Press release – 22 April 2014
2014-41

Clinical Assessment Unit opens its doors to county patients round the clock

Hereford County Hospital’s clinical assessment unit has opened its doors 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and is set to double the number of patients being seen and treated for a variety of moderate health conditions.

The new unit has seen and treated more than 900 patient attendances since it opened three months ago, preventing the need for the majority of these patients to stay in hospital overnight.

Its opening hours have been increased to a round the clock service and this week marks the completion of building work to expand the unit. This means that the unit will be able to see and treat up to twice as many patients, with conditions such as falls, chest pains and head injuries.

Neil Doverty, Chief Operating Officer, at Wye Valley NHS Trust, said: “It’s early days with unit only having been operational for a short period, but we are pleased to report that more than two thirds of Clinical Assessment Unit patients are being discharged home on the same day.

“This shows that its purpose to reduce unnecessary hospital admissions and the amount of time patients have to wait to be seen is proving to be a success, with the majority of these patients not requiring an overnight stay because we are able to diagnose and treat them in this specialist unit”.

“Whilst we continue to experience a high number of people attending our A&E department, the Clinical Assessment Unit is enabling us to effectively manage the demand on our services.

“It is providing patients with quicker access to clinical assessment for moderate health conditions, and enabling our A&E staff to focus on seeing and treating patients attending with serious illness and injuries”.

Photograph
Far left: Sister, Helen Davies, and the Clinical Assessment Unit team

Notes to Editors WVT:
Herefordshire’s health service provider
Wye Valley NHS Trust is the provider health services across Herefordshire and beyond. The Trust exists to improve the wellbeing, independence and health of the people we serve. We are the leading provider of health care in Herefordshire.

By working closely with our partners, we can make good our promise to deliver a quality of care we would want for ourselves, our families and our friends.

With an estimated annual turnover of around £160 million, we employ around 2,700 plus staff. We aim to build new relationships between our staff, patients, service users and their carers with the wider community. For further information please contact:

For further information please contact:
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