

## GP Bulletin – January 2020

### ACE (Ambulatory Care Experience) Service

We are delighted to share the news that our award-winning children's ACE (Ambulatory Care Experience) Service continues to go from strength-to-strength, with another two clinical pathways added to our virtual ward this year. The jaundice pathway, launched in November 2019, supports the discharge of babies requiring single phototherapy to have this treatment in their own homes in those precious early days of life. The bronchiolitis pathway, launched on 31st December, is the fifth ACE pathway to be implemented. Infants and children up to the age of 2 years will be discharged home from hospital earlier, with the introduction of our home oxygen pathway. Referrals for these two new pathways will currently be taken from the children's inpatient unit only (ward 30, BRI). Carers will be supported to care for their baby at home by our ACE nurses who will conduct regular reviews in the community. These early discharges will save on bed days, improve flow through acute paediatrics, and ultimately allow for babies to be cared for outside of the hospital environment. In the comfort of their own homes the risks associated with a prolonged hospital admission will be significantly reduced.

In December 2017 the successful 'wheezy child' pathway started the ACE project, followed by the gastroenteritis, and croup pathways. Our pathways work along similar lines to our ambulatory care service and elderly care virtual ward, and see our hugely experienced community nursing team treat babies and children at home under the expert eye of our consultant paediatricians. Consultant Paediatrician and Children's Ambulatory Care Lead, Dr Mat Mathai, says "there are already other Trusts around the country providing this care, but I hope that the standardised 'off-the-shelf' approach of the ACE pathways and service will encourage all Trusts to do the same".

The ACE scheme delivers a more efficient service to our patients as it reduces emergency admissions and readmissions to our hospitals, empowers families to effectively manage common medical problems and enhances our collaborative working with our CCG and GP colleagues across the district.

To refer a child, please call us on 01274 27 3354 with the following information:

- Child's details including NHS number
- Parent/carers name and telephone number
- Observations- heart rate, respiratory rate, oxygen saturations, temperature
- Brief history of illness
- Relevant past medical history
- Examination summary
- Any safeguarding concerns

For pathway specific referral crib sheets please see our website

<https://www.bradfordhospitals.nhs.uk/the-ace-service/information-for-professionals/>

### **Bradford Hospitals' sonographers leading the way in scanning and detection rates**

Our dedicated Antenatal Screening teams, based in our Women's and Newborn Unit have received some fantastic feedback regarding the service they are providing to our mums-to-be – data reveals that we are leading the way when it comes to scanning with many of our detection rates well above national average.

The praise has come from the National Congenital Anomaly and Rare Disease Registration Service (NCARDS), which records important antenatal data of congenital abnormalities and rare diseases across the whole of England. The screening programme looks for 11 auditable conditions, with each condition having an individual detection target.

Our Screening Support Sonographer, Heidi McCarthy, explained that the data recorded at our Trust was collected between 1 April, 2017 and 31 March, 2018. She explains "The screening data is always a year behind because the service receives the information and then checks the details of the babies once they are born so only then can the detection percentages be collated. We are really pleased with our detection rates for the auditable conditions as everyone works very hard to provide the best screening care possible for our mums-to-be." Heidi added that NCARDS

had pooled data received from our Trust for the two periods 2016 to 2017 and 2017 to 2018 and as a result had concluded that we were above national average in detecting six of the auditable conditions (congenital diaphragmatic hernia, exomphalos, gastroschisis, lethal skeletal dysplasia, Edwards syndrome and Patau's syndrome) and above the regional average in the detection of serious cardiac anomalies. We have a great dedicated team who work extremely hard to provide a high quality service especially with the wide spread pressure on scan resources," said Heidi. She added that the scans are carried out between 18 weeks and 20 weeks 6 days pregnancy. Any patients who, for some reason, do not have all of the baby's anatomy checked at the first scan are then re-scanned by 23 weeks. We have approximately 6,000 pregnancy bookings every year.

### **£1.1m makeover for our cardiology ward**

We're excited to announce that the reopening of the cardiology ward following a £1.1million major make-over is scheduled for around the end of March. Our cardiology patients – including coronary care – moved out of the ward last August, and onto Ward 17, in order for the renovations to take place. Our Cardiology day case unit and cath lab have remained on level 1 next to Ward 22 and have been operating normally while the refurbishment work is under way.

In the past months, walls have been taken down and the whole area has been reconfigured to make a much airier and brighter ward, which makes it a much more workable space for both our staff and our patients. Our cardiology patients will now have the benefit of a number of the latest, up-to-date facilities including new bathrooms and side rooms, and for staff there is a new area for them to relax during their breaks with a modern kitchen.

Staff have been involved from the very beginning, giving their input into how the ward will work the best, from choosing colours and work surfaces to which way a door should open in order to make this into a very workable and practical space. We'll have more information as the ward is completed and opens in March 2020.

## Improving the facilities at St Luke's hospital

Patients with disabilities in Bradford are set to benefit from improved toilet facilities in their local hospitals, the Government has announced today. Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has received £17,000 in new funding to build a specially-adapted Changing Place space at St Luke's Hospital.

Changing Places are toilets with additional equipment for people who are not able to use the toilet independently, including adult-sized changing benches and hoists. Disabled patients visiting St Luke's Hospital will now have access to these new facilities.

More than £500,000 has been made available to 10 Trusts across England today to start work on 16 new facilities, with a further £1.5 million made available to bid for.

There are currently only around 40 of these facilities on the NHS England estate. With this tranche of funding, it is expected that the total number of Changing Places in hospitals will eventually increase to over 100.

The new space at St Luke's Hospital builds on the positive feedback the Trust has received about an initial Changing Places facility, which opened at Bradford Royal Infirmary in 2018.

These spaces are invaluable for many disabled people, who are unable to use standard accessible toilets as they need more space for mobility and assistance.

This includes people with profound and multiple learning disabilities, as well people with other physical disabilities such as spinal injuries, muscular dystrophy and multiple sclerosis who often need extra equipment and space to allow them to use the toilets safely and comfortably.

Changing Places toilets are clean and provide a safe environment; they allow people with complex and multiple disabilities to enjoy community life and days out with their family and friends in the same way as everyone else. Without these facilities, the alternative is to cut short an outing or change the person in a potentially unhygienic location and undignified fashion.