



Renal News

ISSUE 2



Patients and staff meet Diaverum

Warm welcomes, information and floor plans were washed down with plenty of tea at the Diaverum Open Sessions, which were held on Sunday 27 April.

Staff, patients and relatives attended the sessions in Birmingham and Hereford, where they had an opportunity to meet the senior management team at Diaverum, who will take over the running of Kings Norton, Aston, Hereford and Tipton dialysis units later this year.

Diaverum's managing director Mike Hartnett spoke of his excitement at opening the four new units and said he hoped that patients would be reassured at their passion for delivering quality dialysis care.

"We have over 20 years experience in delivering renal dialysis services to more than 22,000 patients across the world.



"We only provide dialysis clinic services, not equipment so our focus is always on patient care and our staff are dedicated to getting it right."

For those who were unable to attend, further open sessions will be arranged so you can meet the team. You can also get in touch with the project manager Kim Beak, via the contact details on page 4.



Dr Clara Day
Renal Consultant

Welcome to Renal News

Welcome to the second edition of Renal News – our renal dialysis service bulletin. There is currently a lot going on in our haemodialysis programme and through this monthly newsletter we'll be keeping you up-to-date with all the changes and how you can get more information about the various moves.

Over the last month some of you got the chance to meet the team from Diaverum and discuss the new units with them and we hope this was helpful.

I have also just seen the first plans for the Smethwick unit which look very exciting, which we will share in forthcoming editions. A busy but exciting time!

Clara Day

Renal Consultant –
University Hospitals Birmingham
NHS Foundation Trust

New look Kings Norton Dialysis Unit

The Kings Norton Dialysis Unit is one of four units being relocated to newly refurbished premises. The new dialysis unit will be located in Unit 1&2, Wharfside, Ardath Rd, Kings Norton.

It will take twenty weeks to transform the building into a modern and very stylish dialysis unit.

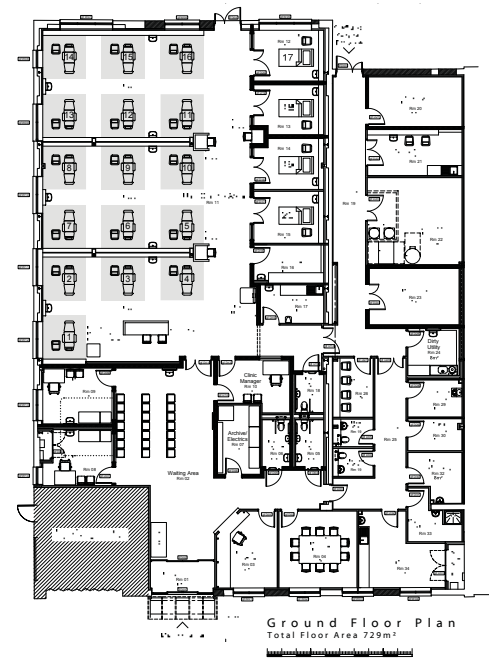
The new Kings Norton unit will remain the same size as the current unit. This will allow the manager to get to know patients individually, address any issues promptly and manage patient care appropriately.

The unit will have 20 dialysis stations plus 4 additional side rooms, 2 clinic rooms as well as large waiting area, meeting rooms, staff facilities and training rooms.

Patients will also be able to take advantage of individual TV units, Internet access and new dialysis equipment.

Kim Beak, project manager for Diaverum who will manage the unit said: "We are really looking forward to opening the new unit at Kings Norton.

"The design will make the environment a much more comfortable one, with light and space and improved facilities."



Planned style of dialysis area



Planned look of reception area

Measuring how well you dialyse

As you know, every month we check your bloods and one of the key measurements that we look at is how well your blood is cleaned during the dialysis session. To calculate this we measure urea levels in the blood before and after the session.

Urea is one of the toxins in the blood that would normally be removed by the kidney. It builds up in kidney failure and is cleaned out well by dialysis. We therefore measure the 'urea reduction ratio' each month and this indicates to us how well your blood is being cleaned. If this suddenly drops, it may mean that there has been a problem with your line or fistula, or we need to consider using a bigger dialyser or higher blood pump speed. The national guidelines say we have to aim for a clearance of 65% or more and we routinely achieve this in more than 95% of our patients.

The most recent results published by the UK Renal Registry, which is an organisation that audits all dialysis in the UK, show that we are doing particularly well in this area and the graph I have included shows this. The UK Renal Registry is an open website with lots of information about dialysis results across the UK and is available at <http://www.renalreg.com/>

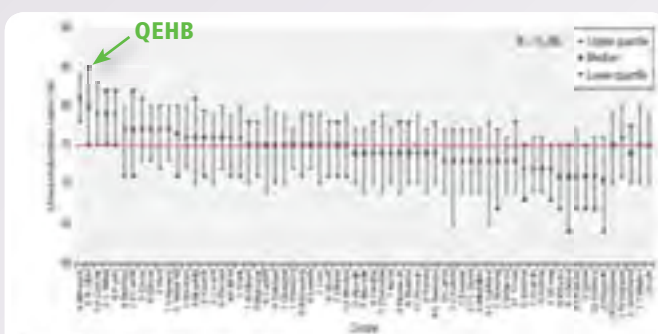


Fig 8.1a: Monthly URR achieved at previous points at VSB by centre 807281

X marks the spot

In the last edition of Renal News, we promised that we would keep you updated on the proposed location of our 4 new dialysis units, which will open in November.

