

Luncheon Club Meetings : Thursdays

1:00 - 1:55pm Mickerson Hall, Chichester Medical Education Centre, St Richard's (1 Hour Free PGEA plus lunch)

The GP Luncheon Clubs are held every Thursday lunchtime between 1.00 – 2.00pm in the Mickerson Hall, CMEC, and are open to GPs and hospital doctors. Lectures consist of a short presentation with questions and discussion encouraged. They are free of charge and we strongly encourage GPs to attend and welcome other practice team members.

Please show your appreciation to the Pharmaceutical Companies who kindly sponsor these meetings by visiting their stand upon your arrival.

PLEASE RETURN THE ENCLOSED REPLY SLIP IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND ANY OF THE SESSIONS – LUNCH WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR YOU IF YOU HAVE NOT NOTIFIED US OF YOUR ATTENDANCE IN ADVANCE.

15.10.09.	Dementia in the Under 65's Guidelines Dr T Coates & Dr F Chaabane, Sussex Partnership	<i>Service Management</i>
22.10.09.	Dermatology for the GP Dr Amin Karim, Consultant Dermatologist, SRH	<i>Disease Management</i>
29.10.09.	HALF TERM – NO MEETING	
5.11.09.	Colin Reid in Cuba Dr Colin Reid, Consultant Cardiologist, SRH	<i>Health Promotion</i>
12.11.09.	Vasculitis in Rheumatology Patients Guidelines Dr Sanj Menon, Consultant Rheumatologist, SRH	<i>Service Management</i>
19.11.09.	Non-Accidental Injuries in Children Dr Anne Wallace, Consultant Paediatrician	<i>Health Promotion</i>
26.11.09.	Herbal Medicine Afifah Hamilton, Medical Herbalist	<i>Health Promotion</i>
3.12.09.	Laparoscopic Colorectal Surgery Mr Guy Harris, Consultant Surgeon, SRH	<i>Disease Management</i>
10.12.09.	Endocrine Disorders in Men Guidelines Dr Ken Laji, Consultant Endocrinologist, SRH	<i>Service Management</i>
17.12.09.	Xmas Lunch – Mastalgia Ms Wendy Sotheran, Cons Breast Surgeon, SRH	<i>Disease Management</i>

MEETINGS WILL RESUME ON THURSDAY 14 JANUARY 2010

The Chichester Suite at St Richard's

You can expect peace of mind from the very start when you choose to be treated privately at St Richard's Hospital. Our private suite combines all the privileges of private healthcare with the reassurance of NHS guarantees and standards of excellence. We offer:

- Fixed price packages with no hidden extras
- Consultant led teams on hand around the clock
- Intensive care and high dependency units for complex healthcare needs
- A full range of in-house diagnostic services so that you don't need to go anywhere else
- Comfortable, well appointed rooms each with en suite and satellite television
- Fresh food prepared to order in our own kitchen
- Your healthcare fees are used to develop NHS services at St Richard's hospital.

Whatever your reason for choosing private healthcare there's no better time to consider St Richard's. For a personal tour of our friendly facilities or to discuss any aspect of our services, contact Eileen Bailey, on 01243 788122, ext. 5287 or email eileen.bailey@wsht.nhs.uk

GP NEWS

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The Fernhurst Centre—cancer day unit

On Monday 7 September The Fernhurst Centre at St Richard's Hospital opened, bringing together a range of Haematology and Oncology treatments and outpatients services under one roof for the first time.

Western Sussex Hospitals and Portsmouth Hospital are now working in close partnership with the Primary Care Trust in order to expand the number of services currently provided at The Fernhurst Centre.

These services will be carefully planned according to the type of treatment and the level of nursing and medical support required. Due to the complexity of care required for some patients, there will always remain a small group of patients that will need to be treated at the larger Portsmouth Hospital. However, the aim will be to provide the majority of patients with appropriate care closer to their homes and the two Trusts are actively working to achieve this.

