Briefing on Oxford University Hospitals

30 January – Issue 28

This briefing is a regular update for our partner organisations and key stakeholders within the wider community that we serve. It contains the latest news from the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust (OUH).

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1 Foundation Trust progress
Monitor, the body that regulates Foundation Trusts, has assessed the Trust on the quality of our governance arrangements, our business plan our financial plan and our performance on access and outcomes standards. Following assessment the Trust is implementing new quality governance improvements, including a refreshed Quality Strategy.

Monitor will complete their assessment after the OUH confirm that we have met our plans for waiting time performance in Quarter 3.

In the meantime, we are progressing towards electing our first Council of Governors. 61 public members and 25 staff members have put themselves forward as candidates for election. If you are one of our public members you should have now received your ballot paper (or online voting communication if we have an email address for you). The polls close on Thursday 19 February at 5pm and results will be available on 20 February. We will be running induction for our new governors in March as part of ‘shadow running’ prior to authorisation.

Further details of the individual candidates (as well as online membership forms so that you can join), are on the Trust’s website at www.ouh.nhs.uk/ft The election results will be posted here too.

2 Changes to the front entrance of the John Radcliffe Hospital
Work will begin shortly on the new John Radcliffe Hospital Welcome Centre. The entrance is being redesigned to improve access and facilities for patients and to offer a better experience for patients arriving at the hospital. There will be a new Patient Information Centre and Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) office, a WH Smith, M&S Simply Foods and an M&S Café. We hope that work will be completed this autumn (2015).

Patients and members of the public will be able to continue to enter the hospital via the Level 2 Main entrance at all times but the drop off area in front is part of the area to be redeveloped so passengers needing to be dropped near a door are being asked to use one of the alternative access entrances to the site or to walk from car park 2 which is where many of the disabled car parking places are situated. New John Radcliffe Hospital Welcome Centre

3 Performance and winter pressures
In common with acute trusts across the country we have been experiencing high numbers of emergency attendances and admittances to our hospitals over the last couple of months. Although we prepared for this, this has still had an impact on our overall performance against targets. Despite the very high levels of activity and delays in the system staff have been working extremely hard to ensure that the quality of patients’ clinical care remained high and that services were maintained with minimum disruption.

Infection control
The Trust has been given a target of having no avoidable cases of MRSA this year but we had one case in October 2014 that was deemed avoidable. We have been given a target of no more than 67 cases of C Difficile. The total number of cases of C Difficile to November 2014 was 43.

Delayed transfers of care
Delayed Transfers of Care remain a major cause of concern for the Trust. At the end of Quarter 3, the number of delays was at 11.7% which is 8.2% above the target of 3.5%. The monthly average for December was 146 delays across the system for Oxfordshire residents.

Finance
The Trust has delivered £25.9 million in savings in the first eight months of the year, which represents 92% of the year to date plan. Spending on staff, including agency costs is higher than planned and agency costs are higher in volume, higher than last year and as a proportion of the Trust’s total pay bills. The Trust’s financial position was £53,000 better than plan against its break even duty after the first eight months of the year. Work continues to ensure that the Cost Improvement Programme remains on target. For more information on the Trust’s financial performance, please see the latest Trust Board paper: Trust Board report on finance, January 2015

Operational performance
Access targets
Four Hour Standard
In common with many other acute Trusts across the country, the OUH did not achieve the four hour standard of over 95% of patients seen, treated, admitted or discharged within four hours in quarter 3 when our figures were 89.09% of patients. We are working hard with our partners to improve the flow of patients through the system so that we are able to admit patients quicker into our hospitals by improving the speed of discharging patients into appropriate care elsewhere.

Cancer Waits
The Trust met seven of the eight cancer wait standards but did not achieve the standard for 62 day urgent treatment in October. We have an action plan in place to meet the 62 day target in quarter 4.

Stroke patients
The Trust continues to do well in its treatment of stroke patients, with a higher percentage of patients on a dedicated stroke unit than the NHS standard requires.

Diagnostic Tests
Numbers of people waiting more than six weeks for diagnostic tests fell again in November with fewer than 1% of patients waiting more than six weeks (the NHS standard).

18 week wait standards
The Trust is not yet meeting all its 18 week wait standards. We missed the target of 95% of outpatients seen within 18 weeks in November with 92.88% of patients seen within the timescale. For inpatients, we also failed to meet the target of 90% with 82.79% being seen within 18 weeks. However, for those patients whose treatment is incomplete, we met the 92% target. There are currently 26 adult patients and two children waiting over 52 weeks in November - down from 39 in July. An action plan has been developed to significantly reduce or eliminate all 52 week waits by March 2015.

