Dermatology, Lupus, Adult Allergy and Rheumatology Service Improvements

**Improvement works underway across our services**

The Trust recently approved plans to significantly develop clinical facilities for dermatology, lupus, rheumatology and adult allergy challenges services. The plans were developed with input from patients, clinical teams and other staff from across the specialties and will include the building of a brand new treatment facility.

The project will create a new patient treatment and diagnostic centre on the ground floor of Bermondsey Wing providing newly refurbished facilities in Tower Wing and Southwark Wing at Guy’s Hospital.

As part of the project some services formerly based at St Thomas’ have relocated to the new facilities at Guy’s Hospital to enable the wide variety of healthcare professionals that care for our patients to work together more closely.

Work on this exciting development is already underway and will be completed in Summer 2015.

Benefits will include:

- A new state-of-the-art facility designed to improve patient experience
- Co-location of services to enable specialist healthcare professionals to work together more closely, including alongside academic and research teams
- Improved waiting areas and reception processes using digital check-in and information screens

All dermatology, lupus, adult allergy and rheumatology services will remain open throughout the developments.

**Why are some services moving?**

Dermatology services that were based at St Thomas’ Hospital, the ECP (Extracorporeal Photopheresis) and the Infusions Suite based at Guy’s, will be relocated into the Bermondsey Wing, Guy’s Hospital. In addition, the Louise Coote Lupus Unit moved in December 2014 to a newly refurbished facility on 4th Floor Tower Wing at Guy’s Hospital, alongside existing Rheumatology services.

Patients visiting these services will continue to receive high quality, specialist care, and we believe we can improve care further by locating services at the new facilities at Guy’s Hospital which have been designed to enrich patient and staff experience.

Many conditions and treatments require the input of different clinicians and services, but these are currently not provided in the same place. By locating services onto one site, healthcare professionals will be able to work together more closely, alongside academic and research staff.

We feel this is an important development that will enable us to provide even better care and treatment for patients.
Will this change the service I receive?
The service we currently provide will not change. The same staff will continue to provide your care and treatment, but they will be based at Guy’s Hospital. All services will remain open throughout the developments.

Which services are not affected?
We are not planning to move dermatological services such as Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB) or Children’s services. The Dermatology Surgery and Laser Unit will be relocated into the new Cancer Centre at Guy’s when this opens in 2016. Adult Allergy services will remain at Guy’s, however Adult Allergy Challenges is due to will move from St Thomas’ Hospital into the new Bermondsey Wing at Guy’s Hospital in 2016.

When will these changes take place?
The newly modernised facilities (based on the ground floor of Bermondsey Wing - next to Dermatology Outpatients) are due for completion by Summer 2015. Further details of the clinics that will move to the new centre are shown below. Refurbishments on the 4th Floor Tower Wing, Guy’s for Rheumatology and Lupus services were completed in December 2014.

Where can I get more information?
If you have any questions or you would like more information about this project, then please email GRIDArelocations@gstt.nhs.uk

- Dermatology Day Centre - currently based on 2nd Floor South Wing, St Thomas’ Hospital
- Dowling Day Centre - currently based on 1st Floor South Wing, St Thomas’ Hospital
- Cutaneous Allergy - currently based on 1st Floor South Wing, St Thomas’ Hospital
- Infusion Unit - currently based on 4th Floor Bermondsey Wing, Guy’s Hospital
- Extracorporeal Photopheresis (ECP) – currently 4th Floor Bermondsey Wing, Guy’s