

Mount Vernon Cancer Centre: Stakeholder Update 2 – January 2020

Following the evaluation of bids to run the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre (MVCC), NHS England's Regional Leadership team has agreed with the Panel's recommendation that University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (UCLH), subject to a period of due diligence, should be awarded the contract to run the centre from April 2021. It was also agreed that UCLH should be appointed to provide leadership support to Mount Vernon Cancer Centre from April 2020.

The period of due diligence will enable both UCLH and NHS England to ensure the clinical and business implications and risks are fully understood by both organisations before a final commitment is made. It will also allow UCLH and East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust to have important discussions with staff whose employment contracts would transfer to UCLH in 2021, should the transfer go ahead.

This decision means that, subject to the outcome of the due diligence, Mount Vernon Cancer Services would be provided by UCLH in the future. The earliest this would happen is April 2021.

The change of provider relates to the management of the centre. Patients will not need to travel to London for treatment, unless that is part of an existing cancer pathway or necessary to benefit from a specialist clinical trial not available at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre.

East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust will continue to run the services until the transfer takes place.

Work will begin in February 2020 with clinicians and patients to consider the best way to meet the needs of the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre population in the long-term. Patients, clinicians and stakeholders, including local hospitals and Clinical Commissioning Groups, will be involved in developing a range of options. These options will include maintaining services at or near the current MVCC site. They will be evaluated on a range of criteria on which patients have already been engaged and include local access and interface with other services.

While the review continues, there will be no changes to where patients receive treatment. If changes are proposed in future, they will be designed to make improvements to services, such as better access for patients and where necessary, public consultation will take place.

East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust, including colleagues from Mount Vernon Cancer Services, were represented on the panel that made the recommendation.

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