

Wellington TODAY

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The Wellington Diagnostics and Outpatients Centre at Golders Green

The Wellington Hospital is planning to set up its first satellite Diagnostics and Outpatients Centre in Golders Green, working together with a team of local doctors and consultants.

The Centre at Roman House, 296 Golders Green Road, was conceived following a detailed study evaluating the needs of the local community. It will cater for all age groups of patients, from the unborn child through to the elderly.

Our specialist medical staff will be supported by the latest diagnostic technology, including 64 slice CT, the latest and fastest open MRI, ultrasound and X-ray facilities, together with cardiac diagnostic equipment. If required the full resources of The Wellington will be available to patients and doctors.

Keith Hague, Chief Executive Officer of The Wellington Hospital, said the Centre is designed to bring the very best in healthcare closer to the community. "People told us they wanted to have fast access to top consultants backed up by the latest diagnostic technology, closer to where they lived," he said.

"We had a tremendous response from doctors interested in setting up a practice at Roman House and so we decided to set up this new type of Diagnostics and Outpatients Centre which will be fully integrated with The Wellington.

"For the first time, we are joining forces with The Portland Hospital to



Roman House, 296 Golders Green Road



The 64 slice CT scanner being setup

provide an obstetrics service together with paediatric care. All in all, this will be a unique facility giving patients fast access to the very best in private healthcare," said Mr Hague.

The Centre will cater for the following areas of medicine:

- **Diagnostics and Screening**
- **General Medicine**
- **Cardiology and Cardiac Care**
- **Obstetrics and Gynaecology**
- **Children's Healthcare**
- **Ear, Nose and Throat Medicine**
- **Ophthalmology**
- **Pain Management**
- **Orthopaedics**
- **Healthcare for the Elderly**

It is hoped that the Centre will open in late April. A website, www.wellingtondiagnosticscentre.com is currently being built.

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Major Expansion of The Wellington GI Unit

The Wellington Gastro Intestinal Unit has just completed a major £1 million expansion and refurbishment programme which has included the installation of some of the latest technology available in the UK today.

The integrated unit, which has a multidisciplinary team of GI surgeons, gastroenterologists, hepatologists and specialist radiologists and others, is based in the newly refurbished Wellington Central Building (which houses the extensive Endoscopy Unit) and covers the whole range of upper and lower GI conditions together with biliary diseases.

GI surgeon Mr. Geoffrey Glazer is chairman of the GI team.

“I am delighted that we have been able to bring together such a distinguished, integrated team of consultants backed up by a superb specialist nursing team and supported by the very latest technology,” he said. “We cater for every type of condition, including acute emergency cases, and patients have rapid access to all the complex diagnostic and surgical facilities that The Wellington has to offer. Beyond diagnostic gastroscopy and colonoscopy and ERCP, we now have state-of-the-art EUS technology.”

Consultant Dr Ray Shidrawi says EUS - endoscopic ultrasound - has transformed diagnosis and treatment of upper GI conditions. “Our state-of-the-art machine is indicative of the advanced techniques that we employ here in the GI unit. The EUS machine enables us to



The new EUS machine being prepared

stage treatments of, say, oesophageal cancers and tailor treatments to individual patients much more precisely,” he said.

“To be able to look at the inside of the gut is essential but now, with the 360-degree ultrasound, we can look at the tissues adjacent and around the bowel. We can see how far advanced a cancer might be. We can take biopsies and we can make fine judgements about staging treatments,” said Dr Shidrawi.

“We then have linear EUS cameras which help us cross the border of several disciplines because we can collect samples of tissue from, for example, enlarged lymph glands in the chest, without the need for complex invasive surgery,” he said. “The patient goes home after an hour and the next day we can have the answer about what the tissue is and we can begin treatment very quickly.

“We are a group of consultants, most of us from London’s teaching hospitals and all of us with complimentary interests. We now have technology which exceeds by far any other unit in London. This will help to broaden our service as consultants from other disciplines come to join us,” he said.

