

Communications Department

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PRESS RELEASE

Essential water maintenance work will be carried out overnight on Saturday 24/Sunday 25 May at the Royal United Hospital (RUH) in Bath. Hospital engineering staff will be checking all cold water taps and outlets in a number of wards and clinical areas of the hospital to ensure the quality of the water system is maintained. As part of this routine testing the cold water supply will be temporarily turned off to allow engineers to complete their checks.

Water testing will take place from 8pm on Saturday 24 May through to 10am on Sunday 25 May.

Ensuring good hand hygiene is a vital part of the RUH's efforts to tackle infections. Special temporary washing facilities will be brought in to these areas so that patients and staff can still wash their hands. Additional hand wash wipes will also be available and staff will make sure that there are adequate supplies of the alcohol hand washing gel.

Bottled drinking water will also be made available to staff and patients.

Francesca Thompson, director of nursing said: " During this brief period of maintenance works it is important that everyone in the hospital still washes their hands thoroughly when entering and leaving wards and clinic areas and before and after contact with a patient. We have made special arrangements to bring in temporary washing facilities during this period and this together with supplies of the alcohol hand gel and hand wash wipes will mean that everyone can help us keep up the fight against infections."

Ends

Wards and clinical areas affected by the water testing are as follows:

- Children's Therapies, Children's Outpatients, Children's Ward.
- Orthopaedic Pre Admissions, Robin Smith Ward, Bath Treatment Centre
- Gastro Outpatients, Endoscopy, Gastro Offices
- Cardiac Centre
- Day Surgery Unit, Day Surgery Wards
- Vascular Studies, Cardiac Ward, Coronary Care Unit Cardiac Centre
- Neurology Ward, Neurology Outpatients, Eye Unit
- Respiratory Ward, Respiratory Outpatients, Respiratory Offices.

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