We hope that our improved design will make it easier for us to communicate with you, our GP colleagues, and keep you better informed about the services we offer at the new £170 million Walsall Manor Hospital.

In addition to this quarterly magazine, you should also have received the first edition of our new e-bulletin which will be sent to you electronically on a monthly basis, to keep you up-to-speed with all the latest news and views which directly affect you and your patients.

In this issue of GP Choices we would particularly like to draw your attention to our most recent GP Symposums which highlighted some key developments in Cardiology, ENT and General Surgery services here at the Manor.

We have been delighted by the response to our Symposium programme, in partnership with NHS Walsall, and you will find details of the events scheduled for this spring on page 2.

I very much hope to see as many of you as possible at our 2011 Symposums as they provide us with an ideal opportunity to discuss in more detail our services and some of the exciting plans we have to develop them and for you to meet the clinicians involved and to raise any queries or issues directly with them.

Similarly, I would like to take this opportunity personally to invite you and your colleagues to visit the Manor at any time and to meet the clinicians and allied professionals from any of our specialities.

Our consultants are also more than happy to make an appointment to visit your practice if you feel you and your practice staff would benefit from such an informal meeting.

An updated edition of our Directory of Clinical Services, which aims to provide our colleagues in primary care with easy-to-access information about the departments, services and clinicians at Walsall Manor Hospital, is available online at www.walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

Please don’t hesitate to get in touch for more information about any of our services, if you feel we are doing something which is working well, or most importantly, to draw our attention to any areas in which we could do better.

We really value your input and our GP Liaison Officer, Lucy Curtis, can be contacted directly on 01922 656464 or via email at gpliaisonoffice@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

I hope I shall have the opportunity to meet many of you personally over the coming weeks and months.

In the meantime, a healthy and prosperous New Year to you all and happy reading.

Mr Amir Khan
Medical Director

ORDER COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM
‘GOES LIVE’

The new Order Communications System which will enable GPs and their colleagues to request pathology and imaging tests electronically is due to go live soon.

Testing of the new system, which was outlined in the last edition of GP Choices, has been taking place at Moxley Surgery.

Staff training will shortly be underway at the pilot surgeries where label printers have already been installed.

Surgeries which are part of the main roll out programme will be hearing from the project team in the next few weeks.

The new system will enable GPs and other clinicians within the practice to log onto their existing clinical systems and gain direct access to the ‘ICE’ requesting system.

From there, they will be able to make electronic requests to imaging and pathology, without having to log into a separate system or complete a paper referral form.

Testing has been carried out at Moxley Surgery to ensure that all current processes of how tests are ordered have been captured and replicated in the new system.

Project Manager, Claire Black, says: “This is an exciting stage of the project and the team wishes to express their thanks to all surgeries and staff involved for their continued support.”

If you would like to find out more please contact Claire Black on 01922 721172 ext. 7051 or email claire.black@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

We welcome your feedback. If you would like any other information on anything featured in this newsletter, please contact Lucy Curtis on 01922 656464.
The well-established Arrhythmia Service at Walsall Manor Hospital has won praise from patients and health experts alike.

The service, which provides GPs and their patients with a fast, streamlined care pathway and direct access to an arrhythmia nurse, was commended by the Department of Health’s Health Inequalities National Support Team (HINST).

The Team commented: “Walsall appears to have a very well structured and organised Arrhythmia Service, better than most seen by the HINST.”

In a recent patient satisfaction survey undertaken by the service, 100 per cent of patients questioned said they were kept fully informed about their treatment, care and management.

All those who took part in the survey, who were attending the Manor for direct current cardioversion (DCCV), also agreed that the verbal and written information they received was excellent and that the nurses were approachable if they had any concerns or queries.

The Arrhythmia Service was highlighted during the recent GP symposium on Cardiology services, organised at the Manor in partnership with NHS Walsall.

Cardiac Arrhythmia Nurse, Jayne Lewis, says the service was set up in 2007 following the publication of NICE guidelines for atrial fibrillation, the National Service Framework for Coronary Heart Disease and Quality Outcome Framework indicators, and has since gone from strength to strength.

The Arrhythmia Clinic is a nurse-led clinic running alongside Dr Jaumdally’s Cardiology clinic. GPs can refer direct to the clinic using the referral pro forma, enabling Jayne to arrange for all required investigations to be carried out prior to the patient attending the clinic, thus ensuring a clinical decision about care can be made swiftly and a care plan started.

