February 2014

This briefing is for GPs, practice staff and others in primary care, on changes and developments at the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust (OUH). It has been prepared by the OUH and will be circulated on a regular basis. You can also read it at www.ouh.nhs.uk/services/gp-bulletin/default.aspx

If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact alison.barnes@ouh.nhs.uk

Any feedback on web issues please email to web.editor@ouh.nhs.uk

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1. Key performance measures

Please see the latest summary of our performance against key standards and indicators.

- Read our latest Performance Report

Healthcare associated infections

- MRSA and C.difficile: latest figures

2. Clinical articles and referral protocols

Paediatric rapid access clinic – Horton General Hospital

A rapid access paediatric clinic aimed at bringing down waiting times is being launched at the Horton from 13 March 2014. GPs will be able to refer urgent cases, who they do not think should wait for a normal clinic appointment, to a new clinic to be run on Thursday afternoons. The clinic will initially be fortnightly, but
from April will operate every week. The clinic, run by an experienced paediatrician, will include urgent referrals of paediatric patients from GPs, as well as follow-up of patients who were admitted to the ward. Referrals are made by contacting the hospital switchboard on 01295 275500 and bleeping 403. Please kindly follow up with a referral letter.

Updated maternity guidelines

All maternity guidelines can be found on the OUH intranet, OUHi. To access them you will need to be signed into an ‘oxnet’ linked computer and enter the following address:

http://ouh.oxnet.nhs.uk/Maternity/Pages/Guidelines.aspx

You can either search for the guideline you are looking for by entering a word in the search criteria, or by clicking on “view list of all guidelines”. When you click “view list of all guidelines”, the guidelines will come up in alphabetical order.

Most GPs will only need to access the Maternity Assessment Guidelines or the Day Assessment Guidelines as they carry all the information related to hypertension in pregnancy, reduced foetal movements, bleeding and abdominal pain in pregnancy.

The MAU guidelines are split into easy reference links so you can go straight to the section you require. We are in the process of updating the DAU guidelines to be in the same format. If you have any questions, or your search does not bring up the correct guideline, please email: katie.lean@ouh.nhs.uk

3. Consultant appointments

- Consultant in Trauma Rehabilitation: Dr Josephine Hillan MBBS, MRCS Rehabilitation
- Consultant in Occupational Medicine: Dr Patricia Fletcher MB, ChB, MRCGP, MFOM and LLB
- Consultant in Interventional Radiology: Dr Andrew Wigham BSc(Hons), MBBS, MRCS, FRCR
- Consultant in Radiology (Thoracic Imaging): Dr Victoria St Noble MBChB, FRCR
- Consultant in OCDEM with AGM: Dr Alistair Nathan Lumb MBBS, PhD, BA and MRCP
- Consultant in Foot and Ankle at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre: Mr Mark Rogers MRCS, FRCS

4. Trust news and service developments

Re-opening of Wallingford Birth Centre

The unit was officially re-opened on Wednesday 29 January 2014 following an extensive refurbishment. The completed refurbishment includes two new birthing pools, an additional birthing room, ensuite facilities in two of the birthing rooms, an ensuite facility in the postnatal ward and a refurbished family room.

Primary care engagement event at the OUH

We have decided to cancel the event on Wednesday 5 March at the John Radcliffe Hospital as it became clear that we need to tweak the format to better reflect the type of discussion GPs want and ensure that senior management are represented at the event.

We will resurrect a programme of events shortly so do let me know if you are interested in taking part, have ideas for subjects to cover or, would like to express an interest in taking part. More information will be posted in future editions of the bulletin.

Please email alison.barnes@ouh.nhs.uk for further information.

New ENT service at the Horton General Hospital

Paediatric day-case ear nose and throat surgery has been re-introduced at the Horton General Hospital. Sessions are now being run the first, third and fifth Tuesday mornings of the month, with a Saturday pre-operative audiological assessment. This new service is to cope with increased demand for ENT services in the Banbury and north Oxfordshire area. Patients will be able to ask their GP to be referred to the Horton. Currently, the Trust provides adult outpatient and aural care services at Banbury. The service will provide a consultant ENT surgeon, working every Tuesday at the Horton, covering clinic and theatres. The current weekend audiology service in the Horton has been expanded to accommodate the pre-operative
audiological testing. The operation list will start with paediatric cases only and expand with time to include children’s and adult day-case operations. For more information please see the OUH website

**New facial palsy service**

A new, dedicated combined clinic for patients with facial palsy was launched in February, on a trial basis, at the John Radcliffe Hospital.

There are approximately 25,000 cases in the UK caused by various conditions including; congenital conditions, Bell's Palsy, tumour re-sections, and NF2 (neurofibromatosis type 2). Until now it had been hard for patients to access services other than surgery in one place.

The clinic at the John Radcliffe Hospital will offer treatments including:

- corrective surgery (subject to commissioner approval), including eyelids, smile operations (which also benefit other functions such as speech)
- using Botox on the non-paralysed side of the face to make it more symmetrical for patients with partial facial palsy on one side
- non-surgical treatments such as facial physiotherapy
- speech and language therapy
- Clinical Psychology support to deal with the psychological effects of facial paralysis and a specialist ocular plastic surgeon input (for conditions involving the eyes).

**Horton ultrasound department refurbishment**

Work begins this week on a major refurbishment of the Ultrasound Department. The upgrade, which is costing £769,000, will take about six months to complete and will provide:

- dedicated waiting facilities for ultrasound outpatients and inpatients
- relocation of existing ultrasound rooms closer to new waiting areas
- increased size of ultrasound rooms, enabling inpatient access to both rooms
- improved patient ultrasound facilities, piped oxygen, suction, ventilation
- improved reception area, meeting the requirements for receiving disabled patients.

Although corridors will remain open, there will be some disruption while the work is completed. Radiology reception, appointments, two secretarial rooms, two radiologist offices and two ultrasound rooms will be relocated within the department for the duration of the project.

There will also be less patient waiting space for the duration of the scheme and we apologise in advance for any inconvenience this may cause but we do believe that it will be worth it in the end and that patients will have a much better waiting area in the future.

**Trust appointments**

**Dr Ian Reckless** has been appointed as the Clinical Director for Neurosciences, part of the Neurosciences, Orthopaedics, Trauma and Specialist Surgery Division.

**Dr Veronica Miller** has been appointed as the Clinical Director for Women’s, part of the Children’s and Women’s Division.

**Dr Mark Sullivan** is the new Clinical Director for Transplant, Renal and Urology, part of the Surgery and Oncology Division.

**Sexual Health Oxfordshire**

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust recently won a tender with Oxfordshire County Council to provide integrated sexual health services across Oxfordshire as of 1 April, 2014. This will bring together services, Genitourinary Medicine (sexually transmitted infections) and Family Planning (contraceptive), that were previously delivered by separate organisations into a new improved service making it easier for everyone to access the range of care that they need.
The family planning service at the Alec Turnbull clinic, which was previously provided by Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust, will be temporarily offered from the Churchill Hospital until a suitable new location in East Oxford can be found. Oxford Health is reviewing their property portfolio and can no longer offer the space for this clinic to be housed in. The search to find an alternative location in the community as quickly as possible continues and staff and patients will be kept informed.

Plans for the new integrated service include providing clinics and services in the following locations: Churchill Hospital, Banbury, East Oxford, Didcot, Witney, Bicester, Abingdon, Kidlington, Wantage.

For full details on all our services please visit www.sexualhealthoxfordshire.nhs.uk

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