

GP Newsletter

The Berkshire Independant Hospital

January 2023

01 Message from Our GPL

03 ERS Update

02 New and Returning Consultants

04 DEXA Scans

Message from Our GPL

Happy New Year to you all.

Thank you to those of you who attended our Cardiology Masterclass hosted by our Consultant Cardiologist Bhavesh Sachdev at Reading University on the evening of 7 December 2022. This was a very well attended event, for which we received excellent feedback. We will be offering Pt II of this masterclass as per the request of our local doctors in the spring.

I am now booking consultant educational talks for 2023. If you would like one of our consultants to present at your GP practice meeting please let me know. I can provide equipment and am happy to sponsor lunch. Our educational programme (list of topics and speakers) is on our BIH website under Referrer Zone - Meet the GPL - GP Education Programme. I am also happy to email this document to you. All upcoming educational events are listed in this section and available to book on line.

Please be aware that all hospital referral documents are on our website Referral Zone under the resources tab - Consultant Directory, e-Rs Referral Guide, Reading Shoulder Unit, Reading Urology, Ophthalmic Referral Guide, Back Pain and Spinal brochure, Cardiology Guide etc.

Julie Deadfield

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New and Returning Consultants



Mr Trichy Rajagopal
Consultant Spinal Surgeon



Mr Kristian Hutson
Consultant ENT Surgeon



Mr Matt Cherko
Consultant ENT Surgeon



Mr Pubudu Pathiraja
Consultant Gynaecologist



Mr Shafi Wardak
Consultant Urologist



Mr Nish Patodi
Consultant Gastroenterologist

ERS Update

We face more challenges this year with the growing immense pressure on our NHS. Can I remind you of services that we offer for NHS patients over the age of 18yrs at our hospital:

- Orthopaedics - Shoulder, Elbow Hip, Knee, Foot and Ankle - must go VIA West Berks MSK
- Upper Limb - Hand and Wrist - can be direct referred to us
- Urology
- Gynaecology
- General
- Ophthalmology
- Spinal - must go VIA IPAS

We welcome all patients and our only exclusion criteria is:

- A patient with incapacitating disease that is a constant threat to life.
- A patient with unstable mental condition that is receiving psychiatric treatment.
- The Berkshire Independent Hospital currently have no backlogs. First initial new consultations currently average 5-12 days across most services. Please be aware Gynaecology can be slightly longer due to increased demand. Wait times for patients requiring surgery currently average 4-8 weeks with all patients offered surgery within 18 weeks, if that is suitable to them.

DEXA Scans

Please can I remind you that the referral form to request a DEXA bone density scan must be fully complete when submitting via e-RS. We have noticed a significant increase recently in incomplete forms, which unfortunately results in a rejection.

It is imperative this is fully complete in order for our team to book an appointment with your patient. Any queries please do let me know.