

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee **Health Overview And Scrutiny Committee**

Date of Committee **11 July 2007**

Report Title **Phlebotomy Service**

Summary The Phlebotomy (blood taking) services based at the Brunswick Healthy Living Centre in Leamington Spa and Cape Road Clinic in Warwick will be moving to Warwick Hospital with effect from the 16th July 2007. A copy of a press release issued by NHS Warwickshire is attached.

***For further information
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PRESS RELEASE**NEW HOME FOR LOCAL BLOOD TAKING SERVICES**

Two Warwickshire clinics are preparing to transfer their blood taking services to improve patient care across the county.

From July, the phlebotomy (blood taking) services at the Brunswick Healthy Living Centre in Leamington Spa and Cape Road Clinic in Warwick will be moving from their current locations to Warwick Hospital.

The move will mean that up to 1,000 patients who currently use the Phlebotomy service at the current locations every month, will have access to a bigger and better service, which is open longer hours with an appointment-free system for most blood tests.

Jill Freer, Managing Director of Community Services said: "The current Phlebotomy service is only available to patients who have an appointment, is manned by just five staff, which can prove a little tricky during holiday periods and there always has to be someone on hand to make the appointment bookings.

"The move of the service to Warwick Hospital is great news for patients and community services will be working closely with the hospital to ensure a smooth transition.

"The GP practices involved and the patients under their care will be given information about the move and I'm sure they will witness a much improved blood taking service."

The new service will begin at Warwick Hospital from Monday July 16th.

[ENDS]

For more information please contact: Gemma Coldicott, Communications Department, NHS Warwickshire – 01926 493491 ext. 228/233

Notes to Editors:

- For normal blood tests, patients will have access to the new service between 8.30am and 4.45pm Monday to Thursday and between 8.30am and 1pm on Fridays.

- For those who will be requiring glucose intolerance tests, an appointment will need to be made by calling Warwick Hospital 01926 495321 ext 4075.
- Blood tests for children under 12 will remain unchanged in line with the Service Level agreement set up with Warwick Hospital.
- In April 2004, five of the general practices within Warwick Locality exercised their right, under the new GMS contract, to opt out of providing a phlebotomy service to their patients within their surgeries. An outpatient booked appointment service was quickly established by Community Services to ensure continuity of service provision to patients in the area. The service for patients of the four Leamington based practices has been provided from Brunswick Healthy Living Centre and the service for the Warwick practice provided from Cape Road Clinic.
- Throughout the rest of Warwickshire, the Phlebotomy service is either provided in house by general practices or through an acute provider.