

Proposed change to HIV inpatient care across Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust and Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

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Executive summary

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust ('Imperial College Healthcare') is asking patients, carers, local residents and other stakeholders about the proposal to move and consolidate their HIV inpatient services to Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust ('Chelsea and Westminster').

Currently, both Imperial College Healthcare and Chelsea and Westminster provide HIV inpatient services, at St Mary's Hospital and Chelsea and Westminster Hospital respectively, in north west London. Both hospital Trusts also provide a wide range of sexual health and HIV services across London.

This proposal looks to build upon the already high quality health services for people living with HIV, their families and carers, by bringing the HIV inpatient services together at the purpose-built Ron Johnson ward at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital.

The main reasons for the proposal to change our current HIV inpatient services are:

- For patients admitted to hospital under HIV services, the Ron Johnson ward at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital is a purpose-built environment for HIV inpatient admissions and the facilities would provide for a better experience for patients.
- More joint working between specialist HIV healthcare providers across the two Trusts would improve the service and the quality of care for patients.
- As numbers of HIV inpatient admissions are decreasing and are expected to fall further over time, consolidating into one hospital site will concentrate specialist HIV healthcare expertise.

The specialist HIV healthcare clinical teams at Imperial College Healthcare and Chelsea and Westminster have worked together to develop this joint proposal.

The proposal is supported by NHS England, which is the lead organisation for the specialist commissioning of HIV services.

Both Trusts would welcome feedback throughout the engagement period from Tuesday 2 July until Friday 2 August 2019, especially from patients, carers and service user groups and other stakeholders to get a full range of views. Please submit any comments and questions via email to: imperial.communications@nhs.net

Subject to the feedback the Trusts receive on their joint proposal, it is expected that the timeframe would be for a decision to be made in August/September 2019.

Introduction

Imperial College Healthcare and Chelsea and Westminster wish to deliver the best possible care for patients who are admitted to hospital with a medical condition related to their HIV infection.

This document explains the changes that we are proposing to seek to achieve this vision. We welcome any comments on the proposals outlined in this document and will endeavour to answer any questions.

About the Trusts

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust provides acute and specialist healthcare for around a million and a half people every year. Formed in 2007, we are one of the largest NHS trusts in the country, with over 12,000 staff.

Our five hospitals – Charing Cross, Hammersmith, Queen Charlotte's & Chelsea, St Mary's and the Western Eye – have a long track record in research and education, influencing clinical practice nationally and worldwide. We also have a growing number of community services and provide private healthcare in dedicated facilities on all of our sites.

With our partners, Imperial College London, The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust and Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS Foundation Trust, we form Imperial College Academic Health Science Centre. This is one of six academic health science centres in the UK, working to ensure the rapid translation of research for better patient care and excellence in education.

Imperial College Healthcare provides care from five hospitals on four sites:

Charing Cross Hospital – providing a range of acute and specialist care, including cancer care; it also hosts the hyper acute stroke unit for the region and is a growing hub for integrated care in partnership with local GPs and community providers. Charing Cross has a 24/7 A&E department.

Hammersmith Hospital – a specialist hospital renowned for its strong research connections. It offers a range of services, including renal, haematology, cancer and cardiology care, and provides the regional specialist heart attack centre. As well as being a major base for Imperial College, the site also hosts the clinical sciences centre of the Medical Research Council.

Queen Charlotte's & Chelsea Hospital – a maternity, women's and neonatal care hospital, also with strong research links. It has a midwife-led birth centre as well as specialist services for complicated pregnancies, foetal and neonatal care.

St Mary's Hospital – a major acute hospital for north west London as well as a maternity centre with consultant and midwife-led services. The hospital provides care across a wide range of specialties and runs one of four major trauma centres in London in addition to its 24/7 A&E department.

Western Eye Hospital – a specialist eye hospital with a 24/7 A&E department.

You can read more about Imperial College Healthcare on our website:

www.imperial.nhs.uk

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust runs two main hospitals with nearly 6,000 members of staff, both providing specialist and general hospital care:

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital - is a modern and attractive building which opened in 1993 on the site once occupied by St Stephen's Hospital, bringing together staff, services and equipment from five London hospitals.

West Middlesex University Hospital – the main hospital building was redeveloped between 2001 and 2003, with substantive redevelopment continuing today.

The two hospitals formally joined forces to become one NHS Foundation Trust in September 2015 and now care for nearly one million people every year. While under one management team, both hospitals continue to provide the same clinical services as before, including full maternity, emergency and children's services. We also offer a range of community-based services across London, such as our award-winning sexual health and HIV clinics.

