

01.06.23**Communications Department**Royal United Hospital
Combe Park
Bath
BA1 3NGTel: 01225 826230 / 821459
Mobile: 07557 756658 (office hours)ruh-tr.communicationteam@nhs.net
www.ruh.nhs.uk
www.twitter.com/RUHBath

Media Release

RUH appeals for stroke patients to support key research study

Researchers at the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust are appealing to people who have had a stroke to help with an important study looking at speech and language recovery.

The Predicting Language Outcome and Recovery After Stroke (PLORAS) study, run by University College London (UCL), aims to help clinicians predict how soon after a stroke a patient might be able to recover their speech and language ability.

The study looks at scans of stroke patients' brains to identify which area of the brain has been affected and, alongside patient questionnaires, aims to more accurately predict when patients may be able to speak again.

Stroke Research Nurse Telma Costa said: "One of the questions that we hear the most from stroke patients is when will they be able to speak again, understand what's being said to them, or read again too.

"This study aims to help clinicians understand why different types of strokes can have different recovery times when it comes to speech and language, and help us to give patients a clearer timeline about when they might expect to recover these skills.

"If you've had a stroke and been a patient at the RUH, please do get in touch if you can help with this research. All we need you to do is fill in a questionnaire that you can do from home – there's no need to visit the hospital."

If you could help with the research, please email ruh-tr.strokeresearch@nhs.net or call 01225 824120.

You can find out more about our research into strokes [on our website](#).

And there's lots more information about the PLORAS study on the [University College London website](#).

Ends

Notes to Editor:

At the RUH we're proud to put people at the heart of what we do, striving to create an environment where everyone matters. Everyone means the people we care for, the people we work with and the people in our community.

We provide a wide range of services including medicine and surgery, services for women and children, accident and emergency services, and diagnostic and clinical support services.

We also provide specialist services for rheumatology, chronic pain and chronic fatigue syndrome/ME via the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases which we acquired in 2015.

In 2021, we acquired Sulis Hospital Bath, an independent hospital that provides care for both private and NHS patients. This has enabled us to provide more care for NHS patients, as well as continuing to provide private care to those who choose it. Any additional income earned through private care is reinvested in services for the benefit of the people we care for at both Sulis and the RUH.

We're currently building a new Cancer Centre at the RUH. The Dyson Cancer Centre, which is set to open in autumn 2023, will help transform the care we provide for patients, families and carers.

We work closely with other health and care organisations as members of the Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board. We strive to improve the health and wellbeing of the people in our community by working together build one of the healthiest places to live and work.

We are rated 'Good' by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

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