For more detail on the Trust’s latest performance, please see the Trust Board paper here: Trust Board report on performance, January 2015 papers

### 4 Approval for new CT Scanner at the John Radcliffe Hospital

CT (computerised tomography) scans are a vital part of the diagnostic tools used in hospitals. A CT scan uses X-rays and a computer to create detailed images of the inside of the body. At its January meeting, the OUH Trust Board agreed to replace and upgrade the John Radcliffe’s existing 16 slice CT scanner at the John Radcliffe Hospital with a new 64 slice CT scanner (that offers 128 slice reconstruction). Slices are used to build up a 3D image of a patient. The scanner will be used mainly by patients using the Emergency Department and inpatients and should lead to improved imaging, reduced radiation doses and better diagnostics.

### 5 Churchill patient makes video of undergoing an MRI scan

A patient at the Churchill Hospital, John Milnes, has created a video about having an MRI scan from a patient's perspective to help ease other patients’ fears. The short video reveals the entire process from receiving the appointment letter to experiencing the scan and getting the results. The video was co-ordinated by the Imaging Network at the Oxford Academic Health Science Network (Oxford AHSN).

The Churchill Hospital conducts about 7,000 MRI scans each year and Mr Milnes’ video will be made available to everyone undergoing the process. The film, 'What is it like to have an MRI scan' can be viewed via the Oxford AHSN channel on YouTube. [What is it like having an MRI Scan?](http://www.oxfordahsn.org/what-is-it-like-having-an-mri-scan). For more about this see the story on our website: [Want to know more about what an MRI scan feels like? Ask John](http://www.oxfordahsn.org/what-is-it-like-having-an-mri-scan).

### 6 New Children’s Outpatient area opens at Horton General

A brand new children’s outpatient area opened at the Horton General Hospital in December. Office space near the existing outpatients department has been converted into a children’s outpatient area with dedicated paediatric clinics and waiting room. This is a much better environment for children and their parents, and has also freed up some capacity in the main outpatients clinic to allow more clinics to be put in.

### 7 Research into how brains adapt to the loss of a hand

A new research project is shedding light on what happens to the large parts of the brain that control hand and arm movements when a hand is missing and how the brain adjusts to find new ways to complete everyday tasks like tying shoelaces. It could have widespread implications,
particularly in helping amputees and people with congenital limb deficiency make best use of their residual arm – both with and without prosthetics.

The study was led by the University of Oxford in collaboration with Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, supported by the Wellcome Trust and the artificial limb provider Opcare. The researchers used functional MRI brain scans to measure the brain’s response in people missing a hand who attend the Oxford Centre for Enablement, a specialist rehabilitation unit at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre. For more on this story see: [Brains of people with one hand adapt well to disability](#)

### 8 OUH designated as a Genomic Medicine Centre

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust was designated by NHS England in December as one of eleven Genomic Medicine Centres across the country that will lead the way in delivering the 100,000 Genomes Project. This initiative involves collecting and decoding 100,000 human genomes - complete sets of people's genes - that will enable scientists and doctors to understand more about specific conditions. For more about this please see [Trust named as a Genomic Medicine Centre](#)

### 9 Return visit from the Russian Quintuplets born at the John Radcliffe

In January Russian couple Dimitri and Varvara Artamkin and their five daughters - quintuplets born in the Women's Centre paid a visit to the staff that delivered and cared for them when they were born seven years ago. The family saved up for a trip to the UK, so that the girls could meet the people without whom they would not have survived. Staff in the Fetal Medicine and Newborn Intensive Care Units were all delighted to see how the girls were thriving. The Artamkin family were very excited to catch up with those responsible for their survival. For more about the visit of the quintuplets please see: [Russian quintuplets visit JR team that saved their lives](#)

### 10 New appointment

Professor Debra Jackson joined the Trust in January as Professor of Nursing. She will work in partnership with Oxford Brookes University in a collaboration to develop the capability and capacity of nursing research between the two organisations. The joint appointment of Debra Jackson will seek to develop and build further the nursing and midwifery research agenda for the Thames Valley area and specifically OUH and OBU as part of Academic Health Science Centre. Debra's role is supported by Health Education Thames Valley and will be a joint appointment between the Faculty of Health and Life Science and Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, as part of the Academic Health Science Centre, to increase the capacity in nursing research. For more, please see [Professor Debra Jackson appointed Professor of Nursing](#)

### 11 OUH features in new series on Sky 1 HD

A documentary series which started on 6 January features specialist emergency care physicians from the John Radcliffe attending all kinds of incidents and accidents involving major trauma and requiring swift medical attention at the scene. The series, called ‘Air Ambulance ER’, is aired on
Sky 1 HD every Tuesday and promotes the work of the air ambulance and the continuation of patient care through the emergency department and beyond.