You can read more about Chelsea and Westminster on our website:

www.chelwest.nhs.uk

How HIV inpatient services are currently provided

About HIV

HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) is a virus that damages the cells in your immune system and weakens your ability to fight everyday infections and disease. There is currently no cure for HIV, but there are very effective drug treatments that enable most people with the virus to live a long and healthy life. With an early diagnosis and effective treatments, most people with HIV will not develop any AIDS-related illnesses and will live a near-normal lifespan.

There are now drugs available to prevent the transmission of HIV. This is through anti-HIV drugs that can be taken prior to exposure to HIV, known as PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) and/or drugs that can be taken soon after a potential exposure to HIV, known as PEP (post-exposure prophylaxis). Early diagnosis of HIV infection means that treatment can start sooner, resulting in rapid control of the virus and reducing the chance of passing on the virus to zero.

Some patients will be admitted to hospital with conditions directly related to their HIV and will need care from specialist HIV clinicians. These HIV inpatients will receive the best possible care from dedicated HIV doctors, nurses and other clinical staff.

Some patients who are HIV positive will be admitted to hospital for other interventions or issues. The best place to care for these patients should be based on their co-existing medical condition and not under an HIV service.

Current HIV inpatient services

Imperial College Healthcare

Imperial College Healthcare has around 3,200 people living with HIV attending our services.

Most HIV inpatients at Imperial College Healthcare's St Mary's Hospital are directly admitted from the HIV outpatient service in the Wharfside clinic and day ward or via the A&E department by the dedicated HIV inpatient team and are seen by an HIV consultant at that time. Some patients are admitted at other times and these patients are reviewed by the HIV inpatient team within 24 hours.

Patients with HIV related illnesses admitted to the Trust's other sites are moved to St Mary's Hospital within 24 hours to come under the care of the HIV inpatient team. If this is not possible, for example, if there is a need for specialist medical input only available on another site, such as acute haemodialysis or neurosurgery, the HIV inpatient team reviews the patient regularly and liaises closely with the admitting teams.

The Infectious Diseases teams at Hammersmith and Charing Cross Hospitals will assist with management of HIV inpatients awaiting transfer or unable to transfer to St Mary's Hospital in close communication with the HIV team, including a regular HIV consultant ward round at these sites.

There is consultant and specialist registrar cover throughout the week including a 24 hour/7 days per week on call rota for consultants and specialist registrars.

HIV specialist pharmacist support is available across the Trust. The HIV advanced nurse practitioner team also provide review and support to patients on all Trust sites.

Chelsea and Westminster

Chelsea and Westminster is the largest provider of HIV services in the UK with around 13,000 people living with HIV attending our services.

The HIV inpatient unit is based on Ron Johnson ward. This is a purpose built facility with 19 single rooms all with en suite bathrooms. 10 of these rooms have negative pressure capability which is essential for the care of inpatients with suspected or confirmed tuberculosis. There is also a dedicated room to support those with mental health needs.

The HIV inpatient service is fully integrated with the national HIV oncology service.

The ward is staffed by a team of consultant HIV specialists, consultant oncologists, nurses with HIV and Oncology expertise alongside dedicated specialist physiotherapists, dieticians and pharmacists. There is 24 hour/7 days per week consultant cover with specialist registrar and senior doctor cover 9.00–21.00, 7 days per week.

Outpatient services are provided at both Chelsea and Westminster and West Middlesex University hospitals and from a number of community clinics including 56 Dean Street and 10 Hammersmith Broadway. The Gazzard day unit is co-located with the Ron Johnson ward at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital providing ambulatory HIV care services.

Ambulatory HIV care services

Both Imperial College Healthcare and Chelsea and Westminster will continue to provide ambulatory (or 'walk in') HIV care services which can avoid unnecessary admissions for patients providing emergency outpatient care, pre-admission assessment, post discharge review, consolidation of outpatient investigations and specialist medical reviews. This proposal only relates to the HIV inpatient services provided by both Trusts.

Ambulatory HIV care services will continue at Imperial College Healthcare's Wharfside clinic at St Mary's Hospital, and Chelsea and Westminster's Gazzard day unit. The exception would be for patients with probable lymphoma, all of whom would be seen at the Gazzard day unit.

The case for change

This section summarises the main reasons for the proposed changes to our current HIV inpatient services.

Both Trusts believe there would be benefits to patient care and HIV service joint working from consolidating the HIV inpatient service at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital.

The main reasons for the proposal to change our current HIV inpatient services are:

- For patients admitted under HIV services, the Ron Johnson ward at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital is a better environment for inpatient admissions, with 19 single rooms all including en suite facilities. There are 10 negative pressure rooms and a mental health room. These facilities would provide for a better experience for patients admitted under HIV inpatients.
- More joint working between HIV healthcare providers would improve services and the quality of care for patients.
- As numbers of HIV inpatient admissions are decreasing and are expected to fall further over time, consolidating into one hospital site will concentrate specialist HIV healthcare expertise.

