



L&D Community



**Luton and Dunstable
University Hospital**
NHS Foundation Trust

January 2020

Update on Pathology integration at Luton & Dunstable and Bedford hospitals

As colleagues in primary care will be aware, one of the first services to formally merge, as part of the Luton & Dunstable/Bedford merger, will be pathology. From 1 April 2020, coinciding with the end of the Viapath contract at Bedford, we will be reintroducing an NHS-led, combined pathology service across both sites, called Luton and Bedford Pathology Services (LAB Pathology Services).

We believe this is a very exciting opportunity to bring together the best of two departments and ensure we are well-placed for the future to offer the very best service.

Ensuring that we continue to provide a high quality service for you as GPs is a top priority and we will be doing everything possible to ensure that there is minimal disruption. However, it is a complex project, so we will be hugely grateful for your understanding while we transition over the next 18 months or so. There will be no changes to how you access ICE, licensing and what you can access. Results, no matter where originated or tested will go back to the requestor.

However, there will be changes to how we operate within the laboratories, reference ranges and units and potentially the times of sample collections from practices. We will maintain communication to update you as we implement changes safely. There is also a long-standing Pathology Lab User Group at Bedford and it is planned to extend this forum to all users of Pathology at Bedford and the L&D.

We have produced a Frequently Asked Questions document on our website which can be viewed via www.ldh.nhs.uk/gps-professionals/pathology-merger

The FAQs are aimed at GPs and Primary Care colleagues – to deal with any questions or issues you may have, which will be frequently updated. Please contact charlotte.mustoe@ldh.nhs.uk with any further questions.

Welcome to L&D Community, the newsletter for GPs, Primary Care Practitioners, Practice Managers and Practice Administrators who use hospital and community services from the Luton and Dunstable University Hospital.

Inside you will find out about new clinical and administrative developments, service updates, such as new Consultants, changes to existing services, referral processes, useful contacts, clinic details, waiting times and E-referral updates. These are all designed to make the L&D referral process simpler and quicker saving you time and effort.

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New Gynaecology Health Centre opening

The New Gynaecology Health Centre (GHC) opened in January and is based in Zone J near the Main Hospital entrance.

What drove this initiative?

- Women's health ambition to expand services
- CQC recommendation to separate gynae from obstetric (i.e. separate women who have miscarriages from those who are heavily pregnant)
- Better patient experience (Patient satisfaction questionnaires/friends and family test)
- The need to acquire a separate gynaecology area to aid Obstetric expansion

What the centre offers

- All gynaecology services except ambulatory gynaecology
- Pessary clinics
- Early pregnancy services & Hyperemesis unit
- Gynaecology scanning
- Counselling room: Simulation training room

Timings and telephone numbers will remain the same.

For any queries please contact Miss Neela Mukhopadhaya, Lead Consultant for Early Pregnancy and Emergency Gynaecology via calling our switchboard.



New Neurology & Respiratory Telephone Advice & Guidance Pilot for LCCG GPs

Luton & Dunstable Hospital are working in partnership with Luton CCG to trial telephone advice and guidance for GPs for elective care. From 13 January 2020, the Neurology and Respiratory teams will offer telephone advice and guidance to Luton GPs for a range of hours every day. Selected other specialties will join the trial in the coming months. This phone

advice and guidance complement the existing urgent care advice options already available to Luton GPs for adults and paediatrics. GPs will now be able to seek telephone advice for patients for whom they are considering making an elective referral but have some queries. Further information will be available as specialties come on board.

Luton & Dunstable & Bedford Hospital Merger update

We are all still on course for the planned merger between Luton & Dunstable and Bedford to take effect from April 1 2020 – which feels very close now. We submitted our business case to NHS Improvement/England before Christmas, and have enjoyed good dialogue with them.

Our senior leadership from both hospitals held some productive public engagement sessions just before Christmas, which was a good opportunity to hear from patients and members of the public, to answer questions, dispel some myths and keep them informed.

We were pleased with the engagement, which was a chance for us to explain where we are, and particularly reinforce key messages – that core clinical services will be retained on both

sites with this merger, including A&E, Obstetrics-led Maternity and Paediatrics services; as well as reassuring them that for the vast majority of patients, they will see no change to where they normally access hospital services.

We were able to explain to patients that as a single organisation we are stronger and can offer better recruitment opportunities and services across 7 days, as well as explain the realities of how we want to work together to strengthen and enhance the healthcare workforce.