As a trained independent nurse prescriber, Jayne is able to review the patient’s medical history and make changes to medication, as well as offering on-going support and advice. Jayne is also able to provide advice and guidance on the use of GRASP-AF (Guidance on Risk Assessment and Stroke Prevention) in primary care. GRASP-AF is a free IT tool that works alongside existing GP practice systems to help identify patients with atrial fibrillation and assess when treatment with warfarin should be considered.

Jayne adds: “The Cardiac Arrhythmia Team also provide education and training for all health professionals in liaison with all multi-disciplinary team members at the hospital and in primary care.”

GPs are encouraged to contact Jayne or Dr Jaumdally if they have any queries about a patient’s care or any questions about making a referral to the Arrhythmia Service.

To refer a patient to the Arrhythmia Clinic, please complete a referral proforma and send to: Access Team, Outpatient and Day Case Centre, Level 01, Walsall Manor Hospital, Moat Road, Walsall, WS2 9PS

Contact:
Dr Rumi Jaumdally
Tel: 01922 721172 ext. 6565
Email: sec.jaumdally@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk
Jayne Lewis, Cardiac Arrhythmia Nurse
Tel: 01922 721172 ext 7690
Email: jayne.lewis@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

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**Cardiac Service Going from Strength to Strength**

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**Dates for Your Diary**

We are pleased to confirm the dates for the next series of our GP Symposiums:

- **Weds 16th February** - Gastroenterology
- **Weds 2nd March** - Diabetes
- **Weds 6th April** - Stroke
- **Weds 4th May** - Paediatrics

Invitations to the above will be sent out over the coming weeks.

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Medical Director Mr Amir Khan introduces the General Surgery Symposium
ENT SYMPOSIUM ‘The Changing Face of ENT’

Ear nose and throat services have changed beyond recognition over the past decade.

That's the view of Mr Nick Turner, Clinical Director for ENT, who says patients at Walsall Manor Hospital have access to five young and friendly consultants who are at the forefront of developments in their field.

Mr Turner told the fifth GP symposium – and the second to be held in the state-of-the-art new hospital building – that over the past ten to 15 years, the old ENT instruments had been replaced with endoscopes, microscopes, fibre optics and head lights, enabling doctors to better investigate the nose and throat.

Technological advancements meant new ways of doing things which were often more effective and less traumatic for the patient.

He added: “I would like to invite all our GP colleagues to come into the ENT clinic and find out more about what we can do.”

“We have a number of new developments here at the Manor, including a specialist vertigo clinic and a Friday morning one stop neck lump clinic where we do fine needle cytology and ultrasond.

“We also work closely with the maxillofacial department and benefit from the skills of an Advanced Nurse Practitioner who is part of the ENT team.”

Mr Turner said that work was on-going to redesign job planning and provide more urgent slots within the ENT clinics.

Mr Turner introduced GPs at the symposium to his four consultant colleagues, all of whom are generalists with a special interest and two of whom are twinned with Birmingham Heartlands Hospital.

The Manor has close links with Heartlands, which now takes all ENT emergency patients on Saturday and Sunday.

ENT consultants at the Manor include Mr Mark Simmons, who has a special interest in Rhinology and nose and facial plastics and who has spent time with leaders in his field in Portland, Oregon and Amsterdam, and Mr Satvir Singh Minhas, who has a special interest in Rhinology and the management of thyroid swellings.

The newest member of the team, Mr Attila Dezso, was born in Hungary and did his postgraduate training in London at Guy’s and St Thomas’ Hospital NHS Trust. Mr Dezso has a special interest in the surgical management of mastoid disease. Mr Dezso showed a number of patient case studies focusing on the various forms of chronic ear disease and the options for mastoid surgery.

Mr Huw Griffiths, who is predominantly based at Birmingham Heartlands Hospital and who has a special interest in neck lumps, talked about the best way of examining for neck lumps. He encouraged GPs to refer patients with lumps which were larger than one centimeter, shaped like a football or where the patient presented with more than one lump, for further investigation.

GPs should also be concerned if patients had dysphagia, found it painful to swallow, had voice symptoms or had lost weight.

The ENT service is available on Choose and Book.

