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Media Release

Old Pharmacy farewell at Bath's RUH

Work has started to demolish the old Pharmacy at the front of the Royal United Hospital to make way for the new RNHRD and Therapies Centre.

Hoardings have gone up around the site and demolition contractors R.M. Penny from Ston Easton, near Bath have begun the task of clearing the old Blue Badge car park and the Pharmacy buildings.

Construction work is due to begin in September to create a purpose-built outpatient centre that will bring together our renowned rheumatology, pain and therapies services, which are currently provided at the the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases' (RNHRD) Mineral Water Hospital site.

Facilities will include a new hydrotherapy pool, a gym, a therapeutic garden and clinical areas to improve the patient experience. The new centre is expected to be completed by spring 2019.

Consultant Rheumatologist Ellie Korendowych, Clinical Lead for Rheumatology, said: "It's great to see that work has finally begun and we can now look forward to the time when our patients will be seen by the same teams, providing the same service, only in brand-new state of the art surroundings."

The RUH's Forever Friends Appeal is raising a minimum of £2m towards this £16m project in association with the RNHRD Charitable Fund* – with the Brownsword Charitable Foundation challenging the public to back the appeal by generously promising to match every pound donated up to the level of £1m.

The new RNHRD and Therapies Centre is part of the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust's estates redevelopment plan to make the RUH fit for the future and to further improve services to patients. To find out more visit www.ruh.nhs.uk/fit4future

Ends

*To support the RNHRD & Therapies Centre Campaign please visit the website below:
<https://support.foreverfriendsappeal.co.uk/donation-pages/rnhrd--therapies>