



Renal News

ISSUE 5



Dr Clara Day
Renal Consultant

Welcome to Renal News

Welcome to the fifth edition of Renal News – our renal dialysis service bulletin. As you know by now, there is lots going on in our haemodialysis programme therefore we aim to keep you up-to-date with all the changes, and how you can find more information about the various moves, through this monthly newsletter.

As there are only a few weeks now until we move to the new Diavrum units, we have put together a guide for you regarding the transfer process, see page 6, so you know what to expect. We have also got the most recent images and information on the four new units – Hereford (pg 5), Great Bridge (pg 2), Kings Norton (pg 4) and Aston (pg 3).

We hope you find this information useful but please do get in touch should you have any questions or concerns.

Dr Clara Day
Renal Consultant

Clara Day

University Hospitals Birmingham
NHS Foundation Trust

New improved dressings for patients

Following a few infections associated with dialysis catheters, we have spent some time working with our Infection Control department to look at the way we care for dialysis lines.

One of our worries was that the dressings didn't seem to be staying on as well as we would like them too. We therefore carried out a trial in two units with another type of dressing.

As a result of that trial, we have decided to use these alternative dressings for all patients.



The trial has shown that this new type of dressing is much more effective, so we will be using this in the future. ”

Liz Simpson

Matron Liz Simpson explains: “Patients with a tunneled catheter for their dialysis treatment are at higher risk of infections and loss of dialysis access.

“The dressings we use need to be robust enough to stay in place for seven days as frequent dressing changes disturb the skin unnecessarily.

“The trial has shown that this new type of dressing is much more effective, so we will be using this in the future.”

Your doctors, working with the Trust's Infection Control team have also made a further change, explains Liz:

“Research shows that the round patch



Liz Simpson
Matron for Established Renal Failure

under the clear dressing has less benefit than originally thought and can cause allergies if it is used for a long period of time.

“We therefore plan to only use these patches for two weeks after a new dialysis catheter is inserted and until it has healed. Once the catheter site has healed, the patch will no longer be used.”

This change in practice should help ensure your dressing stays in place and does not have to be changed more than every seven days. This should create a far more effective barrier against infection and prevent some of the nasty infections we have seen recently.



Great Bridge Kidney Treatment Centre

>> Facilities:

- 24 dialysis stations including
- 4 isolation rooms
- 2 clinic rooms
- Waiting area
- Meeting rooms
- Staff facilities
- Individual TV units
- Internet access

Bus routes: 30, 42, 42A, 42C, 43, 44, 74, 74A, 226W

Train station: Dudley Port (1.2 miles away)

Location:	Address:
Great Bridge	Unit 4&5 Link One George Henry Way Great Bridge DY4 7BU

Telephone: 0121 557 5538
***Please note – this number will not be plugged in until Monday 3 November.**
 For any queries before this date, please telephone **07872 150 327***

X New location ● Old location



Aston Kidney Treatment Centre

» Facilities:

24 dialysis stations including:
 4 isolation rooms
 2 clinic rooms
 Waiting area
 Meeting rooms
 Staff facilities
 Individual TV units
 Internet access

Bus routes: 8a, 8c, 65, 67, 115

Train station: Aston
 (15 minutes walk away)

Location:

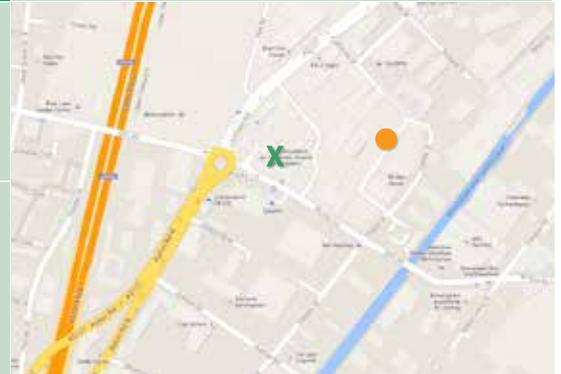
Aston

Address:

Aqueous One
 Aston Cross Business Park
 Aston
 Birmingham
 B6 5RQ

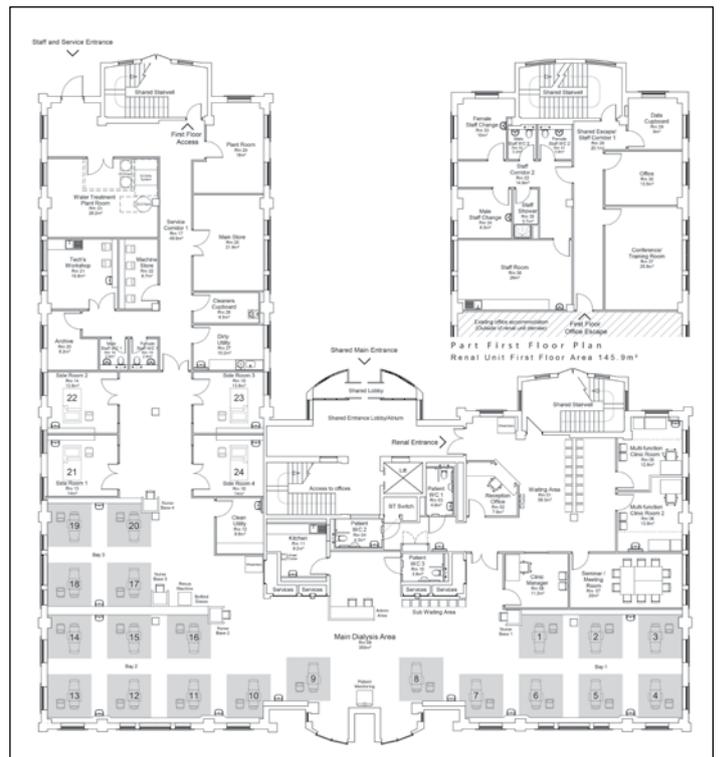
X New location

● Old location



Telephone: 0121 359 8427

***Please note – this number will not be plugged in until Monday 3 November.**
 For any queries before this date, please telephone **07872 150 327***



Kings Norton Kidney Treatment Centre

» Facilities:

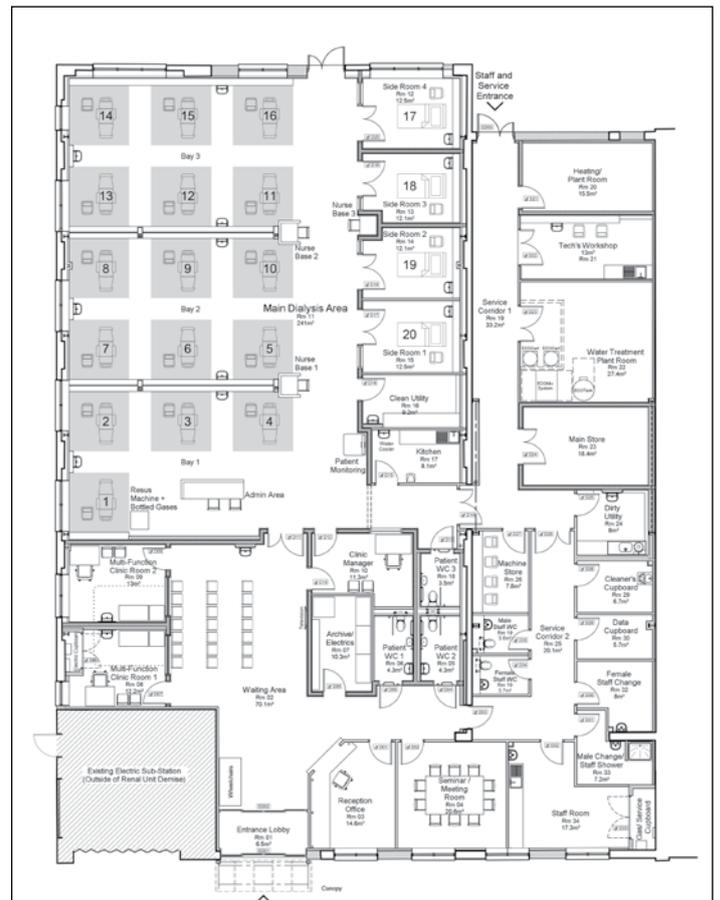
20 dialysis stations including:
 4 isolation rooms
 2 clinic rooms
 Waiting area
 Meeting rooms
 Staff facilities
 Individual TV units
 Internet access

