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Media Release

Mum thanks RUH's neonatal team for its incredible care

A new mum has thanked neonatal staff at the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust for their 'incredible care' after her baby was born nearly 10 weeks early.

Loki Dolman, who weighed just 799g when he was born, was delivered by emergency c-section because of reduced movements.

He was in the hospital's Dyson Centre for Neonatal Care for 62 days and was diagnosed with chronic lung disease and intrauterine growth restriction, which meant he was smaller than he should have been at that stage of pregnancy.

Loki's mum, Lauren Cox, from Calne, said: "Even with his difficult start he has been a little fighter and made it out of the neonatal unit on oxygen.

"The time in the unit was scary, but also an amazing journey. Each week there were different examinations and procedures, but every day I was still able to care for Loki by changing his nappies, feeding him and having skin on skin contact.

"Loki is now five months old and weighing 4.3kg. He has recently come off oxygen and is thriving, showing us the chatty, cheeky boy he is today.

"If it wasn't for the amazing staff at RUH who made the quick decision for an emergency c-section and provided the incredible care they did, it could have been a very different story.

"A huge thank you from us to everyone in the neonatal department at the RUH for giving Loki the best start in life and for the incredible amount of support and care you have given us."

Kirstie Flood, Lead Nurse, Dyson Centre for Neonatal Care, said: “We are delighted that Loki has made such fantastic progress and is such a healthy, happy boy.

“We are so proud of all our neonatal staff and the incredible work they do every day.”

Lauren’s story coincides with World Prematurity Day (Friday 17 November), an annual event to raise awareness of premature birth and the impact it can have on families. To mark the date, the RUH’s main hospital building, as well as the neonatal care unit, will be lit up purple.

The RUH’s neonatal unit provides care for premature and sick term newborn babies. Approximately 10% of all babies will need admission to a neonatal unit, commonly because of prematurity, infection, breathing difficulties or feeding problems.

The unit has 21 cots, and facilities for parents including four double en-suite bedrooms, a breast milk expressing room, a parents’ coffee room, quiet room, a play area for siblings and a garden.

You can take a virtual tour of the unit on our website [here](#).

For support and advice about premature birth, visit the Bliss charity website: <https://www.bliss.org.uk/>

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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



Royal United Hospitals Bath
NHS Foundation Trust