Press Release

Stroke unit ranked joint third best in England and Wales

HAMPshire Hospitals’ hyper acute stroke unit has been ranked joint third best in the country.

A recent Stroke Sentinel National Audit Programme (SSNAP) audit saw the unit at Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester receive an overall rating of A for the first time. An overall score of 89 per cent placed it as top out of all such units in the Wessex region, and joint third for the whole of England and Wales.

The hyper acute stroke unit is the start of the treatment journey for patients suffering a stroke throughout the area covered by Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Dr Lucy Sykes, consultant stroke physician, said “We are extremely proud of this achievement and I would like to say a big thank you to all staff who contributed to this result.

“Providing stroke care to this high standard is a real team effort and every single member of the multidisciplinary team, including doctors, nurses, therapists, housekeeping and ward support staff work tirelessly to achieve it.”

In addition to the overall score, some impressive individual results were achieved. 83 per cent of stroke patients were admitted to the unit within four hours despite ongoing pressures on hospital admissions and bed availability. This is 23 per cent better than the national figure.

100 per cent of eligible patients received potentially life-saving thrombolysis treatment. In addition, 97 per cent of patients were seen by a specialist stroke nurse within 24 hours of admission, well up on the national figure of 88 per cent.

The data also shows that patients are regularly receiving 35-45 minutes of specialist stroke rehabilitation from physio, occupational and speech therapies each day.

Dr Sykes added: “We are always looking at ways that we can improve further. Acute care is only one part of the stroke service we offer at Hampshire Hospitals and we are also working hard to ensure that we achieve the same high standards when it comes to longer-term rehabilitation and follow-up after discharge from hospital.”

ENDS

Notes to Editors

1. Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust provides hospital services to a population of approximately 600,000 people in Hampshire and parts of West Berkshire.
2. HHFT has around 5,500 staff and a turnover of £345.6 million a year.
3. HHFT delivers one hospital service across multiple locations including its own hospitals, Andover War Memorial Hospital, Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital and Royal Hampshire County
Hospital in Winchester. It also provides outpatient and assessment services from Bordon and Alton community hospitals.

4. As a Foundation Trust, HHFT is accountable to the local community through a system of local ownership with members and elected governors. HHFT has around 18,000 staff and public members. Foundation Trusts are free from central government control and can reinvest any surplus to develop clinical services. They are authorised and regulated by Monitor, an independent regulator.

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