It was also a valuable opportunity to promote that we want people to become members of the Foundation Trust, so any support GP and primary care colleagues can provide in continuing to encourage that would be hugely valued.

L&D Site Redevelopment update

The Redevelopment team are progressing the business case for the merger which was submitted to NHSI/E in December 2019. In parallel to this, following the announcement of £99.5m capital funding for the L&D Hospital in August 2019, the team are progressing the clinical strategy and design for the redeveloped hospital. The Trust now have a £150m capital scheme to deliver over the next 3.5 years. There are four key elements to the redevelopment scheme;

1. The Energy Centre – the Trust will build an energy centre on the site of the boiler house car park at the back of the hospital campus. The energy centre will provide and support modern infrastructure and resilience across the site. Construction work will start Easter 2020.
2. New hospital build to provide acute service accommodation. Work will start following planning permission and approval of the Trusts business case by NHSI/E, DH and HM Treasury. Approvals are expected towards the end of 2020.

The new hospital building (s) will house;

- a. Maternity – a new Delivery Suite, Midwifery Led Birthing Unit, Consultant Led Birthing Unit, Bereavement Suite, Operating Theatres, Triage and Maternity Wards
- b. Neonatal Unit – a new Intensive Care, High Dependency, Special Care, Transitional Care, Rooming In and Parental Accommodation

- c. Operating Theatre Suite – 8 new Operating Theatres including a number of Hybrid Theatres, Surgical Arrivals, Recovery and Discharge Lounge
- d. Critical Care – a new Intensive Care and High Dependency Suite

3. The Helipad – providing a helipad on the hospital campus to support rapid access for trauma. The helipad will be supported by a rapid access lift shaft which will ultimately connect the Helipad with the Emergency Department and the Short Stay Assessment Wards.
4. Car Parking – the Trust will expand the public car park opposite the main entrance with the addition of two decks, and lease additional space for staff parking close to the hospital.

Public consultation for the main element of the redevelopment scheme (new hospital build and car park) took place in November and was overwhelmingly supported by the local community.

L&D becomes East of England Regional TMJ Centre

The Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery department is delighted to a momentous step forward in patient care in the region.

The TMJ (temporomandibular joint or jaw joint) is a very complex joint. Unfortunately there are few surgeons in the UK with an interest in disease of the TMJ or the expertise to manage it. Only Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons provide surgical treatment although dentists and GPs can provide initial advice and management. Awareness of early treatment options is low as it is not taught at medical or dental school. Mr. Parbhoo provides ongoing teaching for local GPs and dentists. There are very few specialist centres in the UK.

The L&D has been offering a service for more than a decade but in the last few years has been working towards becoming a regional specialist (tertiary referral) centre. Several years ago jaw joint arthroscopy (small camera inserted into the joint for diagnosis and treatment) was introduced by Mr. Majumdar into the trust and is now performed by both TMJ surgeons. After several years of development Mr. Parbhoo has now received approval from the British Association of TMJ Surgeons to set up a specialist centre offering total joint replacement surgery (TMJR) as well as all the other TMJ procedures, which means patients no longer need to be referred out of area for treatment.

The L&D is the only specialist centre in the East of England and offers a unique service to patients in the region.

Back Pain FAQs

The L&Ds Spinal team have compiled a list of commonly asked questions and answers to help GPs navigate their way through back pain conditions and help them to diagnose more complex back pain conditions. To view the full Back Pain FAQs from GPS please visit the T&O pages of our GP website via:

www.ldh.nhs.uk/gps-professionals/consultants-and-services/trauma-and-orthopaedics

L&D Hospital Primary Care Respiratory Conference

L&D Hospital Primary Care Respiratory Conference

Date: Thursday 30th January 2020 – 12-5.30pm

Venue: Peter Newton Pavilion, Skimpot Road Dunstable (LU5 4JU)

The Trust's respiratory department are delivering a respiratory conference for primary care colleagues focussing on the key themes detailed below.