Bus routes: 18, 18A, 19, AH6, FW5, 45, 84

Train station: Kings Norton (9 minutes walk)

Location:	Address:
Kings Norton	Unit 1&2 Wharfside Ardath Rd Kings Norton B38 9PN

Telephone: 0121 459 9002
***Please note – this number will not be plugged in until Monday 3 November.**
 For any queries before this date, please telephone **07872 150 327***



Hereford Kidney Treatment Centre

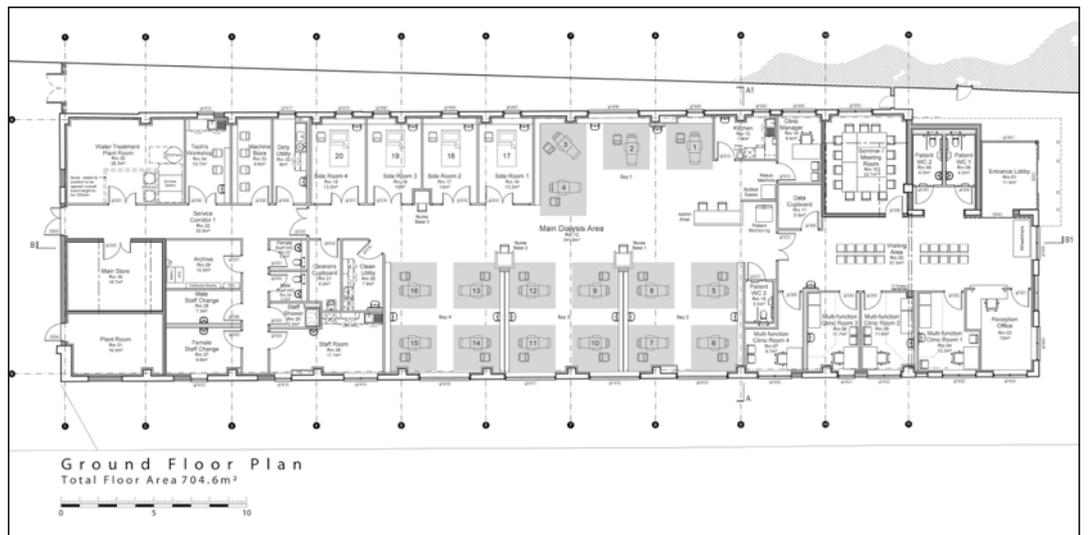
» Facilities:

- 20 dialysis stations including
- 4 isolation rooms
- 4 clinic rooms
- Waiting area
- Meeting rooms
- Staff facilities
- Training rooms
- Individual TV units
- Internet access

Bus routes: 72B, 77, 77A, 491, 492, 498, 502

Train station: Hereford (1 mile away)

Location:	Address:	X New location ● Old location
Hereford	67 Mortimer Rd Hereford HR4 9SP	
Telephone: 01432 274 603 *Please note – this number will not be plugged in until Monday 3 November. For any queries before this date, please telephone 07872 150 327*		



Transferring to your new unit

We understand that transferring to a new dialysis unit can be daunting therefore we have put together this guide to explain what will happen.

It is important to remember that for you, the only part of your care that will change is the location. We have a detailed plan to ensure that all the necessary arrangements are carried out so there is a smooth transfer from one unit to another.

Q Your last shift at the old unit

A You will dialyse as normal at your current location either on Friday 31 October or Saturday 1 November (depending on your usual shift).

Before leaving the unit, you will need to ensure you take all your personal belongings with you such as blankets, any clothing or shoes or books.

You will be given an appointment time for your first dialysis shift at the new unit. This is the time when you need to arrive at the new unit by. If you come by Patient Transport, we will inform them of your appointment time.

Your medications, prescriptions and any clinical items you will need will all be transferred by our staff – you do not need to worry about this.

Q Your first day at the new unit

A Your first dialysis session at the

new unit will either be on a Monday 3 November or Tuesday 4 November, depending on your normal shift pattern.

On arrival, you will be greeted by the Diaverum team. The majority of the staff will already be familiar to you as they too will be moving across to the new unit.

