Vascular hub and renal unit given go-ahead

Above: Staff from the Trust's renal team

**Stevenage, UK – 12 December 2018** – The go-ahead has been given for the creation of a new vascular network in Hertfordshire and west Essex, as well as for the relocation of the renal dialysis unit based at the Luton and Dunstable hospital. The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Matt Hancock, made the announcement as part of a £1 billion investment in NHS services.

Welcoming the funding, the Trust’s chief executive, Nick Carver, said:

“The vascular network will provide elective and 24/7 emergency vascular services for patients in Hertfordshire and west Essex, including a vascular hub at the Lister hospital where all arterial procedures will be carried out. This will also benefit a number of specialists including stroke and cancer services. By working with other local NHS hospitals, the network will greatly improve diagnosis and treatment for vascular conditions and will improve both the quality of care and experience for our patients.”
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Nick continued to say:

“To meet the demand for renal dialysis patients in the Luton and Dunstable area, the renal unit will also be relocated to a new facility with greater capacity. The building will have a designated space where patients are able to self-dialyse if they are not able to do so from home, allowing for greater flexibility in their treatment and improving the quality of their care and experience.”

-notes-

Notes to editor - vascular network
- The network will be developed within the context of the current Hertfordshire and West Essex Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP).
- The network will serve a population of over 1,500,000 people.
- Patients will have 24/7 access to diagnostics and treatment.
- The network will provide emergency and elective vascular surgery that will include a vascular hub at the Lister where all arterial procedures will be carried out (including aneurysms, carotid surgery, bypasses and major amputations) alongside aligned spoke services at The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust and West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust.
- An existing theatre at the Lister will be adapted to create an endovascular theatre.
- A new 24-bed ward for vascular surgery will also be created at the Lister.

Notes to editor – Luton and Dunstable renal dialysis unit
- The Trust will receive £4,220,000 for the relocation.
- The unit will have 25 haemodialysis stations (including six isolation rooms) and a six-station self-care annexe.
- The existing unit at the Luton and Dunstable hospital accommodates 135 patients at a time. The new unit will be able to meet this need, plus a 2% growth year-on-year for the next 10 years.

The East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust
The Trust provides a wide range of acute and tertiary care services from four hospitals, namely the: Lister in Stevenage; New QEII in Welwyn Garden City; Hertford County in Hertford; and the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre in Northwood, Middlesex

For more information about the Trust, go to the website.

For more information, please call the communications team on: 01438 285362 or 01438 285940; for out-of-hours calls, please page the duty press officer on 07659 103839.

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