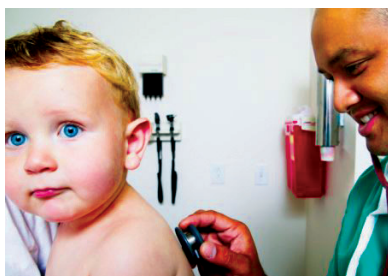


Annual Report & Summary Financial Statements 2006/07



New ways of working

Understanding the experience of our patients brought about new ways of working at the hospital. Our staff introduced new ideas for providing care and treatment in several areas.

Lead nurse Ann O'Brien and her team on ward 34 created a dedicated unit for patients undergoing planned orthopaedic surgery. The result was a significant reduction in the length of stay for patients to an average of 4.8 days, below the national average.

Ann says:

"Before, we cared for both patients who needed emergency orthopaedic care and those who were coming in for planned surgery in the same area. By creating the dedicated unit for patients undergoing surgery we've brought down the average length of stay and reduced the risk of infection."

Our new discharge lounge provides patients with a dedicated place where nursing staff are on hand to help with any last minute worries. They can also relax and wait prior to leaving the hospital in a calm and comfortable environment. Case manager, Liz Ward - who looks after the patients' discharge process - says the new lounge offers continuous quality care right to the moment patients leave hospital.

Patients survey, praises endoscopy unit.

A survey to find out what patients thought about the hospital's consent process resulted in a vote of confidence from patients for our endoscopy unit.

Dr Ash Soliman, consultant gastroenterologist, said: "We sent the survey out so we could discover how to improve our patient consent forms and we got some really useful feedback. Additional comments and suggestions we received from our patients were appreciated."

Of the 1,000 patients that took part in the survey, more than 200 added their appreciation of the care and service they received.

Dr Soliman added: "It's good to know we're on the right track but we're not complacent. We know we can do better and we will continue to improve care and services for our patients."

Awards spotlight for staff.

The awards spotlight fell on the hospital at the 2005 northern finals of the health and social care awards.

After transforming emergency medical care and streamlining patient services, consultant in acute medicine Dr Richard Shepherd was

nominated for Hospital Doctor of the Year.

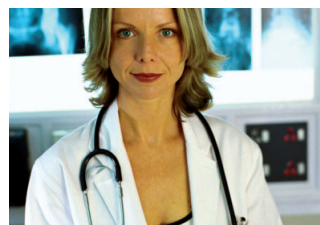
His work to develop a service which benefits patients, families, hospital staff and GPs, with the help of teamwork across the hospital, means some patients can now have all their tests and a discharge plan in as little as six hours.

Joining Dr Shepherd at the northern finals was the hospital's retinal screening team who earned their place after developing one of the country's first mobile eye screening services for diabetes patients.

Dr Shepherd and the retinal screening team were two of only six nominations from South Yorkshire at the northern finals.

Awards Received

Dr Julie Shepherd
Hospital Doctor of the Year.



Did you know?

One year after the arrival of an MRI scanner at the hospital, we've seen 2,000 patients who otherwise would have had to wait or be referred elsewhere for the hi-tech scans.



Did you know?

Free healthchecks were on offer in the community in August. The health MOT session - which included measuring blood pressure, heart rate, body fat and blood sugar levels - took place in Hoyland.