Admissions to hospital for people living with HIV are likely to increase for interventions or issues due to other co-existing medical conditions. The best place to care for these patients should be based on their co-existing medical condition and not necessarily directly under the care of HIV specialists.

Financial implications

The case for change is based on maintaining and improving specialist HIV inpatient services, in the context of the trend towards decreasing admissions. The reasons for this proposal are therefore clinical and collaborative, rather than financial.

Proposed model for care of HIV inpatients

Both Trusts want to deliver the best possible outcomes and experience for all our HIV patients, including those who require admission to hospital. We believe that the proposed changes would enable us to improve HIV services across our two Trusts.

The specialist HIV healthcare clinical teams at Imperial College Healthcare and Chelsea and Westminster have worked together to develop this joint proposal.

This proposal is supported by NHS England, which is the lead organisation for the specialist commissioning of HIV services.

The proposal for HIV inpatient admissions covers all adults 18 years old and over, who require inpatient admission for a medical condition that:

- is HIV or likely to be HIV related, or
- significantly impacts on HIV status or its treatment (based on assessment of each patient's potential to benefit on a case by case basis), or
- is significantly impacted by HIV status or its treatment (based on assessment of each patient's potential to benefit on a case by case basis).

The proposal is that the specialist HIV inpatient service should be based on Ron Johnson ward at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital and these patients should no longer be admitted to St Mary's Hospital. The specialist HIV consultants and doctors from Imperial College Healthcare and Chelsea and Westminster would work together to provide care for HIV inpatients. There would be no reduction in the number of specialist HIV staff across the two Trusts.

As mentioned above, currently most HIV inpatients admitted to St Mary's Hospital come through the A&E department or the Wharfside clinic and day ward. Under this proposal, when a patient is identified as suitable for transfer from St Mary's Hospital to Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, this will be discussed with the specialist HIV team at the Ron Johnson ward. Following agreement that the patient is suitable for transfer, then the hospital transport service will take them to Chelsea and Westminster Hospital. The patient could be transferred directly to Chelsea and Westminster Hospital from St Mary's Hospital's A&E department or Wharfside clinic and day ward, or from an inpatient ward.

A relatively small number of patients would be affected by this proposal. Imperial College Healthcare currently admits patients to St Mary's Hospital, typically with a short length of stay in hospital, who would meet the future criteria for being admitted to the Ron Johnson ward at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital. Under this proposal, each patient would be assessed and agreed as suitable for transfer by the specialist HIV inpatient team and if appropriate admitted to Chelsea and Westminster Hospital.

As this proposal includes a joint consultant rota, the specialist HIV inpatient team will include consultants from both Trusts who will provide good communication between the two hospitals about the patient who is transferring.

In the unlikely situation that a bed is not immediately available at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, the patient would continue to be cared for by the acute medicine service on a hospital ward at Imperial College Healthcare with support from the HIV in-reach team – a multidisciplinary team of HIV consultants, junior doctors, advanced nurse practitioners and specialist pharmacists – until a bed becomes available. This happens in a similar way now within Imperial College Healthcare’s hospitals.

Benefits of the proposed change

Under this proposed model of HIV inpatient care, patients would have access to a purpose built ward with single rooms including en suite facilities. This modern environment would provide the best possible experience for inpatients during their stay in hospital.

By having a joint HIV inpatient service, the specialist HIV teams across both Trusts would be able to collaborate closely to improve the care of patients with HIV.

As numbers of HIV inpatient admissions are decreasing and are expected to fall further over time, consolidating into one hospital site will concentrate specialist HIV healthcare expertise.

Additional capacity benefits for St Mary’s Hospital

Inpatient beds currently used for HIV related care at St Mary’s Hospital would be reallocated to other specialties, helping to provide much needed additional capacity. Therefore no hospital bed closures are proposed.

St Mary’s Hospital is a major acute hospital for north west London, with the designated major trauma centre for the region. In the short term, Imperial College Healthcare needs to find solutions to the capacity pressures at St Mary’s Hospital caused primarily by old and outdated estate.

Access and travel

Geographically, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital and St Mary’s Hospital are a short distance from each other – see map of sites on page 13 – and provide healthcare services to an overlapping community of patients in north west London.

We appreciate the proposed change may have an impact on travelling times particularly for some carers and visitors, but we believe this would be offset by the improvement in patient experience on the Ron Johnson ward at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, due to the single rooms with en suite facilities.

HIV outpatient and day care activity will continue at St Mary’s Hospital and so there would be no travel impact for these patients whilst under outpatient care or once discharged.