Contact:
Mr Nick Turner, Clinical Director
Tel: 01922 712172 ext. 7286
Email: sec.turner@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

Mr Sat Minhas
Tel: 01922 712172 ext. 7377
Email: sec.minhas@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

Mr Mark Simmons
Tel: 01922 712172 ext. 7788
Email: sec.simmons@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

Mr Huw Griffiths
Tel: 01922 712172 ext. 7778
Email: sec.griffiths@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

Mr Attila Dezso
Tel: 01922 712172 ext. 6694
Email: sec.dezso@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

Karen Mail, Advanced Nurse Practitioner
Email: karen.mail@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

Jonathan Binnington, Principal Audiologist
Tel: 01922 712172 ext. 7610
Email: jonathan.binnington@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

GENERAL SURGERY SYMPOSIUM ‘Manor Leading the Way’

Walsall Manor Hospital is one of the leading hospitals in the West Midlands for laparoscopic surgery.

Steve Odogwu, Clinical Director for General Surgery and a Consultant in Colorectal Surgery, told the GP symposium on General Surgery, which took place in December that all colorectal cancer patients benefitted from minimally invasive techniques unless there were specific contraindications.

The Manor boasted the shortest length of stay for these patients in the region, thanks to a combination of the surgical techniques and the hospital's successful post-operative Enhanced Recovery Programme.

The hospital also benefitted from close links with University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust.
Mr Odogwu told GPs that the move into the new hospital building had facilitated the restructuring of colorectal surgery services.

The team, which includes four consultants, one acute specialist and two staff grade doctors, two specialist registrars and a three-strong colorectal nursing team, runs a comprehensive and specialist service for patients with colorectal and GI problems, ranging from haemorrhoids to inflammatory bowel disease and colorectal cancer.

The service currently provides at least one consultant outpatient clinic per day, plus two rapid access clinics per week.

Other services include one-stop rectal bleeding clinics, stoma clinics, nurse-led clinics for cancer follow-up, ileo anal pouches and anal fissures, and three coloscopy and three flexible sigmoidoscopy lists per week.

Mr Odogwu introduced GPs to the four Colorectal Surgery Consultants, who include Rob Church who is the head of the Pan Birmingham network for Colorectal Surgery and who specialises in inflammatory bowel disease and the laparoscopic repair of abdominal wall hernias.

Tim Muscroft is the most experienced member of the team and specialises in colorectal cancer, hernia repair and laparoscopic gallbladder surgery. Sarah Addison also treats colorectal cancer, inflammatory bowel disease and has a special interest in pelvic floor disorders and benign colorectal disorders such as faecal incontinence.

Mr Odogwu, who specialises in colorectal cancer, laparoscopic colorectal surgery, inflammatory bowel disease and laparoscopic hernia repairs, also introduced members of the colorectal nursing team, including Elaine Swan, who is one of the leading colorectal nurses in the country.

Stressed the multi-disciplinary and cross-functional approach of the team and said members were always happy to take calls from GPs to discuss the services they offered or the management of specific patients.

Members of the team work closely with their colleagues in Gastroenterology and there are plans to develop a joint, female-led service for patients with functional bowel disease involving specialists in Colorectal Surgery and Gynaecology.

Sarah Addison spoke about the colorectal causes of pelvic dysfunction, she gave an overview on the treatment available and the simple steps that can be taken in primary care to alleviate obstructed defaecation and faecal incontinence. The team also highlighted the work of the Manor's one-stop clinic for patients over the age of 40 presenting with suspected haemorrhoids. Such patients were offered a flexible sigmoidoscopy and dietary advice which was often very successful in helping them to manage their condition.

The General Surgery service is available on Choose and Book.

Contact:
Mr Steve Odogwu, Clinical Director
Tel: 01922 712172 ext. 7564
Email: sec.odogwu@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

Miss Sarah Addison
Tel: 01922 712172 ext. 6649
Email: sec.addison@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

Mr Robert Church
Tel: 01922 712172 ext. 6649
Email: sec.church@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

Mr Tim Muscroft
Tel: 01922 712172 ext. 6980
Email: sec.muscroft@walsallhospitals.nhs.uk

Elaine Swan, Kirsti Cutler and Jane Sidebotham, Colorectal Nursing Team 01922 712172 ext.6300
CREATING AN INTEGRATED CARE ORGANISATION FOR WALSSALL

The integration of hospital and community health services in Walsall is gathering pace.

Work is on-going to combine Walsall Manor Hospital and Walsall Community Health to form a new integrated care organisation that will be formed on April 1st 2011. The name for the new organisation, subject to Department of Health and Secretary of State approval, will be Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust.