With access to the helicopter medics of the Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance along with the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance in the South and the Great North Air Ambulance in the North, the series highlights how advanced pre-hospital medicine along with delivery of patients to the most appropriate and suitably equipped specialist hospital, is transforming the treatment of major trauma in the UK. For more on this story see: Bringing the hospital to the Roadside – Air Ambulance ER Sky 1 HD

12 Ebola Vaccine Study
The Oxford Vaccine Group are looking for volunteers aged between 18-50 in good health to take part in their trial of an Ebola vaccine. The total study participation time is one year. If you wish to discuss the study further you can call 01865 857420 or email info@ovg.ox.ac.uk
For more information on what this involves or to find out more about the project, please see Oxford Vaccine Group

13 Dates for your diary
Oxford Biomedical Research Centre – Bringing research to life through public talks
All talks are at the Lecture Theatre, Level 1, Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre and start at 6.30pm. Light refreshments are served from 6.00pm. Please let us know if you are planning to attend, as places are limited. Please register with Caroline Rouse by contacting her on ouhmembers@ouh.nhs.uk or on 01865 743491.

Dementia and delirium: the impact of stroke and acute illness on thinking and memory
Monday 9 February 2015 - Dr Sarah Pendlebury, Trust Lead on Dementia Care, Honorary Consultant Physician and Gerontologist
(Note: this is the talk that Dr Pendlebury previously gave in Banbury late last year).
Dr Sarah Pendlebury will cover:
- what is dementia, some of the potential causes, and how memory can change over time
- how thinking and memory may change very rapidly with acute illness such as stroke, but also with disorders outside the brain including infections
- how patient care in hospital and the community needs to take account of thinking and memory problems and what we are doing at OUH to facilitate this.

Oxford Biomedical Research Centre free events 6 - 21 March 2015
The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Oxford Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) is holding a series of free events including talks, tours and exhibitions, on the latest advances in research to improve healthcare. The BRC brings together researchers and clinicians from Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust and Oxford University to improve healthcare through translational research - taking laboratory research into a clinical setting.
From 6 - 21 March, the BRC 'Open Weeks' will showcase some of this world-leading research. This ties in with the Oxfordshire Science Festival and British Science Week. Spaces are limited. To book please email obrcenquiries@ouh.nhs.uk

For more details please see BRC Events flyer

**Dates and Times:**

**Vaccines and Infectious Diseases - Friday 6th March 2015**
**Time:** 9:30am – 3:30pm
**Location:** Oxford University Museum of Natural History
- Meet scientists, clinicians and research students to learn about the impact research has on society
- Learn about career paths in science

**Acute Vascular Imaging Centre (AVIC) - Tuesday 10th March 2015**
**Time:** 4:00pm – 5:00pm
**Location:** John Radcliffe Hospital
- Take a tour behind the scenes of AVIC with a talk on emerging techniques in diagnosing heart attacks and strokes

**Research into Heart Health - Tuesday 10th March 2015**
**Time:** 6:00pm – 8:00pm
**Location:** Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre
- A series of talks and live demonstrations on the latest research in heart health

**Innovation in Healthcare Research - Wednesday 11th March 2015**
**Time:** 12:00pm – 6:00pm
**Location:** Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford
- Find out about the latest technology in healthcare at this exciting exhibition in the centre of Oxford

**Improving Healthcare Through Research - Thursday 12th March 2015**
**Time:** 6:00pm – 8:00pm
**Location:** Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre
- A series of talks on the latest research in cancer, blood and Genomic Medicine

**The Human Brain in Action - Monday 16th March 2015**
**Time:** 6pm and 7pm
**Location:** John Radcliffe Hospital
- See the human brain in action from the control room of the ultra-high field MRI Scanner at Oxford University’s Centre for Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the Brain

**Tackling Brain Diseases - Wednesday 18th March 2015**
**Time:** 6pm – 8pm
**Location:** Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford
• A series of talks on the latest research in brain disease

For more information on the Oxford BRC Open Weeks, please visit: www.oxfordbrc.nihr.ac.uk

This briefing was prepared by:
Susan Brown
Senior Communications Manager
Head of Stakeholder Engagement and Foundation Trust Membership
Oxford University Hospitals
Tel: 01865 231475
Email: susan.brown@ouh.nhs.uk

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