- **COPD: The Frequent Exacerbator**
Lizan Drummond (Resp CNS) & Louisa Favell (Respiratory Physiotherapist)
- **Severe Difficult Asthma: NRAD/Secondary v/s Tertiary**
Dr Syed Tariq (Respiratory Consultant, Luton & Dunstable NHS Trust)
- **Obstructive Sleep Apnoea: The 'growing' problem**
Hayley Cremin (Deputy Lead Physiologist) Daniel Hicks (Respiratory Physiologist)
- **Palliative Care in Respiratory Disease: How do we provide a seamless service?**
Dr Jude Gnanapragasam (Respiratory Consultant, Luton & Dunstable NHS Trust)
- **Pulmonary Rehabilitation: Local Audit data/Accreditation**
Helen Owen (Pulmonary Rehab Lead Physiotherapist, Luton & Dunstable NHS Trust)
- **Inhalers and Technique: The Past/The Present/The Future**
David Allen (Respiratory Extended Scope Physiotherapist) / Julia Graves (Respiratory CNS)

This session is free to attend and all primary care colleagues are welcome. The full agenda can be downloaded by visiting our web page www.ldh.nhs.uk/gps-professionals/consultants-and-services/respiratory-medicine To book your free place simply email your details to: ldh-tr.respiratorynursespecialists@nhs.net by the 30th January 2020.

GP Advice When Requesting CT Scans

If you are requesting a CT with contrast please ensure that the patient has a current EGFR and add this to your ICE request. If they do not have a reading that is less than 3 months old please arrange for a current EGFR to be done prior to the CT being performed. If this information is not on the request it will delay the CT scan and waiting time for your patients.

Refresher training in administration of Rescue Medication and Basic Life Support Skills for Parents

The L&D Paediatric team are inviting all parents/carers of children/young people who have been prescribed emergency medication for prolonged seizures. We would be grateful if you could promote this training day to appropriate parents by informing them directly and putting up the poster which can be downloaded from our website

www.ldh.nhs.uk/gps-professionals/consultants-and-services/paediatrics

Date: Tuesday 3rd March 2020

Time: 5.30pm Registration

Venue: Children's Out-patient department; Luton and Dunstable Hospital

Child Care

We will be able to provide child care for toddlers and older children with our play leaders, if this is required please let us know.

If you have parents who are interested in attending please ask them to contact us directly on 01582 497203 (Carol, paediatric secretary) or email c.lander@nhs.net to book their place.

Non-Medical Prescribing Conference 2020

The L&D has been running its annual Non Medical Prescribers Conference for many years and the next conference is taking place on Thursday 16th January 2020 between 12.00-17.00 at the Trust's COMET Lecture Hall. The Conference is free to attend and includes a networking lunch and the agenda will cover the key areas below. All community based primary care Non Medical Prescribers or primary care staff with an interest in non-medical prescribing are welcome to attend.

- Legal Implications of NMP in Primary and Secondary Care
- Considerations of a NMP transitioning from Secondary to Primary Care
- Prescribing in Opioid Crisis
- Management of Patients with Sickle Cell
- Working with NMPs – a multidisciplinary approach

To book your place simply email your details to NMPCONF@ldh.nhs.uk who will then email you a booking form to complete.

Advice when referring to Paediatric Assessment Unit (PAU)

The team on the Paediatric Assessment Unit based on the Woodlands Unit at the Luton and Dunstable Hospital would like to remind you about following the pathways that have been designed to help refer patients to us. To discuss an urgent referral to the Paediatric Assessment Unit (PAU) please ensure that you:

- Call the PAU team via Consultant Connect - this is the best method of referral. You can also discuss where best to refer a patient with a Consultant if needed.
- Bleep the Paediatric Registrar on 733-(if you do not have access to Consultant Connect)

Please can we ask you to be patient when calling through as the doctors may be busy with acute patients. We would like to reassure you that the doctors will speak with you as soon as they are able and understand that you may also be experiencing time pressures. It is important for patient safety that patients are not sent with GP letters to Paediatric Accident and Emergency department unless they require emergency treatment or specialist input i.e. surgical. This is in order to avoid any confusion and ensure a smooth and safe journey through the hospital for the patient and their family.

One Stop Sleep Clinic (OSSC) in Respiratory Department

As you know we have been providing a one- stop sleep apnoea clinic to all our patients since July 2018. This involves the Consultant seeing and assessing patients in the sleep clinic with the physiologists performing spirometry and patients being given the equipment for full diagnostic sleep study on the same day. Patients would then return to clinic and be seen either by the consultant or sleep physiologist in a single follow up clinic and have the CPAP titration on the same day. This will reduce the follow up reviews and patients' hospital attendance and improve patient satisfaction. In order to help make the one stop sleep clinic work more effectively, when you have patients with a primary diagnosis of suspected sleep

apnoea, please refer them directly to our One Stop Sleep Clinic (OSSC) in Respiratory Department and please avoid referring them to our ENT department. First outpatient referrals can be made to this service on ERS by selecting;

'Sleep - Respiratory – One Stop Luton & Dunstable Hospital -RC9'

This will also reduce the unnecessary inter- departmental referrals and will clearly help everyone in providing the best service to this group of patients.