The move will combine all acute hospital services with adult and children’s community health services for the first time.

From next April, GPs will deal only with a single integrated service provider whose aim will be to work with them to ‘wrap services around patients’.

The integration is in line with the Department of Health’s Transforming Community Services programme, under which all Primary Care Trusts should have separated the commissioning of community services from their provision from April next year.

All staff and services are being transferred to a range of new organisations including aspiring Community Foundation Trusts and Social Enterprises, or, as in the case of Walsall, integrating with existing providers.

The aim is to provide more choice for patients and facilitate the delivery of more personalised care and treatment away from hospital settings and closer to people’s own homes. Clinicians will be encouraged to innovate to transform services, promote healthy lifestyles and focus on prevention.

Following an away day in October which brought together clinicians and managers from the Manor and Walsall Community Health, the initial focus in Walsall is on five ‘pioneer pathways’ which deal with patients with long-term conditions.

These are diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), cardiovascular disease, frail elderly and trauma, orthopaedic and musculoskeletal services.

A clinical lead and managerial lead has been identified for each of the five pathways and plans are already underway to transform these services.

In addition work has also begun to look at paediatric and sexual health services.

The integration of corporate and non-clinical areas is also on-going.

Michael Scott, Interim Chief Executive of Walsall Manor Hospital, says: “We have a challenging timetable to get the nuts and bolts of our integration delivered by 1st April 2011.

“However, I am confident that, given the outstanding progress we have made so far, we will achieve our targets for the benefit of both staff and the local population of Walsall.

“Then the real work of transforming, rather than simply transferring, services can begin.”

INTEGRATED CARE

A new consultant with a special interest in Nephrology has joined the emergency medical team at Walsall Manor Hospital.

Dr Amer Hayat moved to the Trust as an Acute Medical Unit and renal consultant in June from University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust, where he was a locum consultant.

Dr Hayat studied in Peshawar, Pakistan and completed his Core Surgical Training in Renal and Internal Medicine in October 2003.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW CONSULTANTS

DR SUMANT SHANBHAG

A new Consultant Anaesthetist has started work at Walsall Manor Hospital.

Dr Sumant Shanbhag joined the Trust in October from Hinchingbrooke Health Care NHS Trust in Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire.

Dr Shanbhag did his Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (MBBS) training in India before studying anaesthetics in the West Midlands Deanery and at the Stoke School of Anaesthesia.

He has a special interest in intensive care and paediatric anaesthesia.

DR FARIS ALMALLAH

The newest member of the Manor’s radiology team has a special interest in cross-sectional radiology, urodynamics and skeletal and joint ultrasound scan.

Consultant Radiologist, Dr Faris Almallah, joined the radiology department in October from Burton Hospital NHS Trust.

Dr Almallah became a member of the Royal College of Physicians (MRCP) in 2003 after completing his basic medical training in Colchester. A member of the Royal College of Radiologists (FRCR), he trained further at Newcastle, Birmingham and Oxford.

Dr Almallah is a member of the British Society of Urogenital Radiology (BSUR) and European Society of Radiology (ESR) and is enthusiastic about the provision of high quality radiology services.

YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OTHER NEW CONSULTANTS IN OUR E-BULLETIN AND ONLINE: WWW.WALSALLHOSPITALS.NHS.UK

WALSALL MANOR HOSPITAL has a new Consultant Physician specialising in diabetes and endocrinology.

Dr Noushad Kalam Padinjakara joined the Trust in May from University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust where he was a specialist registrar. Dr Padinjakara has a number of special interests, including diabetes in the young and in pregnancy, diabetic foot disease, pump treatment and erectile dysfunction in diabetes.

His special interests also include general endocrinology, hypogonadism in men, metabolic bone disease, thyroid disorders and endocrine disorders in pregnancy.

Dr Padinjakara studied in India and in Coventry. He completed his Specialty Training in Endocrinology, Diabetes & Endocrinology via the West Midlands Training Programme.

New GPs

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DR MARENZ POGORZELSKA

Anaesthetist Dr Marenz Pogorzelska has taken up a consultant post at the Manor Hospital.

Dr Pogorzelska joined Walsall Hospitals NHS Trust in 2005 as a staff grade doctor and was a locum consultant from 2009 before becoming a consultant last May.

Originally from Poland, Dr Pogorzelska studied at the Akademia Hedyczna in Pozna.

She has a special interest in the intensive care unit.

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