We recognise, however, that access and travel issues will form an important issue to be addressed during the engagement process.

Continuity of care

We appreciate that this proposal may cause concerns around the continuity of care for patients with HIV, who are currently treated by consultants at St Mary's Hospital.

Consultants and specialist registrars (junior doctors) from both Imperial College Healthcare and Chelsea and Westminster would work closely together to ensure continuity of care. Consultants from St Mary's Hospital would join the consultant rota to work at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital's Ron Johnson ward so that the HIV inpatient team consists of consultants and other healthcare workers from both organisations.

We recognise that this will form an important issue to be addressed during the engagement period.

Have your say

Both Trusts wish to engage as widely as possible on the proposal outlined in this document. The purpose of this process is to give you, patients and service users, and other stakeholders the opportunity to:

- understand how we want to improve this service, and
- make any comments or raise any questions that you might have about the proposed change we outline.

The timeline for comments is throughout the period commencing Tuesday 2 July and ending Friday 2 August 2019.

We will review and consider all the feedback we receive as we consider the decision on the proposal.

Potential timescales

Subject to the feedback the Trusts receive on their joint proposal, it is expected that the timeframe would be for a decision to be made in August/September 2019.

Your comments and questions

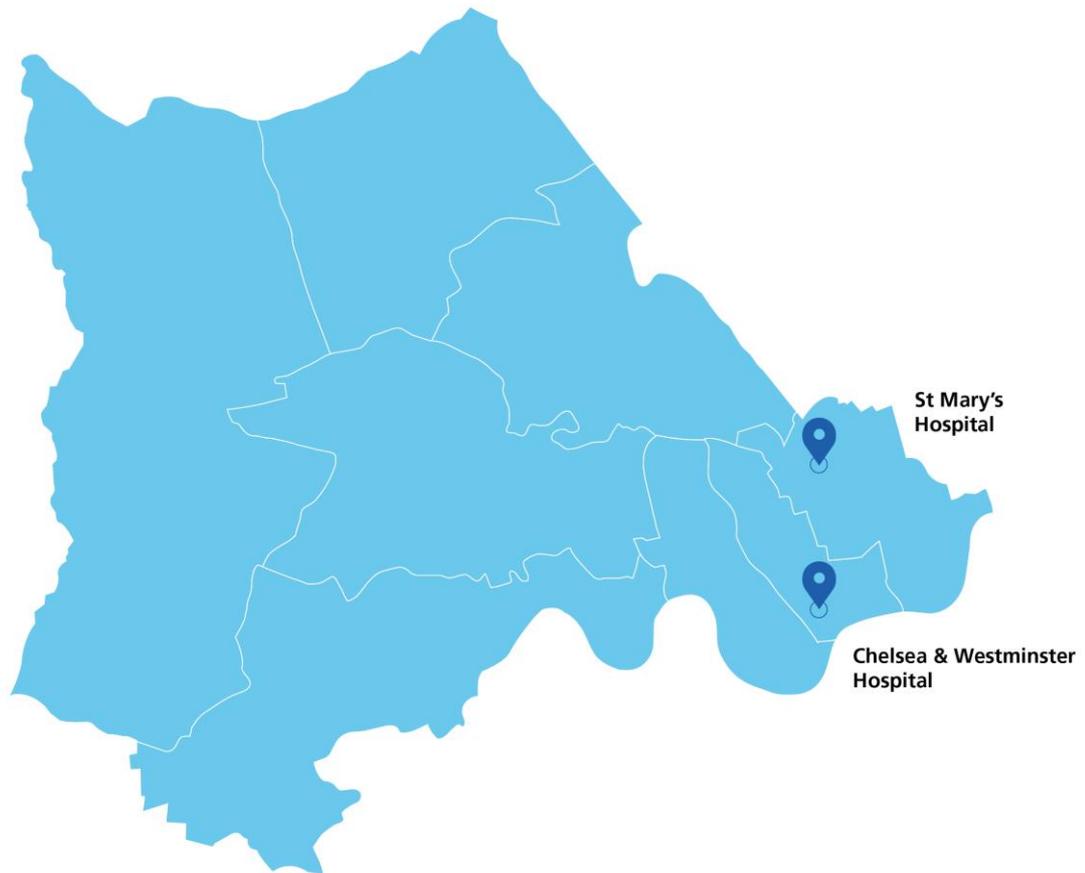
Please provide any comments you wish to make and send any questions you may have on the proposals outlined within this document.

Please send your comments and questions to the email address:

imperial.communications@nhs.net

Contact us and map of sites

North west London



You can contact Imperial College Healthcare via our website:
www.imperial.nhs.uk

You can contact Chelsea and Westminster via our website:
www.chelwest.nhs.uk