Wellington People



KIM HANDEL
- Chief Nursing Officer

Kim Handel has joined The Wellington Hospital’s Executive Team as Chief Nursing Officer.

Kim trained at The Royal Free in Hampstead and, after qualifying, went on to work in the areas of haematology, critical care, orthopaedics and oncology.

After some years, Kim moved into the independent sector and for the past 14 years she has worked at the Rivers Hospital in Sawbridgeworth, latterly, for the past eight years as director of nursing.

“This was a big move for me and I am absolutely delighted to have joined what is a very impressive team and facilities here at The Wellington,” said Kim.

“The hospital can cope with anything and the medical teams are completely patient focussed. We may not get everything

right all of the time but there’s a constant emphasis on providing the highest standard of care,” she said.

“It’s very, very exciting with all the new initiatives going on and there are many things going on here that I have not been involved in before. We have outstanding staff and technology that’s second to none and I want to continue to improve service to our patients and their doctors,” said Kim.

“My goal is to ensure that every patient walks out of this hospital and thinks what a fabulous place it is. Because it is a great place to work with a fabulous and totally committed team. But we always have to try harder; to provide a better service and that we are determined to do,” she said.

The Wellington to open second Rehab Unit at The Lister Hospital



Lister Hospital

Work has begun on building a new Neurological Rehabilitation Unit at The Lister Hospital in Chelsea. The Unit will be run and managed by The Wellington's Rehab team.

Based on the sixth floor of The Lister, the eight-roomed Unit will treat patients suffering from head and spinal injuries together with stroke and other neurological conditions. It will be under the clinical direction of Lesley Pope, Director of Rehabilitation for HCA.

The Unit will also have a gymnasium and an occupational therapy assessment and training suite and the clinical team will include neuropsychologists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists and specialist nursing staff.

The Unit is due to open in April.

The Wellington on the Web

More than 51,000 visitors clicked onto the Wellington Hospital websites during the month of January – an all-time record which marked the completion of the second phase of the hospital's Web-based information campaign.

Just over a year ago, it was decided to redesign the main hospital website to make it more user friendly for doctors and patients and their relatives alike. This was followed by the building of a number of satellite websites covering some of the main areas of medicine practised on the campus. These sites are particularly designed to be patient friendly.

So far, doctor and patient feedback has been very positive and the number of calls into the hospital's Enquiry Helpline from people who have seen the sites, has increased many times over. Some departments, including the Hand and Wrist Unit, are now finding the majority of new patients are contacting the Unit having visited its website.

Apart from The Wellington Hospital Main website, www.thewellingtonhospital.com the addresses of our new websites are as follows:

Hip Unit: www.thewellingtonhipunit.com

Cardiac Services: www.thewellingtoncardiacservices.com

Liver and HPB: www.thewellingtonliverunit.com

Neuro Rehab: www.thewellingtonrehabunit.com

Neuro Rehab (Arabic version): www.thewellingtonrehabunit.com/ar

Diagnostics and Imaging: www.thewellingtonimagingunit.com

Hand and Wrist Unit: www.londonhandandwristunit.com

Gynaecology Unit: www.thewellingtongynaecunit.com

Pain Medicine: www.thewellingtonpainunit.com

Knee Unit: www.thewellingtonkneeunit.com

Golders Green: www.wellingtondiagnosticscentre.com

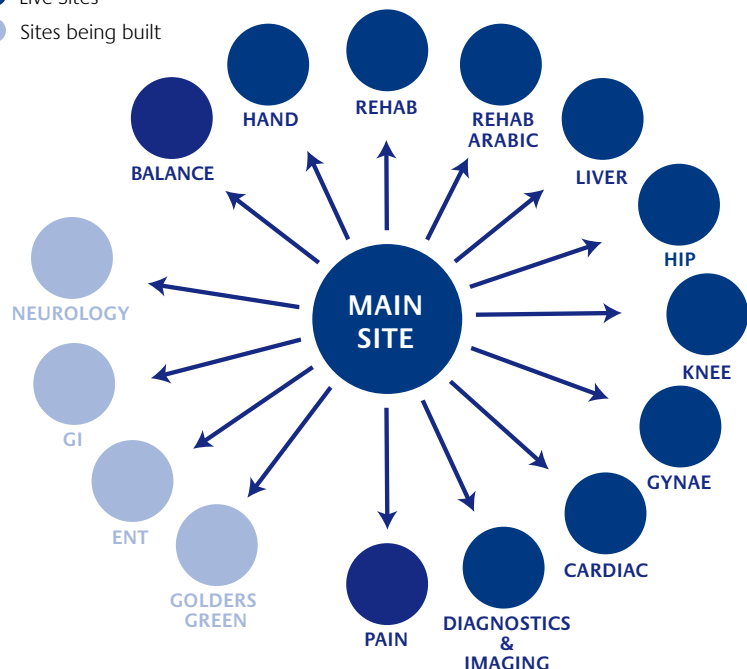
Balance: www.thewellingtonbalancecentre.com

In addition, more sites including GI, Neurology and ENT will be going live in the next few months, and several existing sites are being upgraded.

The network of Wellington Websites

● Live Sites

● Sites being built



Cardiac CT proves its value

The 64 slice Lightspeed CT scanner at The Wellington is proving to be a vitally important tool for cardiologists and it is also increasingly popular for patients who might otherwise face invasive angiograms.

Just a year after it was installed, the 64 slice machine is increasingly being used, for example, to examine bypass grafts or for patients who have an uninterpretable or equivocal stress test; others who have chest pain with intermediate risk and no ECG or enzyme changes and even sometimes when an invasive angiogram has been inconclusive.

Professor David Cumberland, Consultant in Cardiac Intervention, has been studying the effectiveness of the technology since it became available. "The CT has proved to be an extremely reliable test in excluding disease. With an invasive angiogram we can just see the channel. But with the CT we can, to a degree, see the artery wall as well as the lumen and it's obviously important to determine whether the artery wall is fatty, fibrous or what combination of those it is," he said.

"It is vital to see whether there is vulnerable plaque, with a lot of fat in it which may be liable to rupture and cause an acute coronary syndrome. Here at The Wellington we are getting a lot better at getting good pictures, in some cases using beta blockers to get the heart rate low

– it's essential for the best images," said Professor Cumberland.

"The CT is very good at looking at bypass grafts, carotids, leg arteries and renal arteries - it's terrific for that. The 64 slice does have its limitations – for example, where heavily calcified vessels block the scan – but this technology provides us with a very important extra resource," said Professor Cumberland.

And cardiologist Duncan Dymond agrees. "It's the first time we have been able to directly image the coronary arteries to the standard and the resolution that helps you diagnostically," he said. "It is a very important extra tool for us, particularly in the marginal cases where other tests are inconclusive.

"One of the areas that I am particularly interested in is where a patient has a coronary anomaly – an artery which is not in the normal position. This is particularly important when we are checking the coronary health of athletes. A 64 multi slice can show you these coronary anomalies like nothing else. You can also see aortic dissections, subclavian artery abnormalities, too," he said. "It is not appropriate for everyone but for bypass patients, for example, this will revolutionise how they are assessed," he said.

Appointments can be made through the CT department, telephone number: 020 7483 5144.

Professor Cumberland prepares a patient for a cardiac scan



Seminars

Thursday 1st March 2007

Talk on "Modern Concept of Coeliac Disease"

Dr Martyn Caplin, Consultant Gastroenterologist, Royal Free Hospital.

From 7.00pm, Board Room 5th Floor, Wellington South

In the next issue

The Wellington Balance Centre opens

State of the art technology for ENT

The new urgent Medical Admissions Unit

The latest treatment for Arrhythmia



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