

### Helping hospitals to work across different sites and in the community

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#### A service built around the needs of patients

Closer working between Nottingham University Hospitals and Sherwood Forest Hospitals is leading to improvements in care that is closer to home.

Urology cancer patients that were being treated in Derby can now receive their treatment in Nottinghamshire. More joined-up services are also meaning that those patients are having to make less trips to hospital for diagnosis, treatment and after-care. An on-call rota developed between the two organisations has enabled patients to be seen immediately by a consultant during office hours or the next morning if admitted out of hours.

#### Assessing patients for longer-term care needs

When it is safe and appropriate to do so, many people can continue their care and assessment out of hospital.

The discharge to assess scheme in Greater Nottingham is helping to ensure that patients can be assessed for their longer-term needs in the right place. This may be via Home First, community beds, or continuing health care assessment. This scheme, run by Nottingham University Hospitals and local commissioners, is helping to reduce delayed transfers of care and thereby free up beds for people who need to be in hospital.

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#### Improvements to end-of-life care gives patients choice to remain at home

A new service has been launched to support end-of-life care for patients across Nottinghamshire whose preferred choice is to remain at home.

An in-reach matron supports patients who are at end-of-life while in hospital, and co-ordinates the patients' discharge to home safely with the care of nursing teams from Nottinghamshire Healthcare, Macmillan and Carers Trust East Midlands. Since the start of the scheme, the service has improved patient care and enabled more than 95% of these patients to remain in their own homes.

Dr James Hopkinson, clinical lead, Nottingham North and East CCG, said: "Many patients express a preference for remaining at home at the end of their lives, and this service gives patients that choice, where it is clinically possible, while also ensuring that they, their family and their carers' are supported throughout."

