

Trusts seek feedback on joint proposal to improve HIV inpatient services

09 JULY 19

Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust and Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust are asking for views on their joint proposal to bring together the HIV inpatient services currently provided by both Trusts.

The Trusts currently provide separate HIV inpatient services, at St Mary's Hospital and Chelsea and Westminster Hospital respectively, in north west London. They also provide a wide range of sexual health and HIV services across London.

The specialist HIV healthcare clinical teams at both Trusts have worked together to develop this joint proposal to improve the already high quality health services for people living with HIV, by bringing the HIV inpatient services together at the purpose-built Ron Johnson ward at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital.

The Ron Johnson ward is a 19 bed unit, all single rooms with en suite facilities and 10 with negative pressure capability. There is also a dedicated room to support those with mental health needs.

The key benefits to be gained from the proposal are:

- For patients admitted to hospital under HIV services, the Ron Johnson ward at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital is a purpose-built environment for HIV inpatient admissions and the facilities would provide for a better experience for patients.
- More joint working between specialist HIV healthcare providers across the two Trusts would improve the service and the quality of care for patients.
- As numbers of HIV inpatients are decreasing and are expected to fall further over time, consolidating into one hospital site will concentrate specialist healthcare expertise.
- The proposal is supported by NHS England, which is the lead organisation for the specialist commissioning of HIV services.

Both Trusts will continue to provide their current ambulatory or 'walk-in' HIV care services which can avoid unnecessary hospital admissions for patients. This proposal only relates to the HIV inpatient services provided by both Trusts.

We would welcome feedback throughout the engagement period from Tuesday 2 July until Friday 2 August, especially from patients, carers and service user groups and other stakeholders to get a full range of views. Please submit any comments and questions via email to: imperial.communications@nhs.net

Subject to the feedback the Trusts receive on their joint proposal, it is expected that the timeframe would be for a decision to be made in August/September 2019.

You can find out more about this proposal in the news release and proposal summary document on the [Imperial College Healthcare website](#).

