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RUH thanked for supporting organ donations

The Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust has been thanked for supporting vital organ transplants for 14 patients during 2019/20.

Organ and tissue transplantation is often the best or even the only treatment for patients suffering from disease or failure of a major organ and many patients each year benefit from a transplant.

Transplant operations do not take place at the RUH, but the hospital has a team of specialist nurses in organ donation who provide information, answer questions and discuss the wishes of the patient with their family.

In a letter to the Trust, Anthony Clarkson, Director of Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation at NHS Blood and Transplant, said: "The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on organ donation and transplantation across the UK.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your organisation for your on-going support throughout the year and especially during these unprecedented times."

RUH Medical Director Bernie Marden said: "The RUH has a good record when it comes to supporting organ donation, so this recognition is very welcome.

"Organ and tissue transplantation saves and enhances people's lives. While organ donation is a very personal decision, I can't stress enough how important it is and how often it can be the difference between life and death.

Chair:
Alison Ryan

Interim Chief Executive:
Libby Walters



“Identifying potential donors and supporting their families through the process was just one of the many services that continued to be carried out by our hard-working staff during the worst of the COVID-19 crisis, despite all the challenges brought by the pandemic.”

Find out more about organ donation by visiting www.organdonation.nhs.uk

Ends

Notes to Editor:

The World Health Organization has designated 2020 as the Year of the Nurse and Midwife to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale. Our nurses and midwives are a big part of the RUH family and throughout the year we are celebrating the work they do, going above and beyond every day to give our patients compassionate care.

The Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust provides acute treatment and care for a catchment population of around 500,000 people in Bath, and the surrounding towns and villages in North East Somerset and Western Wiltshire. The hospital provides healthcare to the population served by four Clinical Commissioning Groups: Bath & North East Somerset CCG, Wiltshire CCG, Somerset CCG and South Gloucestershire CCG.

The Trust provides 759 beds and a comprehensive range of acute services including medicine and surgery, services for women and children, accident and emergency services, and diagnostic and clinical support services.

In 2015 The Royal United Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust acquired the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases (RNHRD) NHS Foundation Trust. The RNHRD treats patients from across the country offering services in rheumatology, chronic pain and chronic fatigue syndrome/ME, cancer related fatigue and fatigue linked to other long term conditions such as multiple sclerosis.

The RUH is changing - we have an exciting programme of redevelopment underway transforming our site and further improving the services we provide. The Trust has opened the purpose-built RNHRD and Brownsword Therapies Centre and is now working towards the new Dyson Cancer Centre. For more details visit: www.ruh.nhs.uk/about/fit_for_the_future

For more information about the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust visit: www.ruh.nhs.uk

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