

City Community Hospital Briefing Note

Update and Future Proposals following 6 months of Opening.

Background

Following the closure of the old Oxford Community Hospital Alan Webb, Director of Commissioning for Oxfordshire PCT in March 2009 made a commitment that 20 beds would be available for community rehabilitation by October 2009.

Community Health Oxfordshire (CHO) was commissioned by the PCT to re-provide the service and following considerable joint effort and commitment between CHO the ORH alongside other strategic partners the new 'City Community Hospital' (City Com) as it has been named opened to admissions on 12th October 2009 with 20 beds in a newly refurbished ward on level 7 of the John Radcliffe hospital.

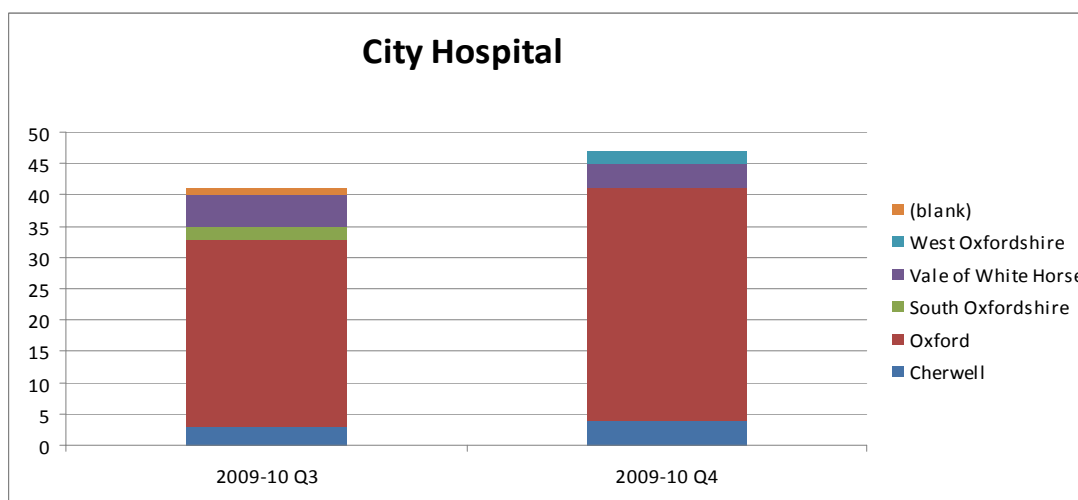
Six months on the unit is running well with positive feedback from patients and visitors, staff and senior managers as they have visited the unit

City Community Hospital Brief

From its inception it has been intended that these new facilities would provide an example of good practice and would be at the forefront of Community Hospital service provision wherever possible in the following areas;-

- Providing a rehabilitation service for the Oxfordshire community

The majority of patients admitted to the hospital are from Oxford City as can be seen from the diagram below, 79% Oxford City against 21% other areas.



Since the opening of the new City Com the numbers of Oxford City resident admitted to non City Community Hospitals has reduced from over 60 to 25 in

JHO12

quarter 4 (January to March 2010) with 14 of the 25 being admitted to specialist beds in Abingdon and Witney.

Based on the information available it is apparent that the provision of 20 beds does deliver to the demand for admissions from the Oxford City population.

In terms of performance the 20 beds are well used with occupancy rates being over 90% at all times. Reports from referrers indicate that few people wait for a bed and where people do they don't wait for a significant length of time. In general where delays do occur they relate to problems identifying a bed for a female where male beds are available and vice versa.

- The ward is maintained and cleaned to a very high standard making the control of infection much easier. As a result no reports of MRSA and Clostridium Difficile have been attributed to City Community Hospitals since its opening.
- The majority of patients admitted to the unit return home within 4 weeks, resulting in City Community Hospital having the joint lowest Average Length of Stay (ALOS) in Oxfordshire

Patient facilities

- The facility opened with a focus on achieving Privacy and dignity for all patients through the provision of single sex accommodation not only in sleeping areas but also in toilet and hygiene facilities.
- Patients have access to the Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals first class gym facilities where they can undertake exercise and therapy programmes in purpose built surroundings including the use of a therapy kitchen where they can learn key skills for independence prior to returning home.
- Further investment and improvements to patient care are planned this year with to develop facilities allowing patients to practice the preparation of hot drinks and cold snacks. The practicing of such activities on a regular basis means they will be able to maintain their independence once discharged home. The learning of such skills is essential for many people wanting to continue an independent life at home for as long as they are able.
- The recent Patient Environment Action Team Assessments (PEAT) gave it an overall rating of Good

Productivity

- Recent recruitment campaigns have been successful, reducing the need to use bank staff and improving the continuity of care provided to patients
- The provision of dedicated time from therapists has helped people to rehabilitate and return home more quickly.

Partnership working with the Oxford Radcliffe and Local GP's

Key to the success of the City Community Hospital is the partnership approach to its operation that has been adapted by both health and associated partners across the community.

- After every multi-disciplinary team meeting updated patient information is sent to the GP

JHO12

- Local GP's have access to beds in City Com via an agreed referral and assessment process aimed at avoiding the need for patients to be admitted to the ORHT in the first instance where appropriate and safe to do so.
- Improved links have been developed with Gerontology within the ORH ie Rotational program for nursing staff between ORH and City Community hospital introduced
- Regular review meetings held to review lessons learnt from patient pathway experiences

Patient feedback

Recent media interest and visits by external stakeholders have been very complimentary. Statements from patients include,

Ruby B 85 years said,

'I have not been able to stand for four weeks. Yesterday I stood up to go to the toilet ...it was a milestone for me!

I expected it to be old fashioned but it's very nice it's very upgraded. The staff are very nice and the food is good.'

Susan H 90 years said,

'The atmosphere is very warming and it fits with my expectations'

No patient complaints have been received since opening.

Future provision

This new development was agreed from the outset as an interim solution providing much needed high quality community hospital beds for the people of Oxford City whilst a final proposal was developed.

Although many factors need to be taken into account including the present and future emerging changing financial, clinical and organisational changes affecting health care across Oxfordshire it is proposed to sign a new lease between the Oxford Radcliffe hospital and Community health Oxfordshire for them to continue to provide the service from its current location following the end of the current lease in September 2010 based on:-

- Extending it to a seven years lease with a 12 month break clause
- Incorporating additional provision for shared meeting room provision and staff changing facilities

Jonathan Coombes