If you would like any further information about The Fernhurst Centre or the development of oncology services at St Richard's, please contact Tim Hutson, Lead Nurse for Cancer Services on 01243 788122 ext 2813, or email tim.hutson@wsht.nhs.uk



Appointments, best wishes and welcomes

We extend warm welcomes to:

Dr Phillip Barnes, our new Medical Director who joins us from King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust in London

Spencer Prosser, Director of Finance who joins us from Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Sophia Stone, Part-time Consultant in Obstetrics and Gynaecology with a special interest in obstetric medicine who joins us from Portsmouth

Since May we have welcomed:

Dr Susannah Jerwood, Consultant in Microbiology

Mr M Ethunandan, Consultant in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Miss Niamh Maguire, Part-time Consultant in Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Annual reports

All NHS Trusts are required to publish an annual report each year. We want to produce a report that is informative and useful. It would help us achieve this if you would tell us what you would like us to include and whether you would prefer to receive a hard or electronic copy. You can view our annual report for 2008/09 at www.westernsussexhospitals.nhs.uk. For more information or to comment on the contents of our annual report please contact Kathryn Upton at kathryn.upton@wsht.nhs.uk

Paediatric Epilepsy Service (PENS)

The Western Sussex Paediatric Epilepsy Team aims to improve epilepsy services through liaison with the child, family and all professionals with a specialist interest, and gives advice and education across all settings including home, schools and respite care facilities.

The team aims to provide direct and indirect support for the child, carers and family members involved delivered through nurse led clinics, home visits, telephone, text and email contact on a 4 days a week basis within day time hours. Each child has a treatment plan based on individual assessment, implementation and evaluation of care and this is reviewed every 3-12 months. The team networks with fellow professionals and organisations to support best practice both locally and nationally.

Referral Criteria to the PENS

Written referrals with a clear working diagnosis if epilepsy can be made to Dr Rowena Remorino at Chichester and Dr Anna Mathew at Worthing. Newly diagnosed patients i.e no fits/faints/funny turns, or those with complex epilepsy may also be referred. As the service develops we will be able to inform you of the new referral guidelines. Our aim in the future is to set up nurse lead clinics, visit families at home and set up a transitional service.

For further information on the Paediatric Epilepsy Service please contact Alexandra Cook on 07826 893237 or Keita Thomas on 07826 893568.

Breast Referrals to St Richard's Hospital—message from Wendy Sotheran, Lead Consultant for Breast Cancer

The Breast unit accepts referrals for patients with breast symptom requiring surgical or medical treatment. With the advent of the changes from the Department of Health we shall soon be seeing all new patients within two weeks of receiving the referral. Patients in whom you have a high suspicion of breast cancer need to be seen by Miss Sotheran or Mr Bowyer. Patients with symptoms of benign disease may be seen one of the surgeons or by Dr Hilary Platts, Hospital Practitioner.

If you suspect breast cancer please continue to use the “Two Week Rule” proforma and fax (01243 831501) to the hospital as before. For all other referrals, please refer by the Choose and Book system. If you are unable to do this, please could you fax the referral letter to 01243 831501. This will ensure that we are able to allocate your patient to the most appropriate clinician and saves them a second attendance.

We have, in the last few months, observed a marked increase in the number of cancer referrals where the patient had no signs or symptoms of cancer but were referred on a two week rule. There has been a noticeable increase particularly where patients have had mastalgia only, gynaecomastia and where the patient has been under 30. Please refer to the referrals website if guidance is needed. You are welcome to contact us if advice is needed - email is the easiest way for us to give you a prompt response.

Worthing & Southlands hospital moves to SemaHelix Patient Administration system

From 30th October 2009 all sites within Western Sussex Hospitals Trust will use the same Patient Administration system, SemaHelix. This will ensure a consistent approach to recording and sharing patient data across all hospital sites, resulting in enhanced patient safety and experiences.

To prepare for this changeover the Trust has had to eliminate duplicate hospital numbers by re-numbering all Chichester patients with the prefix C0. In future, therefore, hospital numbers will look like this:-

- Worthing patient John Smith - patient number 123456
- Chichester patient Jane Brown - patient number C0123456

All hospital communications including discharge letters will reflect this change and include the 'C0' prefix for Chichester patients. The A&E department at Worthing will also commence using SemaHelix, and GP discharge letters will be produced from the system where possible.

