

New RUH Hospital@Home Service

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Dear colleagues,

**New RUH service launched – Hospital@Home**

I wanted to let you know about a new RUH led initiative for **BaNES** patients called **RUHHospital@Home.**

This is an innovative model of care for unwell patients, aiming to bring RUH hospital services into the patient’s own home, minimising the in-patient stay, and facilitating an early return to the familiar frames of reference that will help mitigate the high risks of physical and cognitive deconditioning that quickly set in during hospital admission*.* These patients would ordinarily be cared for within the acute hospital, often developing long lengths of stay.

**Why has the RUH introduced Hospital@Home?**This is in the wider context of the changes brought about by COVID, the NHSE initiative which has invited new ways of caring for older people in their own homes and the significantly increasing numbers of frail older adults in our population which mandates new ways of working.

**How does Hospital@Home Work?**Unwell patients who would previously have been managed in an acute hospital bed will be taken home by our team of therapists, nurses and rehab support workers, having been assessed and suitably investigated at RUH. The team will be supported by Medical Nurse Practitioners, a registrar and Consultant Geriatrician via daily multidisciplinary meetings.

These patients will remain under the clinical responsibility of the RUH team for the duration of their time with **RUHHospital@Home**. A clear management plan and readmission criteria will be well delineated and documented in paper notes (accessed via an orange folder that will remain at the patient’s home) in case of unexpected decline out of hours.

A copy of this plan will also be forwarded to the GP team, notifying them of their patient’s admission into **RUHHospital@Home.** Should a patient have need to call emergency services or 111 through unforeseen deterioration, those details will be available to any attending clinician.

When a patient is deemed medically fit to be discharged from **RUHHospital@Home** a discharge summary will be sent in the normal way.

**What role will GP’s play?**  
The intention is that all responsibility remains with RUH Hopsital@Home and no GP resources will be called on during the patients stay as a **RUHHospital@Home** patient**.**  Any queries from the patient or family during this time would be expected to be re-directed to the **RUHHospital@Home** team.

**How can I find out more?**

We welcome any feedback and strive to continually improve this service for our patients and partners. If you have any questions or concerns, please do email me directly on robin.fackrell@nhs.net

With very best wishes,

Dr Robin Fackrell FRCP MA

Associate Medical Director for Ageing Well, Bath & North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire