



South West London Pathology is up and running!

1st April was the official 'go live' date for South West London Pathology.

A very warm welcome to the hundreds of pathology staff from Kingston, Croydon and St George's who now form part of this new partnership and will be central to its success.

This is a major milestone in the development of pathology services in South West London, bringing together the skills and expertise of pathology staff from the three Trusts to build a modern, integrated service that will drive innovation and enhance the quality of services for clinicians and patients across south west London and beyond.

A huge amount of work has already been done by many, many people to

lay the foundations and get us to the 'go live' date but this is just the first step. The next twelve months will be a time of massive change for South West London Pathology – it will be hard work, it will be busy, it will be challenging but the objective of a strong, sustainable, locally based NHS service is well worth the effort and is something that all three Trusts want to achieve.

The success of South West London Pathology (SWLP) will depend on its staff. This is an exciting time but, as with all big changes, it will also be a difficult time for some and it won't always be plain sailing.

Many members of staff will have important questions to ask, some may have very real concerns about the impact of changes, professionally and personally. The South West London

Pathology management team will do its utmost to keep everyone informed, respond to questions and concerns and offer as much support as possible.

As part of that process we have arranged three 'welcome events' where you can get more information, meet the management team and ask any questions you may have about the changes being planned.

Leading SWLP through the next phase will be Saghar Missaghian-Cully, our new Managing Director, who starts officially on 1st May but there will be opportunities to meet her before then.

Saghar and the rest of the management team are looking forward to meeting you at the welcome events.

[The dates and venues for the events are on Page 2 of this newsletter.](#)

The clinical portal is an early success

Developments in IT will be critical to the success of SWLP as an integrated hub and spoke service.

A vital part of this will be the 'clinical portal', which will enable clinicians, in the hospitals and in primary care, to access patient information, including results across South West London.

The good news is that the first phase

of the portal is working as planned and on time. This phase supports gynae cytology and has now been developed, tested, and delivered.

Currently this means that results for gynae cytology orders processed at the SWLP hub are now successfully transferring to the electronic patient system at Kingston and these results are available to be viewed in the clinical portal.

That may not sound like much, but to service users this is a really important first step, so well done to the whole of the IT team and everyone else who has worked alongside them to make it happen.

Much, much more to be done though, working through the disciplines, mapping, reviewing and testing to deliver the full system.

More news as the portal grows...

Making South West London Pathology a reality...

'Go live' is important but South West London Pathology is more than just a name – it is a new way of working and will only feel real when we can actually see changes taking place.

Those changes have begun – the **transfer of cervical cytology screening services** from Croydon and Kingston Hospitals to the SWLP hub laboratory is complete.

Croydon blazed the trail with laboratory equipment, microscopes, slides and staff transferring at the end of February, with no interruption to the screening service or to the

process for making requests and delivering results.

The Kingston service soon followed and also transferred without any major problems.

The result is that all of South West London Pathology's cervical screening activity has successfully transferred to the hub as required by commissioners.

Congratulations and a big thank you to everyone involved in making this smooth transfer possible - it demonstrates what SWLP is capable of.

Over the next 12 months or so there will be a phased programme of implementation leading to the 'end

state' of a fully functional hub and spoke service.

Next will be **microbiology services** with equipment and staff due to transfer to the SWLP hub from Kingston on 7th July 2014 and from Croydon on 21st July 2014.

The **Croydon histopathology service** and its staff will physically transfer to the hub on 31st July 2014.

These are the planned dates at the moment and depend on all the estates and IT work being completed and tested beforehand.

Transfer of blood sciences work, including GP direct access will follow in the autumn.

Staff welcome events from 12.30pm – 2pm:

Wednesday 23 April

St George's Hospital
Blackshaw Road
London, SW17 0QT
Venue: John Parker Lecture Theatre,
Atkinson Morley Wing, Ground floor

Friday 25 April

Croydon Hospital
530 London Road
Croydon, CR7 7YE
Venue: Austin Seminar Room
Shirley House

Monday 28 April

Kingston Hospital
Galsworthy Rd
Kingston upon Thames, KT2 7QB
Venue: Pathology Seminar Room,
Bernard Mead Wing

Transport

The site to site transport which will be required to move the samples from the spokes to the hub was tendered.

CitySprint were successful in the procurement and the contract commences in April 2014. Local discussions are taking place with regards to the delivery details and linking in with the estates work at the spoke site.

Microbiology Automation - work is well underway to provide a single new automated system at the hub.

Blood Sciences Automation - work has started on developing the requirement for common automated platforms across all our laboratory sites.

New website for SWLP

A new website for South West London Pathology is being developed. Look out for updates in future editions of South West London Pathology News.