The new units are as close to the existing units as possible – in fact some are on the same street as the current units.

We have plotted the position of the existing units and the new units on a map to guide you and listed the addresses below for your reference.

Dr Clara Day, UHB said: “We understand just how important location is to many of our patients so a great deal of thought has gone into finding convenient premises.

“We hope you will be reassured about locations of the new units however, we will be happy to discuss any concerns you may have.”

Proposed locations are marked on the maps.

Location:	Address:	X New location ● Old location
Aston	Aqueous One Aston Cross Business Park Aston Birmingham B6 5RQ	
Tipton	Unit 4&5 Link One George Henry Way Great Bridge DY4 7BU	
Hereford	67 Mortimer Rd Hereford HR4 9SP	
Kings Norton	Unit 1&2 Wharfside Ardath Rd Kings Norton B38 9PN	

Living well: social support for dialysis patients

Caring for dialysis patients doesn't just mean providing appropriate clinical care, it also means helping patients to find the support they need in other areas of their life which are impacting on their health or causing them anxiety.

Dr Clara Day, explains “We have looked carefully at how we deliver support to patients about benefits and support and have changed the way this is delivered at our West Midlands satellite units (Tipton, Aston, Kings Norton, Woodgate, City and Sparkhill). “We have appointed a team

from Bromford who started the beginning of May and you will begin to see around the units. They are currently settling in and over the next few months we will give you more information about the service they will offer.”

The team from Bromford is a national organisation providing housing and support as a social business and will support our patients experiencing social issues to enable them to access relevant benefits, support services, groups, grants and housing related issues. Verrona Woodley, service

manager for Bromford is looking forward to working with dialysis patients: “We aim to deliver a personalised welfare support service that can enable patients to live life to the best of their ability.

“We deliver a flexible support service through a combination of one-to-one sessions, drop-in sessions at clinics, telephone support and even home visits. “We're looking forward to talking to you in the future.”



Verrona Woodley
Service Manager



Stanley Farrel
Support Worker



Steph Buckman
Support Worker

Fresenius Area Head Nurses

Meet Gail Cater and Jonathan Yague, area head nurses for Fresenius Medical Care. This is a new post recently introduced within the company and as area head nurses, Gail and Jonathan are the people responsible for the units' clinical performance and clinical outcomes.

They work alongside the clinic managers and staff to develop patient care policies and procedures to further improve quality outcomes, and meet with Liz Simpson, UHB's renal matron on a monthly basis to ensure a close working partnership.

Gail and Jonathan also assist with data and record keeping, mentoring and some staff recruitment. They will also play a key role in delivering nurse education and training for their units.

If you want to get in touch with Gail or Jonathan, please contact them using the details below.

Gail Cater: Covering Llandrindod, Sparkhill, Worcester and Woodgate
Email: Gail.Cater@fmc-ag.com
Mobile: 07775 035185

Jonathan Yague: Covering City, Aston, Hereford, Kings Norton, Tipton
Email: Jonathan.Yague@fmc-ag.com
Mobile: 07500855145



Liz Simpson
Renal Matron



In the hot seat

We put our Renal Matron in the hot seat so you could get to know her better. Liz Simpson gives you an insight into her world.

Describe yourself in 3 ways...

Passionate and enthusiastic in anything I do.
Enjoy participating in sport.
Like to be organised.

What has been your biggest achievement this year?

My husband and I built a campervan.

Who is your biggest inspiration?

Anyone who overcomes adversity to achieve a goal and who spends their life working for the good of others but expect no reward.

Why did you choose to become a renal nurse?

Many, many, many years ago, whilst as a student I worked on a renal unit and enjoyed the patient/family and staff

relationship. This was because in those days the patients spent a lot of time dialysing leaving little spare time to be at home. I also enjoyed the technical aspects of the role which included troubleshooting and emergencies that occurred due to the complexity of dialysis in those days.

Where is your favourite place?

Anywhere quiet away in our campervan

What makes you laugh?

My husband's dancing!

If you could change just one thing – anything, what would it be?

Not to grow old so I can complete all the things in life I have yet to do in life, such as complete a triathlon and sail across the Atlantic.

And finally, a lot of people don't know this but...

I cycled from Lands End to John O'Groats and swam the distance of the channel, both charitable causes.

>> CONTACT US



If you have any questions or queries regarding dialysis services, please get in touch.

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Clara Day
Dr Simon Ball (Clinical Service Lead)
Liz Simpson (Matron)

kidneypatient@uhb.nhs.uk

Diaverum

Kim Beak – Project Manager
 Kim.beak@diaverum.com
 07872 150 327

Fresenius

Nicky Shaw, Regional Business Manager
 Nicola.Shaw@fmc-ag.com
 07785 500702