



Renal News

ISSUE 7



Dr Clara Day
Renal Consultant

Welcome to Renal News

Welcome to the seventh edition of Renal News – our renal dialysis service bulletin.

We aim to keep you up-to-date with developments in our dialysis programme and how you can find more information about our new units.

In this issue we have details on the plans for the next new unit, set to open in Smethwick in early summer and an invitation to visit the new unit for a special preview of the building.

We hope you find this information useful but please do get in touch should you have any questions or concerns.

Dr Clara Day
Renal Consultant

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University Hospitals Birmingham
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Countdown to opening of Smethwick begins

With less than two months until Smethwick Dialysis Centre opens its doors to its first dialysis patients, the construction team are nearing completion of the build.

The new Smethwick Dialysis Centre, which will be run by Assure Dialysis Services, will open on 3 June 2015.

The centre's eight isolation rooms, which will be used to dialyse patients returning from holidays, are taking shape with colourful fixtures and fittings being installed.

Gabby Kelly, Lead Nurse for Smethwick Dialysis Centre said: "There has been a great deal of progress with the building and it is starting to look like the artist's impressions we saw at the start of the build.

"The reception and waiting area are very welcoming now that the walls have been plastered and you can really get a feel for



The home haemodialysis training area is looking very impressive – and big! ”

Gabby Kelly

how it will be when everything is finished.

"The home haemodialysis training area is looking very impressive – and big!" In addition to the treatment facilities, the centre will have a number of meeting rooms, a 30-seater seminar room, offices, training rooms and staff rooms.

Patients will also be able to take advantage of the latest dialysis equipment, individual TV units and Internet access. Ample free parking is also available directly outside the building for patients.

Smethwick Dialysis Centre will be holding open days in April - see page 4 for details



Diaverum inaugural event celebrates new units

Diaverum marked the opening of its new dialysis units with a special thank you event to recognise the achievement of those involved in the opening of the four new units in Aston, Great Bridge, Hereford and Kings Norton.

Diaverum's chief executive officer Dag Anderson opened the celebrations, which were held at the dialysis unit in Aston, by giving an overview of Diaverum's vision for patients and sharing his thoughts on what have become Diaverum's flagship dialysis centres in the UK.

Staff from UHB, Diaverum, equipment providers Gambro and building company Sandycroft then heard from patient Kenneth Jeffers about his experience of moving to the new Aston unit.



We have been very pleased with the new units, which have been built to a very high standard. ”

Clara Day

Michael Hartnett, Managing Director of Diaverum for the UK said: "Opening four brand new dialysis units on the same day was a huge challenge – but we did it!"



Dag Anderson, Kenneth Jeffers and Rachel Hucknall

"We are extremely lucky to work with the team at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, who have ensured we have delivered everything to the highest possible standard and we are very much looking forward to working closely with the Trust in the coming months and years to continually improve clinical quality and patient experience."

After thanking the companies involved in opening the new units, UHB's lead consultant in haemodialysis, Dr Clara Day, added: "We have been very pleased with the new units, which have been built to a very high standard."

"Undoubtedly this has been a massive challenge for all involved, but a worthwhile one, and we are already seeing the rewards of everyone's hard work."

Dr Clara Day thanks staff



Diaverum's CEO Dag Anderson opens the event

World Kidney Day success

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham's renal team was out in force helping to raise awareness of kidney disease as part of this year's World Kidney Day celebrations.

The event, which took place on 12 March 2015, saw dietitians, CAPD nurses, former patients and volunteers, help raise awareness of kidney disease by providing information to visitors about the condition and the treatments available in the hospital's atrium.

Information stands included a kidney dialysis machine, examples of low potassium diets and facts about joining the Organ Donor Register.

QEH's Renal Unit currently sees more than 25,000 outpatients a year, looks after almost 1,100 people on dialysis treatment, and carries out around 160 kidney transplants a year.

Dr Clara Day, consultant nephrologist, said: "There is a wide range of kidney-related conditions and World Kidney Day plays an important role in raising the awareness of kidney disease, which affects about one in ten people in the community.

"For people with more advanced kidney disease, we are providing treatment for increasing numbers of people through our satellite dialysis facilities across the West Midlands, home haemodialysis



Nick Flint (right) supporting World Kidney Day

and a growing living kidney transplant programme.

“Once patients become renal patients, they are patients for life”
 Nick Flint

"We are also making important improvements in the quality of dialysis treatment through our renal research programme."

The awareness day was supported by the QEH Kidney Patients' Association. The QEH

KPA provides renal patients with a voice and raises money through donations and various sponsored events, largely organised by patients' relatives.

Nick Flint, chairman of QEH KPA, who had his transplant more than 17 years ago, said: "Once patients become renal patients, they are patients for life.

"World Kidney Day unites all those working towards improving the lives of renal patients and it provides a valuable focus point to raise awareness of the services that can help and support patients with kidney problems.

"It is important to make people aware of the success of treatments for kidney failure including kidney transplantation."



Patients support Organ Donor Register at World Kidney Day



Smethwick open day – come and say hello!

Come along and meet the Assure team and take a look at the new Smethwick Dialysis Centre.

We are holding two open days in April to give you opportunity to come and see the plans for the new unit yourselves.

At these open days patients, relatives and staff will be able to meet the project team in person. There will also be members of the construction team on hand to show you around the building, talk through the artist's impressions and answer questions.

In addition there will be lots of information for staff on working for Assure and the features of Smethwick Dialysis Centre.

We will put all of your questions and most importantly the answers, on our website after the event so if you don't have time to pop along, you can still find out more from the team.

Refreshments will be provided and there is FREE parking available. Please contact Gabby Kelly for further information.

We look forward to seeing you there!
Come along for a chat and refreshments.

Dates	Times
Friday 24th April 2015	2pm – 4pm
Saturday 25th April 2015	9.30 am – 11.30 am

Best in Care Awards 2015

Nominations are open for 2015



The search is on for 2015's shining stars and already scores of nominations have been received for this year's awards.

Now in their seventh year, the Best in Care Awards aim to recognise those who go above and beyond in order to provide outstanding care to patients or those who provide exceptional support to the teams who do.

UHB's Chief Executive Dame Julie Moore said: "The Best in Care Awards is a very inspiring and heart-warming occasion. Each year I am newly humbled to hear of the excellent care that the nominees deliver to

our patients, and the lengths that some go to ensure the smooth running of the hospital, every single day."

There are 14 categories celebrating the variety of ways staff, members, volunteers and QEHB Charity supporters contribute to providing the best in care.

Anyone can nominate and nominating is easy. To make your nominations either complete a nomination at the Information Desk at QEHB, visit our website www.nhs.uk/awards, email us at: awards@uhb.nhs.uk, or call 0121 371 6486.

Nominations close Thursday 31 July 2015.

» CONTACT US




If you have any questions or queries regarding dialysis services, please get in touch.

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust



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