

Discover Ipswich Hospital

I'm Peter Donaldson, a consultant urologist, and one of the team of people who work at The Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust and care for more than 400,000 people each year. And I'm inviting you to discover more about your hospital.

Our Neonatal Unit looks after babies who need vital special care in their first few days and weeks of life. The Framlingham Neonatal Unit includes family rooms for parents to stay overnight, as well as a sanctuary garden.

We provide more than five million tests each year which are carried out by healthcare scientists who work in the Pathology team.

Our robots John, Paul, George and Ringo, help the Pharmacy team dispense around 30,000 items a month.

We've worked very hard to reduce levels of infection within the hospital and we've now got the lowest levels ever. However we cannot be complacent and every day we take all the steps needed to safeguard patient care. You can help us do this by using the gels and hand washes at the entrance to every clinical area.

Our radiotherapy services for cancer patients attract international acclaim. We deliver advanced radiotherapy (known as image-guided radiotherapy) every day and are one of only a handful of centres throughout the country to do so. The Radiotherapy team have worked very hard to be at the leading edge of cancer treatments. There has been much investment in state-of-the-art equipment to deliver the radiotherapy and in the treatment planning service.

Much of the hospital's work is helping people get the most out of their life, through treatment and ongoing support. Our physiotherapists often work with patients over long periods of time to make sure they regain independence and increased mobility.

Some of our clinicians are internationally renowned for their work, particularly in research. Matthew Yung, Ear, Nose and Throat consultant surgeon is one. Matthew runs an international teaching course at the hospital each year where surgeons from all over the world attend to develop their skills.

Nursing care is at the heart of the hospital. We had a negative report into privacy and dignity standards in an inspection by the Care Quality Commission in March 2011. We promised to put right everything that was wrong. We were delighted when the Care Quality Commission told us this year* that we are fully compliant with all standards.

The Critical Care Unit is based in the Garrett Anderson Centre and provides intensive care to around 75 patients a month. Specialist nurses who work in Critical Care also provide an outreach service to other wards and clinical areas in the hospital.

Our Emergency Department sees around 60,000 people each year and has recently has been given the thumbs up by patients. Results of a national survey recently published show that Ipswich patients have rated the hospital's Emergency Department 8 out of 10, which is above the national average. This is positive news for us as it shows that people are generally very satisfied with the care and treatment they get in the Emergency Department, and now we can use these opinions to improve quality even further.

I hope you have discovered more about your hospital.

Interested in being part of the hospital? [Apply to be a hospital volunteer](#) and make a difference to the lives of patients and staff.

* 2012