Our values reflect what is important to staff and patients in terms not only of care and treatment, but also in how we behave and the decisions we take to deliver the best possible healthcare. They reflect the principles, values and pledges of the NHS Constitution and play a key part in describing how we deliver compassionate excellence.

The Trust Values:

**Learning | Respect | Delivery | Excellence | Compassion | Improvement**

These values underpin our drive for continuous improvement in delivering high-quality services that exceed our patients’ expectations. We actively support the development of engaged and informed staff who understand how their efforts contribute to the success of the organisation. This helps us to deliver effective change, service improvements and innovative ways of delivering care.

The Trust’s strategic objectives are to deliver:

Compassionate excellence – the kind of healthcare we would all expect for ourselves and our families

A well-governed and adaptable organisation

Better value healthcare

Integrated local healthcare

Excellent secondary and specialist care through sustainable clinical networks

The benefits of research and innovation to patients
We are committed to providing the highest standard of care and we listen to the views of our patients, our staff, our commissioners and other stakeholders to ensure we continue to deliver improvements.

Throughout the year, we have consulted with our patient groups and organisations representing our local communities to tell us what matters to them. Oxfordshire Healthwatch has helped to inform our quality priorities through its strategic joint needs assessment on what patients and the public feel are important to improve our services and outcomes.

Quality improvement priorities for 2015-16

Our performance in respect of these priorities is detailed in the Quality Account at: www.ooh.nhs.uk/about/publications

Nursing and Midwifery Strategy

Our Nursing and Midwifery Strategy aims to improve patient outcomes and establish the Trust as a leading UK centre with an outstanding international reputation as a leader in nursing and midwifery. The strategy sets the direction for developing nursing and midwifery at the Trust from 2015-16 and has five key themes:

- Excellent nursing and midwifery clinical practice
- Career-enhancing education and professional development
- Leading the way in practice development research
- Growing exceptional nursing and midwifery leaders
- Developing innovative nursing and midwifery care models

Academic and research partnerships

We have close partnerships with the University of Oxford Medical Sciences Division and Oxford Brookes University’s Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, which provide renowned teaching and education for doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals. A Joint Working Agreement between the Trust and the University provides the formal structure to share ideas and activities in the pursuit of excellence in patient care, research and education.

The Trust is also part of a network involving local health and social care providers, commissioners, universities, business and the life sciences industry called the Oxford Academic Health Science Network. It supports collaboration, research and innovation across the NHS, universities and business, designed to tackle some of the biggest healthcare challenges through the support of the life sciences industry.

SERVICE DEVELOPMENT

Providing better pathways of care through partnership working

As an acute healthcare provider we are experiencing a greater demand from an ageing population with increasingly complex health and social care needs. We are working with GPs, health and social care colleagues and the voluntary sector to develop integrated pathways of care that meet the needs of patients in a more holistic and joined-up manner.

Better support for frail, elderly patients – a range of initiatives has been introduced to provide care closer to home for elderly patients and those with long-term conditions and to help them leave hospital sooner. Examples include:

- developing the Supported Hospital Discharge Service and becoming an authorised provider of domiciliary care in Oxfordshire to support patients in their own homes in the first two weeks after discharge while appropriate social care packages are put in place
- Emergency Multidisciplinary Units (EMUs) – in partnership with local GPs and Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust we have jointly created Emergency Multidisciplinary Units in Abingdon and Witney with a further unit planned for Banbury at the Horton General Hospital. These units act as a halfway house between GPs and hospital emergency departments and can treat any serious medical emergency except for heart attacks and stroke. Patients are referred to EMUs by their GP.

Focus on prevention through public health

The Trust is committed not just to treating disease, but to improving people’s health across Oxfordshire. It isn’t only our patients’ health that’s important to us; we have 12,000 staff members whom we want to keep healthy as well. We know that looking after our staff, physically and mentally, helps them in looking after our patients.

The Trust opened a unique health advice centre in August 2014 to help patients, visitors and staff improve their health and wellbeing through lifestyle changes. The New for Health drop-in service is based in the Trust’s outpatient department at the John Radcliffe Hospital, and is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

INNOVATION IN CARE

Getting fit for surgery

Patients are benefiting from a new service which helps improve their fitness before having an operation.

A state-of-the-art Cardiopulmonary Exercise Test (CET) facility opened in the new pre-assessment clinic at the Churchill Hospital. It helps assess a patient’s overall fitness level prior to major surgery.

The equipment measures responses to varying levels of exercise by monitoring heart rate, blood pressure and the amount of oxygen and carbon dioxide in the blood during exercise. The information gives anaesthetists an insight into how the patient’s heart and lungs are likely to behave under the stress of surgery.

Robotic surgery reduces operation time

The development of robotic surgery means that operations which would have taken 12-14 hours can now be done in just three or four hours. As a result patients are recovering more quickly and spending less time in hospital. Oxford is one of only a handful of centres offering trans-oral robotic surgery. Patients are taking part in trials comparing the impact of robotic surgery with other techniques on outcomes.

Children’s cancer services at the Horton extended

More children living in north Oxfordshire who develop cancer can now receive a range of the services they need at the Horton General Hospital in Banbury instead of having to travel to Oxford. Young haematology and oncology patients can attend the hospital for:

- blood and platelet transfusions
- routine antibiotics or prolonged courses of antibiotics or antiradiation
- immunotherapy, drug administration
- hematology and blood samples
- regular reviews.

Our vision is to deliver excellence and value in partnership with Oxfordshire Healthwatch and to reduce the number of patients referred to EMUs by their GP.

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