The Sema Helix system implementation will also affect Littlehampton Health Clinic who serve Worthing Hospital outpatients. In addition, Zachary Merton Hospital and Salvington Lodge will commence using SemaHelix for recording their inpatients.

If you would like any further information about this change please contact Jenny Garvey, Head of Information Quality and Clinical Coding jenny.garvey@wsht.nhs.uk 01243 788122 x 2191

Care Quality Commission – Annual Health Check

The Care Quality Commission has announced its Annual Health Check ratings for the period to 31 March 2009. There are two sets of ratings former Worthing and Southlands Hospitals NHS Trust and one for Royal West Sussex NHS Trust.

Worthing and Southlands Hospitals NHS Trust has been given a rating of 'fair' for its quality of services and 'fair' for its use of financial resources the same rating as the year before. Royal West Sussex NHS Trust has been given a rating of 'weak' for its quality of services which is a reduction from the previous three years when it achieved a 'good' rating. It received 'fair' for its use of financial resources, which is the same as last year.

As well as providing an overall rating, the Trusts received the following scores:

Royal West Sussex NHS Trust	Worthing and Southlands NHS Trust
Safety and cleanliness: 14/14	Safety and cleanliness: 10/14
Waiting to be seen: 9/12*	Waiting to be seen: 11/13*
Standard of care: 7/8	Standard of care: 6/8
Dignity and respect: 8/9	Dignity and respect: 7/9
Keeping the public healthy: 4/5	Keeping the public healthy: 5/5
Good management: 15/18	Good management: 15/18

* 'Waiting to be seen' was assessed according to the services provided by the Trust which is why this is different

Chief Executive, Marianne Griffiths, said: "We were particularly disappointed with the overall rating for Royal West Sussex NHS Trust which was due to an isolated issue relating to waiting times for patients in the Bariatric service. Bariatric patients do not generally proceed straight to surgery, but have a period of assessment and counselling as an outpatient to see whether surgery is appropriate. The Bariatric service, which provides a number of weight loss treatments such as gastric banding surgery, was unable to meet its waiting time targets. Although this has now been rectified, it was the main reason for the Trust's drop in the Annual Health Check. This is disappointing as the service is very well regarded by its patients and provides excellent standards of clinical care."

Since the merger in April, we know that Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust has met and exceeded its national targets in key areas such as the A&E waiting times, which is which is very important to our patients. Fortunately the hard work and dedication to our patients which is shown by all our staff is better recognised by the more detailed ratings covering areas such as safety and cleanliness and standards of care, where both former Trusts scored well."

Hyperbaric chamber relocating to Chichester from Royal Naval Hospital Haslar

St Richard's hospital will be the new base for the South East's Hyperbaric Oxygen Chamber and will provide emergency hyperbaric oxygen therapy (decompression) in situations such as diving accidents and carbon monoxide poisoning. The chamber's location is in easy reach of the helicopter pad and ambulance bay at the end of the hospital's A&E corridor. A large crane will be on site to lower the chamber into position in mid-October.

Developing the Clinical Strategy – stakeholder involvement

The group of stakeholders looking at the developing Clinical Strategy has now met three times and has agreed to extend their programme of work with two further meetings. Issues identified by the group as requiring particular attention are the future development of Southlands Hospital and the provision of radiotherapy in the county. At a meeting on 15 September stakeholders met at Southlands Hospital so that could get a feel for the potential of the site. They were brought up to date on the PCT's commissioning intentions and Fit for the Future review and expressed their support for the Trust's planned response. Patient and Public Involvement is key to the Trust developing a strategy that reflects the needs and priorities of the public and the Trust is very grateful to those stakeholders who are giving their time to this work.

GP News is edited by Tara Lennon-Jones, Head of Business Development, Western Sussex Hospitals Trust (Chichester) and published by Christine Brooker. All articles and letters for publication should be sent to Tara, direct line 01243 831550, or email: Tara.Lennon-Jones@wsht.nhs.uk. Please include your name and contact details with your article. If you would prefer to receive GP News by email, please let us know.