

Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday 29 January 2009

BD2009.3

Subject	Chief Executive's Report			
Purpose of paper	This short report summarises Trust performance and matters of current interest.			
Board Lead(s)	Mr Trevor Campbell Davis, Chief Executive			
Background papers (if any)				
Action/decision required	The Board is asked to note the report			
Key purpose	Strategy	Assurance	Policy	<u>Performance</u>
Strategic Goal(s)	All			
Strategic Objective(s)	All			
Links to Board Assurance Framework/ Trust Key Risks/Annual Health Check element(s)	Not applicable			
Also considered by	Not applicable			
Resource and financial impact	Not applicable			
Consideration of legal/equality/diversity/engagement issues	Not applicable			
Acronyms and abbreviations used	NHS - National Health Service ORH - Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals			

This short report summarises Trust performance and matters of current interest.

1. The Trust achieved a surplus of £300,000 in December; the year-to-date surplus is now £5 million. Further information is set out in the accompanying paper from the Director of Finance (BD2009.8).
2. On 15 January, the Healthcare Commission published a national survey of patients' views of hospital emergency departments. The Trust achieved high scores in many of the indicators.

Overall, nine out of ten patients questioned rated their care at our emergency departments as good, very good or excellent. The ORH scored above the national average in nearly all categories, and was in the top 20% of all trusts for a number of responses. Areas in which patients judged us as among the best performing include:

- feeling involved in decisions about patient care and treatment
- cleanliness of the emergency departments and toilets
- being told how long the wait would be
- receiving information about who to contact after leaving the emergency department
- being able to find a convenient place to park their vehicles.

The patient survey follows a report in September 2008 by the Healthcare Commission that recognised Oxfordshire as having one of the best performing systems for the delivery of urgent and emergency care. These ratings reflect the hard work of the staff of our emergency departments in Oxford and Banbury, and continuing work to increase collaboration across local NHS agencies.

3. On 16 January, the ORH, in partnership with the University of Oxford and the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, submitted a bid for designation as an Academic Health Science Centre (AHSC). The bid is supported and was countersigned by Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust, other NHS trusts in Oxfordshire and Oxford Brookes University. We will know in early February whether the bid has been shortlisted for AHSC designation. If so, representatives of the key partners will be interviewed by an international panel of experts before the outcome is announced in early March.
4. Last autumn, the ORH hosted a number of Iraqi doctors as part of a six week Department of Health programme to update clinical and managerial skills, and to assist in the rebuilding of the Iraqi health service. The doctors spent time shadowing clinical teams, and attended a programme of events demonstrating the way in which the NHS and Oxford is addressing issues, such as patient safety and demands on services. On 16 December, Dr Salih Al-Hasnawi, the Iraqi Health Minister, accompanied by officials from the Department of Health, visited the Trust to convey in person his thanks for the hospitality of the ORH staff, and to meet some of the people involved in arranging the programme. The Department of Health has congratulated the Trust on the way in which the programme was organised, and is using it as a model of good practice in other trusts, which have agreed to host future visits.

5. The ORH neurosurgical and obstetric teams received international media coverage as a result of the successful delivery of a baby, Aya Soliman, whose mother had tragically suffered a fatal brain haemorrhage. Mrs Soliman was admitted to the John Radcliffe on 7 January after suffering a brain haemorrhage while 25 weeks pregnant. Mrs Soliman was sustained on life support and administered a course of steroid therapy to improve the outcome for the baby. The team, in discussion with Mr Soliman, delivered baby Aya by Caesarean section on 8 January. Baby Aya was in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for a short while until she stabilised, when she was transferred to the Royal Berkshire Hospital in Reading, to be nearer to her father.
6. The Department of Health has announced that Professor Keith Willett, consultant trauma and orthopaedic surgeon, is to be the National Clinical Director for Trauma Care from 1 April 2009, working for the Department three days a week. The Board wishes to congratulate Professor Willett on his new appointment.
7. I should also like to congratulate Professor Peter Ratcliffe, Nuffield Professor of Clinical Medicine at the University of Oxford, who has been awarded the 2009 Louis-Jeantet Prize for Medicine, which he shares with Professor Michael Hall from the University of Basle. The Louis-Jeantet prize is awarded annually to researchers working in European Council member countries, who are carrying out outstanding biological research with implications for the future of medicine and healthcare.
8. I am pleased to announce that Mr Jerry Park took up his post as Secretary to the Board on 5 January.