The nursing staff will provide you with a welcome booklet and show you around the newly built unit. The staff will also show you to your chair and explain how to use the entertainment facilities.

Your dialysis machine will be set up ready for you to dialyse as normal.

Q What should I bring with me?

A This should be like any other dialysis session so please bring anything you want to make you more comfortable such as a blanket or activities to help pass the time.



Q Who will be able to answer my questions?

A If you have any questions on the day, please speak to a member of the Diaverum nursing team and they will be happy to answer any queries.

Members of the QE team will be on site throughout the first few weeks to support the Diaverum team.

Q What will happen to my clinic appointments?

A Your future clinic appointments will also take place at your new unit therefore we will provide you with dates for your clinic appointments once you have settled into the Diaverum unit.

Q What if I can't find the unit?

A We have provided the addresses of all the units in this magazine and on our website. If you make your own way to the unit or are driven by a relative or friend, we recommend that you familiarise yourself with the location of the new unit in advance. This will make the journey to your first dialysis shift more relaxed.

Q Can I visit the unit in advance?

A Diaverum are holding a number of open days before November so you can visit your new unit and have a look round. Please see the Diaverum Open Days section for details of these open days.





We put our renal consultants in the hot seat so you could get to know them better. Dr Adnam Sharif gives you an insight into his world.

Describe yourself in 3 words...

Friendly, loud and cheeky.

What has been your biggest achievement this year?

Being able to secure research grant money for a large clinical study to help our kidney transplant patients change their lifestyle after kidney transplantation. The aim is to see whether offering more pro-active help is better than what we currently do so that our patients don't develop diabetes or gain weight. A lot of time and effort goes into securing research money so pleased that this project was funded and can start next year.

Who is your biggest inspiration?

I've always been a great admirer of Charles Darwin as a great example



Adnam Sharif
Renal Consultant

of painstaking work leading to great scientific advances. Without a doubt Darwin is the most inspiring scientist that ever lived.

Why did you choose to become a renal consultant?

I enjoyed my training in renal as a junior doctor and liked the idea of working in a branch of medicine where I could look after patients with both acute and chronic problems. It means there is an enormous amount of variety and the ability to specialise in specific areas of interest, which in my case is kidney transplantation.

Where is your favourite place?

I love travelling so have many favourite places in the world – Thailand would be near the top of my list.

What makes you laugh?

My two sons age 3 and 1 make me laugh and cry in equal measure.

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

I would love to be able to walk into work rather than commuting by car or train.

What's the best advice you have ever been given?

Don't sing for a living.

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

...actually Welsh by birth (but you will never tell from my accent apart from the odd spoken word).

Diaverum Open Days

To give patients, relatives and staff the opportunity to visit the new units, Diaverum have arranged some open days.

Please drop in at any time during the hours above where there will be a member of the Diaverum team to show you around and answer any questions you may have.

Centre	Dates	Times
Great Bridge	7th & 8th October	10am-12 midday
Kings Norton	14th & 15th October	10am-12 midday
Hereford	21st & 22nd October	10am-12 midday
Aston	30th October 31st October	4pm-6pm 10am-12 midday

Moving: important information about you

In order to ensure your dialysis care is seamlessly transferred to Diaverum we would like to share with them vital information about you and your dialysis needs before you transfer under their care – information such as your name, contact details, date of birth and dialysis prescription.

In order to ensure your dialysis care is seamlessly transferred to Diaverum we would like to share with them vital information about you and your dialysis needs before you transfer under their care – information such as your name, contact details, date of birth and dialysis prescription.

This will allow Diaverum to enter such details onto their computer systems and dialysis machines so that this is all ready and available for when you first go to the new units. You will already have had a letter about this from us.

If you have any concerns about this, please contact us by emailing kidneypatient@uhb.nhs.uk or you can leave us a message by calling 0121 371 5767.



» CONTACT US

University Hospitals Birmingham

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 500 702



GOT A QUESTION?

You can send your questions to the team by emailing kidneypatient@uhb.nhs.uk. The team will get back to you as soon as possible with the answer. If you raise a topic relevant to all patients, we will also provide information in forthcoming editions of Renal News.