



Cheshire and Merseyside Surgical Centre at Clatterbridge

Newsletter

Edition 1 – April 2023

Cheshire and Merseyside Surgical Centre opens

The innovative Cheshire and Merseyside Surgical Centre opened its doors at Clatterbridge in November 2023 and by 31st March 2023, had treated 1,197 patients from across the region.

It was the first of a number of new-build surgical hubs to open in the North West with the aim of tackling the backlog of people waiting for elective surgery due to COVID-19.

Wirral University Teaching Hospital (WUTH) was allocated £10.6 million from NHS England's Targeted Investment Fund via NHS Cheshire and Merseyside to build the two new 'modular theatres' in phase one of the project which opened in November. A further £14.95 million has been allocated to build two further theatres at the centre and they are expected to open later this year.

Mr Sunanda Mahapatra, General Surgeon at the Countess of Chester, who has operated at the centre, said: "The Cheshire and Merseyside Surgical Centre is a great development for my patients. This facility will allow us to carry on working without thinking about bed pressures and over time, reduce waiting times for patients."

The modules for phase two of the build arrived on site last week. An extra 6,000 patients a year will be treated when the second phase is completed.

Innovation in design

The design rotated by 90 degrees to enable the centre to be built on to the site without compromising clinical services enabling phase 2 expansion. Both new state-of-the-art theatres have advanced technology. One of the key features is the clean air skirt-less canopy, which enables a range of surgery to take place without risk of infection.

The plant room servicing the theatres is on the roof, so it does not take up any valuable ground space. Being on a greenfield site, having a rooftop plantroom minimises noise pollution and is more aesthetically pleasing.



Pictured are one of the new theatres and staff from the centre with Janelle Holmes, Chief Executive.

Achievements in 100 days

- ✓ Over 350 Orthopaedic procedures.
- ✓ Over 650 Urology procedures.
- ✓ Over 150 General, Breast and Gynae procedures.
- ✓ 8 Countess of Chester Surgeons operate regularly at the centre.
- ✓ National and regional news stories, including TV, print and digital.
- ✓ 2 Regional presentations on Elective hub processes.
- ✓ Early expansion of case complexity.