

13.10.20

Communications Department
Royal United Hospital
Combe Park
Bath
BA1 3NG

Tel: 01225 826230 / 821459
Mobile: 07557 756658 (office hours)

Ruh-tr.communicationsteam@nhs.net
www.ruh.nhs.uk
<https://twitter.com/RUHBath>

Media Release

RUH blood cancer service praised for its excellent standards

The haematology myeloma service at the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust (RUH) is celebrating achieving an 'excellent' rating for its best practice standards.

The accolade comes from Myeloma UK, which inspected the RUH team as part of the charity's Clinical Service Excellence Programme (CSEP). Myeloma, also known as multiple myeloma, is a blood cancer arising from plasma cells.

As part of the inspection, Myeloma UK assessed a number of different best practice standards, including multidisciplinary team working, treatment and supportive care, research and clinical trials, end of life care and information and support.

The inspection consisted of a 'virtual visit' and several online surveys, including a patient experience survey.

Dr Josephine Crowe, Clinical Lead for Haematology at the RUH, said: "To be accredited with the CSEP award is a huge achievement and is a reflection of the hard work of our staff and the excellent care we strive to provide to our patients.

"Myeloma UK found that we clearly demonstrated excellence in our treatment and care of myeloma patients, achieving all best practice standards.

"Feedback from patients is a key part of the inspection process, so it was great to see the overwhelmingly positive response to our service from those people in our care.

"I would like to thank our brilliant myeloma patient support group, who continue to provide outstanding care and support to our patients. They had to change their ways of working during COVID, but continued to support our patients at all times, often virtually via online meetings. Their support is exceptional."

At any one time there are around 24,000 people living with myeloma in the UK. It accounts for 15 per cent of blood cancers, and two per cent of all cancers. Myeloma mainly affects those over the age of 65, however it has been diagnosed in people much younger.

For more information, support and advice visit the Myeloma UK website:

<https://www.myeloma.org.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