

Press Release

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Sexual Health Matters at the RUH

A new Wednesday morning 'walk-in' clinic is being run in the genitourinary (GU) medicine department at the Royal United Hospital. The clinic runs from 8.15am to 11am, and is available to anyone who may be concerned about their sexual health.

The service offers routine screening for common sexually transmitted infections (STIs), such as Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea, as well as blood testing for HIV and Syphilis.

Consultant in GU medicine at the RUH, Dr Kate Horn is really enthusiastic about the walk-in clinic, she says: "The clinic is open to people of any age; they can just walk in off the street, or be referred by their GP or from other healthcare organisations.

"We are really keen to encourage young, sexually active people to take responsibility for their sexual health, particularly the 15 to late twenties age group. Bath has a large student population and we really want them to know about the walk-in clinic and help us to spread the word.

"All of our staff are trained in dealing with and treating STIs and of course the service is completely confidential. We can also provide information on safe sexual practices as well as sexual health promotion in general.

"Our first clinic last week was well attended, which is a really good sign that people are taking their sexual health seriously. We hope that this message will encourage more people to make use of the walk-in clinic.

"The GU department aims to increase access to our services and strives to see all symptomatic patients within 48 hours. This walk-in clinic is a really good first step towards achieving that."

Ends

For more information, please contact: Anita Houlding, communications officer on 01225 825799.