Each week we will update you on the quality actions that have been progressed across the organisation.

Privacy and dignity Key action for this week:

• Encourage and help patients to wear their own clothing when it is appropriate

Electronic VTE assessments rolled out across our wards

An electronic system which speeds up venous thromboembolism (VTE) assessments has been rolled out across our wards following a successful pilot.

All patients admitted to our hospital are required to have VTE assessments due to an increased risk of blood clots, particularly after surgery, or for patients who may be bedbound for longer than usual.

Historically, the VTE assessment data was captured on all clinical computers once a day. However in February, a new system using iPads was designed which created a live data report, enabling the identification of any patient who required a VTE assessment.

The Acute Medical Unit (AMU) was one of the first wards to trial VTE electronic assessments.

Kelly Spaven, Matron for AMU, said: “It’s quick and easy to complete and avoids nurses having to leave a patient’s bedside to find a computer to log the information.

“As matron, I can also look at all our patients and identify any gaps in assessment and act on this.”

For the second month the Trust has achieved the VTE risk assessment CQUIN target.
Tracey Cooper, IT Clinical Trainer, said: "This is an excellent example of how collaborative working between IT and clinicians can bring about positive changes and improvements in clinical practice."

**Ward 26 refurbishment progressing well**

Work to revamp and upgrade Ward 26 is on schedule and nearing completion.

A new reception desk has now been installed, and various adjoining offices and storage rooms are being modified and decorated.

New state-of-the-art LCD lighting has been fitted throughout the ward and on bays, along with new wash basins and facilities.

New floors will be fitted over the coming days and it’s anticipated the remainder of the work will be completed by Friday 16 May.

It is hoped patients will be moved back into the wards on Thursday 22 and Friday 23 May.

**Praise from visiting Trust**

Our hospitals have received a glowing report from the Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust following a recent visit by them.

The organisation is currently undergoing a re-structure and visited us to find out how we have become more efficient and to learn about the successes of ongoing initiatives.

They visited our Sandbourne Suite, Treatment and Investigation Unit (TIU), short-stay wards and various other departments. They were impressed by patients being admitted to a central point and walking to theatre, the innovative DVT clinic moving to TIU, and the efficiency of both SSU and theatres.

They were also particularly impressed with our one-stop pre-assessment service, the amount of nurse lead discharges we carry out, the high percentage of day case procedures we do and the volume of patients and quality of care given in the orthopaedic walkabout clinics.

Pathway and Innovation Manager in Orthopaedics, Lucy Hart, said: "Sharing learning such as this can only help shape the NHS for the better. Everyone wants to improve the patient experience, and by sharing knowledge and the different ways we work, we can make sure that patients are getting the best care possible."