

# GP News

Keeping you in touch with your local foundation trust

## Useful contacts

**GP liaison administrator:**  
**Fiona Carson**  
**01276 526841**  
**fiona.carson@fph-tr.nhs.uk**

**Frimley Park main switchboard:**  
**01276 604604**

**Dedicated GP line:**  
**01276 23577**

**GP News editor: Mary Dewdney**  
**01276 526461**  
**mary.dewdney@fph-tr.nhs.uk**  
**(feedback and editorial ideas welcome)**

## New scanners improve service

Patients needing a CT scan at Frimley Park are being seen more quickly and efficiently since the introduction of two new scanners. The latest '64-slice' CT scanners replaced a single, older one in 2011.

The two scanners mean a greater number of patients can have the diagnostic scans on site and less disruption is caused by emergency patients and planned maintenance.

Philip Ramsey, radiology services manager, said: "This investment is revolutionising our CT scanning service. They are much quicker, making the process that little bit less stressful for patients, and the images we get from them are first class."



Panoramic view of new scanners with control room between them

Better processing has led to ever better images and a wider range of uses for the scanner.

The scanners are located in back to back rooms enabling operation from a single control area between them. Therefore, despite doubling their number, only a few extra staff are needed to run them.

"We're really pleased at the improvements we've been able to

make by having the extra scanning capacity," added Mr Ramsey.

"When the old scanner was due for replacement it was felt that having a second scanner would relieve any bottlenecks in the system and make us more resilient, especially in the face of an increasing demand for CT scanning in relation to emergency work."

## Primary angioplasty: how we are doing

It is a year since Frimley Park Hospital was selected by NHS Surrey to be the regional heart attack centre providing a 24/7 primary angioplasty service for ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) patients in Surrey.

STEMI patients from Hampshire and East Berkshire are also being treated in this way.

From January to December 2011, the interventional cardiology team including four consultant interventional cardiologists at Frimley Park, two visiting consultant cardiologists from the

Royal Surrey County Hospital in Guildford, nurses, radiographers and cardiac physiologists, has performed 920 coronary angioplasties, of which 255 cases (27.7%) were primary angioplasties for STEMI patients.

The median 'door to balloon' time has been well within the target of 60 minutes.

Dr Vinod Achan, consultant interventional cardiologist and lead consultant for primary angioplasty at Frimley Park said: "There is good evidence that clinical outcomes are much better

when STEMI patients are treated by immediate or primary angioplasty in high volume centres. Our 'door to balloon' times are first class and we are constantly looking at ways to improve these.

"Our in-hospital mortality rate of 3.1% is equal to, if not better than, those in other heart attack centres across the country.

"By comparison, the national mortality rate for STEMI patients treated by primary angioplasty is 4.4% according to data published by the British Cardiovascular Intervention Society."

## Outpatient hysteroscopy

The trust's gynaecology department has introduced Versapoint; equipment which allows clinicians to provide a hysteroscopy service on an outpatient basis for suitable patients.

Versapoint is a minimally invasive treatment developed to remove fibroids, polyps and tissue using vapourisation therapy rather than surgical cutting and stitching as in traditional surgery.

As it is performed in the outpatient setting at Frimley Park, there is no need for a pre-operative appointment, anaesthetic and day case stay. Therefore patients can receive treatment much quicker and at a lower cost.

Patients having Versapoint hysteroscopy are usually seen and treated within 45 minutes before being discharged back to their GP.

Nurse hysteroscopist Elaine Edwards said that about 90% of patients who attend the hospital's hysteroscopy clinics tolerate the procedure very well.

Not every patient however is suitable for Versapoint outpatient hysteroscopy and those who are concerned about having the procedure as an outpatient are scheduled for day case hysteroscopy in the normal way.

# Consultant appointments

Dr Emma Edge joined the trust in December 2011. Dr Edge is a consultant in emergency medicine with dual accreditation in paediatric emergency medicine. She is the trust's lead consultant in the ED's children's department  
Tel: 01276 522450  
Fax: 01276 604461



Dr Emma Edge

Consultant neurologist Dr John O'Dwyer began work at the trust in December, replacing Dr Sean O'Sullivan who left the previous month. Dr O'Dwyer has specialist interests in general neurology, epilepsy and movement disorders.  
Tel: 01276 526979  
Fax: 01276 604174



Dr John O'Dwyer

Dr Deepa Jadhav, has been appointed to a substantive consultant anaesthetist post from a locum position she previously held at the trust. Dr Jadhav's specialist interest is ultrasound-guided regional anaesthesia.  
Tel: 01276 604161  
Fax: 01276 604606



Dr Deepa Jadhav

The trust also welcomed Dr Nicholas Dando, consultant in palliative medicine, in January. He takes up a joint appointment with the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice.

Tel: 01276 526968  
Fax: 01276 526778

Dr Dando's photograph is not yet available and should appear in the next edition of GP News.

## Dementia care

Frimley Park has introduced two initiatives to enable staff to provide more effective care for patients suffering from dementia and memory impairment.

The Butterfly Scheme allows people whose memory is permanently affected by dementia to make this clear to hospital staff and provide a simple, practical strategy for meeting their needs.

A discreet butterfly symbol is used to highlight to staff that a patient has dementia or memory impairment, that a specialised plan of care is in place and a different communication technique may be needed to ensure they understand what is happening to them. As a result, patients' stress levels are reduced and their safety and wellbeing increased.

A 'This is me' booklet for patients with a dementia diagnosis has also been introduced.

Initiated by the Alzheimer's Society, it provides staff with a more comprehensive picture of the person with dementia as an individual, enabling staff to provide more personalised care. The booklet is completed by the family or carer.

## Macmillan 'adopts' chemo team

Macmillan Cancer Support has adopted Frimley Park's chemotherapy unit in the first partnership of its kind in the country.

The adoption means that the organisation has formed an alliance with the unit's staff who will be branded as Macmillan and use the charity's name.

Staff will benefit from access to a vast range of extra learning opportunities, development and service support through the Macmillan network.

The adoption includes the trust's lead chemotherapy nurse, Claire Savage, three chemotherapy nurse specialists, a junior sister and four staff nurses.

Claire Savage said that Macmillan have always been extremely supportive in the past and believes that the organisa-



Claire Savage (centre) with members of her team

tion chose to adopt the Frimley team for its good record of service improvement in an increasingly busy unit and the team's skills mix.

She said: "When I started in 2004 we had 150 to 170 patients a month attend and today we have about 600. That is a result of patients living longer with their illnesses through

improved treatment and also seeing more people from a wider catchment. We get to know our patients really well and many return for more than one course of treatment. The unit becomes a home from home for many of them so it's especially important we get the environment and the level of support we offer right."

## News in brief

### Genito-urinary medicine

The trust's genito-urinary (GU) medicine service for patients in Surrey and Berkshire is operating as usual. In addition, any patients from Hampshire who choose to use the Frimley Park GU medicine service will be funded by

NHS Hampshire. Patients from Hampshire who are receiving on-going care for HIV will continue to be treated by the Frimley Park team.

### Micro Matters

Micro Matters is a dedicated resource for GPs via a web page within the GP section of

the trust's website. Two articles which may be of interest to GPs have been posted there so far; Lyme disease borelliosis and frequently asked questions about urinary tract sampling.

Both articles can be viewed on our website at:

<http://www.frimleypark.nhs.uk/gps/micro-matters>

### Correction

The fax number for consultant dermatologists and specialist nurses printed in the trust's consultant directory 2011-12 is incorrect. It should read 01276 526591.