Recent hospital facilities projects in Hywel Dda NHS Trust

- Renal Cardio/Respiratory Unit at West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen

  Opened to patients in March this year, the new two storey development comprises a Renal Dialysis Unit located on the ground floor, commissioned by Health Commission Wales, and a Cardio Respiratory Unit managed by Hywel Dda NHS Trust on the first floor.

- Renal Unit

  The new 30-place development replaces the old 18-place Renal Dialysis Service, providing facilities designed to meet the latest renal care standards. It includes four isolations rooms.

- Cardio Respiratory Unit

  The Cardio Respiratory Unit will enable the Trust to re-locate all cardio respiratory rehabilitation services and cardio investigations together into one focused clinical area within the Trust.

  The care model brings together all of the following services:
  - Cardio and Respiratory Patients
  - Cardio Rehabilitation
  - Respiratory Rehabilitation
  - Cardiology Department
  - Respiratory Team

  In addition to the new development, extensive refurbishments have taken place to modernise the existing Cardio Care Ward areas within the existing Ward Block 4 environment.

  Generally, the Trust has taken great steps to ensure that the design of the building and its environment is conducive to the 'well being' of patients, relatives and staff.

**Project Details**

- **Start on site:** July 2006
- **Completion:** December 2007
- **Opened to patients:** March 2008
- **Floor Area:** 1900m²
- **Construction cost:** £4.85m
- **Outturn cost:** £7.98m

**Design/Construction Team**

- **Project Manager:** Track Consulting
- **Architect:** Nightingale Associates
- **Structural Engineer:** Bay Associates
- **M & E Engineer:** Arup
- **Quantity Surveyor:** Lee Wakemans
- **Main Contractor:** Carter Lauren
- **M & E Contractor:** FP Hurley & Bullock Brothers

WHE Internet website: www.wales.nhs.uk/whe
Emergency and MRI Unit, West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen

Open to patients in March this year, the new Emergency and MRI Unit located on the ground floor of the two storey building has been developed to accommodate a throughput of 40,000 patients per year.

The unit has been designed in line with the latest ‘See and Treat’ best practice model and in accordance with the A & E exemplar concept both set out in the latest Department of Health Hospital Building Note 22. In the words of the Building Note, the ‘See and Treat’ model “involves assessing and treating patients with relatively minor problems as soon as they arrive in the department”.

The main entrance and two waiting areas have been designed to provide a clear identity for the new unit. The waiting areas have been located in different and distinct areas to reflect the requirement to address the needs of children separately from those of adults. Adult attendees and children are cared for separately throughout the ‘minor’ and ‘major’ treatment processes. These public areas have a south facing aspect and careful detailing of design and lighting make this as ‘warm and peaceful’ an environment as possible within the constraints of the facility.

The security controlled patient treatment areas are centred on a large central staff base, which has full vision across the department. A three-bay resuscitation room is located adjacent to the dedicated and separate ambulance entrance.

As well as the staff accommodation, which is grouped on the west side of the floor, the ground floor accommodates access to the new MRI unit, which is integral to the Emergency Unit. The first floor has been developed as a shell-only and separate funding is being sought to fit out this space as an ICU/HDU Unit. It is proposed that the new A & E Unit be linked to the ICU/HDU Unit via a dedicated bed lift.

At the time of opening, Emergency Unit Consultant, Mr Jeremy Williams, said: “Staff are really looking forward to moving into the new unit, especially as they have been directly
involved in the design. The building will allow us to practice 21st century medicine more easily and will be far more spacious and comfortable for patients, offering a much greater degree of privacy and dignity.” Senior Nurse Lesley Jenkins, who has been involved in the emergency unit’s design, added: “We have taken into account good practice and have involved clinicians and nurses who work with patients on the frontline every day. For example, in the new unit major and minor patients will be separated into different areas, allowing for easier and quicker treatment. Patients will be treated in individual, private treatment rooms. There will also be a distinct area for children so that they are not exposed to trauma cases, which can be upsetting and disturbing.”

Acknowledgements
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