

30.05.25

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Media Release

Hospital at Home team celebrates supporting 5,000 patients

More than 5,000 patients at the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust have been helped to get home earlier and supported with care in the community thanks to the hard work of the Trust's Hospital at Home team.

Since starting in 2021, the Hospital at Home service has helped the people we care for across Bath and North East Somerset and Wiltshire, supporting them to have an earlier discharge from hospital and receive the care they need at home.

Patients are safely looked after in the comfort of their own home, and remain under the care of their RUH consultant, until they have safely completed their programme of treatment.

A home visit covers overall wellbeing, including diet, sleep quality, and daily activities as well as medical needs.

Being in a familiar environment can lead to faster and more effective recovery at home.

The success of the Hospital at Home team's approach has meant fewer patients have to return to hospital. Ther service has also had excellent patient feedback, with 99.5% of patients saying they would recommend Hospital at Home.

One patient said: "This is an excellent initiative. The medical team were first class – kind helpful and efficient."

Another said: "We received truly outstanding care from Hospital at Home. The well-informed team provided excellent care which was responsive, timely, thoughtful, kind and flexible."

This month also saw a second celebration for the Hospital at Home team, which won the Working Together Award at the RUH's annual You Matter Staff Awards, in recognition of the exceptional care and support provided by the team for our patients.



Kerrie Hopson, Service Lead for RUH Hospital at Home, said: "The Hospital at Home team works tirelessly to ensure that those we care for receive the best possible care, extending this commitment to carers, family, and friends.

"Kindness and civility are fundamental to our approach, ensuring that every patient is seen as an individual and treated with compassion, respect, and consideration for what matters most to them during home visits.

"Being in a familiar environment can have a big impact on the people we care for - evidence shows patients recover better and quicker in their own home – and we are delighted to be able to play such a key role in our patients' recoveries."

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.

Our new Dyson Cancer Centre brings together many of the RUH's cancer services under one roof to provide a cancer services hub for over 500,000 people in the South West. The centre includes the RUH's oncology, chemotherapy and radiotherapy services, a 22-bed inpatient ward, a dedicated pharmacy, research team and nuclear medicine and physics teams.

A key feature of the new centre is the Macmillan Wellbeing Hub. The three-storey hub provides a welcoming, nonclinical space designed around the needs of patients and their families. It also includes comfortable accommodation where relatives and loved ones can stay overnight.

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