A New System for Booking Blood Tests at Arndale House

In November 2019 the Trust's phlebotomy department launched some additional booking options for patients wishing to book their phlebotomy appointments at Arndale House. The new booking options (listed below) were put in place in response to calls from patients and GPs to improve the convenience for patients when booking their appointments.

The updated phlebotomy booking options now include:

- Book an appointment online booking service available 24/7. Patients need to register online first at www.luton.sangix.co.uk.
- Book an appointment via the automated phone line booking service also available 24/7, on 01582 343309 and then register your details at reception in Arndale House on arrival
- Book an appointment at Arndale House reception desk between 1pm– 4pm

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- Book an appointment by phone and speak to a receptionist on 01582 718968 between 1pm-4.15pm
- Please note 'walk-in' appointments continue to be available.

The L&D's phlebotomy department circulated over 90,000 patient information leaflets to GP surgeries in Luton and south Beds requesting they circulate these onwards to their patients so they are aware of the new booking options. Kindly continue to circulate these leaflets so as to limit any inconvenience to your patients.

Consultant Starters & Leavers up to January 2020

STARTERS

| Title | First Name | Last Name | Department | Start Date |
|-------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| Dr | Noha | Gasmelseed | Haematology | 04/11/2019 |
| Dr | Adaikkalavan | Chockalingam | Imaging Medical | 05/12/2019 |
| Dr | Tammy | Angel | Medical | 16/12/2019 |
| Dr | Constantin | Durnea | Obstetrics | 16/12/2019 |

LEAVERS

| Title | First Name | Last Name | Department | Leave Date |
|-------|------------|-----------|------------------------|------------|
| Dr | Auditi | Naziat | Acute Medicine Central | 08/11/2019 |

Speech and Language Therapy Led Endoscopy Clinic

Since the inception of our Speech and Language Therapy Led Endoscopy Clinic in April 2017, we have seen 145 new referrals directly from GPs for specialist assessment. This clinic releases much needed ENT outpatient appointments and has waiting times of less than a month. Please be aware that in this clinic we can see people who have a history of voice change/dysphonia in the absence of:

- A previous history of cancer
- Weight loss
- Dysphagia
- Lumps palpated
- Sensation of lump/globus
- Smoking AND alcohol history (under 40)
- Smoking OR alcohol history (over 40)

The ongoing success of this clinic relies on ensuring that those patients referred meet the above referral criteria.

L&D Imaging Waiting Times Jan 2020

The waiting times below are for routine appointments. Urgent appointments are available in each of the modalities. Urgent results reporting shall be given priority with reports provided to GPs asap.

| Modality | App wait (weeks) | Report wait |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------|
| MRI | 4 weeks | >3-4 weeks |
| MRI Paeds/Ga | 6 weeks | >3-4 weeks |
| CT (Gen) | 3 weeks | >3-4 weeks |
| CT (Brain) | 1 weeks | >3-4 weeks |
| CT (Colon) | 2.5weeks | >4 weeks |
| US(Gen) | 6 weeks | No wait |
| US (MSK)) | 6 weeks | No wait |
| US (MSK Inj) | 13 weeks | No wait |
| US (Gynae) | 6 weeks | No wait |
| US (Paed Hips) | 6 weeks | No wait |
| US Neck | 5 weeks | No wait |
| NM (Bone Ortho) | 6 weeks | >3-4weeks |
| NM (Bone Oncol) | 2 weeks | >3-4 weeks |
| DMSA | 6 weeks | >3-4 weeks |
| Mag 3 | 6 weeks | >3-4 weeks |
| Cardiac | 6 weeks | <1 week |
| Gen Screen | 4 weeks | <1 week |
| Paed Screen | 4 weeks | <1 week |
| HSG | 2 weeks | <1 week |
| Arthrogram | 4/5 weeks | <1 week |
| Small Bowel | 3 weeks | 3 weeks |
| Sialogram | 3 weeks | 2 weeks |
| Plain Film Xray | 6 weeks | 3-4 week |
| Daxa | 6 weeks | 10 weeks |

If you have any queries related to the services we provide contact:

Amran Qurban
 Head of GP Client Services
01582 718086
amran.qurban@ldh.nhs.uk
www.ldh.nhs.uk/gps-professionals/

Phone Numbers

Priority GP Phone Line: 01582 492851
 The L&D's main switchboard: 01582 491166
 Direct Line for Out-Patients Booking Dept: 01582 561385 Fax: 01582 718177