where they would have been looked after.”

Associate Director of Corporate Relations at Rotherham Hospital, Rebecca Allinson said: “We had a fantastic response from staff with lots of creative ideas. Naming our meeting rooms after local woodlands helps us stay connected to the area we serve. They will fit in very well with other rooms in the hospital such as the Bramley, Moorgate and the Wentworth room.”
People in Rotherham will now be able to get a special test as part of the national Bowel Cancer Screening Programme at their local hospital.

Rotherham Hospital's endoscopy unit has been awarded nationally recognised JAG (Joint Advisory Group for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy) accreditation which recognises the excellence and quality of the service.

The endoscopy unit carries out more than 12,000 endoscopies every year. The addition of this specialised bowel cancer screening service means that we can provide even more services locally for the people of South Yorkshire.

Consultant Colorectal Surgeon and Clinical Lead for Endoscopy Services Richard Slater says it’s great news for the public and the hospital: “It means we keep health services in Rotherham and local people will be able to visit their local hospital for treatment. They can now be referred for a specialist bowel screening colonoscopy here at the hospital instead of travelling to one of the other bowel cancer screening centres in the region.

“It will help us to detect cancer earlier and treat people before they become symptomatic. Having this facility here will help us to save lives.”

According to Cancer Research UK, about one in 20 people in the UK will develop bowel cancer during their lifetime; it is the second most common cancer in the UK, and the second leading cause of cancer deaths with over 16,000 people dying from it each year.

Screening at the hospital will begin in March and will be targeted at men and women aged between 60 and 69. Consultant Endoscopist Julie D’Silva will be helping to implement the new program, she says: “Regular bowel cancer screening has been shown to reduce the risk of dying from bowel cancer so it’s great that we’re part of the national bowel cancer screening programme. All our staff have worked really hard to make this happen and we are so pleased that the Joint Advisory Group has chosen us to deliver this vital service.”

Gaining this accreditation means the service has achieved very high standards across a range of areas including quality and safety of patient care, patient satisfaction, experience of the clinical team, and excellence in training endoscopy teams, especially doctors.

As part of the preparation for joining the programme, the Endoscopy Unit at the Trust was visited by a team from the Joint Advisory Group for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. The team looked at all aspects of the Endoscopy service and they awarded JAG accreditation for five years.

Michelle Kemp, Associate Director of Theatres & Anaesthetics at Rotherham says: “Our endoscopy team has worked very hard to develop such a high quality service and the Trust is very proud of what they have achieved.”

An update from The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust

Contact us

If you have a story that you would like to see in a future issue of Newsweek, please get in touch with us on extension 7563 or email communication@rothgen.nhs.uk.

SWINE FLU UPDATE

For all the latest advice and information about swine flu visit The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust internet site or the Health Protection Agency at www.hpa.org.uk.

Please make sure that you are up-to-date with the current advice.