To:	Trust Board
From:	Lucy Ettridge
Date:	27 April 2018
Essential Standards:	

Title:	ULHT innovation report – day case ankle surgery				
Author/Responsible Director Lucy Ettridge/ Jan Sobieraj					
Purpose of the Report: To provide the Board with an update on innovation projects, service improvements and good news from across the organisation.					
The Report is provided to the Board for:					
Decision		Discussion			
Ass	surance	Information	Х		
Summary/Key Points:					
Recommendations:					
To note					
Strategic Risk Register Performance KPIs year to date					
Resource Implications (e.g. Financial, HR)					
Assurance Implications:					
Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) Implications.					
Equality Impact					
Information exempt from Disclosure					
Requirement for further review?					

Innovative ankle surgery for patients at Pilgrim

Background

Patients requiring ankle replacement surgery can now be operated on and return home the same day, thanks to a brand new way of working at Pilgrim hospital.

the trailblazing Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon Harish Kurup and his team have adopted this practice to ensure ankle surgery patients only remain in hospital for as long as necessary and is being carried out.

Mr Kurup has carried out around 45 ankle replacement surgeries at Pilgrim since 2011. In the UK around 600 to 700 replacements take place every year and last year Pilgrim did 11. Only about 15 surgeons in the country do more.

Innovative new surgery

Mr Kurup has recently completed the surgery, the first of its kind in the entire country, on a handful of patients and hopes more will take place in the near future.

Usually, patients requiring a new ankle need to be admitted overnight and kept in hospital for up to two days.

Now, depending on a patient's age and how well they can manage on crutches after surgery, the team can carry out the entire procedure in a morning and release the patient home by late afternoon.

The very first day case ankle replacement was carried out successfully at Pilgrim at the end of November, with a second and third following closely behind in early December and January respectively.

In March, the Trust comms teams got the chance to follow patient Linda Andrews, who allowed us exclusive access to film her procedure, speak to her post op and follow her entire passage through Pilgrim. Linda was the fourth patient to undergo the procedure and the very first woman. A reporter from BBC Look North also filmed the surgery for a report which was broadcast in the subsequent weekend bulletins.

Linda's surgery took around an hour-and-a-half to complete and she received top class treatment from Mr Kurup and his dedicated team. She was back from recovery at around 5pm and ready to go home for 8pm the same evening.

Benefits

The main benefit to carrying out this ankle replacement surgery is day case patients are much more comfortable in their own homes and this can help them to convalesce. For ULHT, this also frees up bed spaces to avoid other operations being cancelled, helping to reduce costs on overnight stays - a saving of around £400 per patient in total.

After the success of these initial operations, it is estimated that around eight procedures could be carried out as day cases at Pilgrim every year.

A key part of our 2021 strategy is about providing high quality care, efficiently and effectively and to value patient's time. This surgery is a perfect example of this and it's our intent to learn from this and do more.