

Free Shuttle Bus Service to Operate to Mater Hospital from Q-Park During Temporary Car Park Closure

New Car Park to Open in Spring 2012

Dublin; Friday, 9th of September 2011: As part of the development of an enhanced adult hospital campus, the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital has closed the public car park on Eccles Street to enable the creation of a new car park with 444 permanent spaces scheduled to open in the Spring 2012.

From **Monday 12th September** a clearly identifiable **FREE shuttle bus service** will operate from selected pick up points in the area and stopping at the main entrance of the hospital.

This service will run from **Monday to Friday** between **8am to 5pm** inclusive. The first pick up point is Q-Park car park Marlborough Street, stopping at Parnell Street opposite the Rotunda Hospital (servicing car parks within the Parnell Street catchment area), proceeding to Wellington Street car park before proceeding to the Mater Hospital. The service will run in a continuous loop every 15 minutes.

Patients and their families are also reminded that there is a designated set down area immediately outside the hospital entrance for patients or visitors who wish to be dropped off via car or taxi near the hospital.

Information on this FREE shuttle service, alternative parking facilities and other related transport information is available on the hospital's website www.mater.ie

The hospital regrets the inconvenience caused by the temporary lack of an on-site car park.

Ends

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General Information About the Mater:

The Mater hospital is the main charitable voluntary general hospital serving Dublin's north inner city. It is a university teaching hospital providing acute and tertiary specialist services.

The Mater hospital has approximately 605 beds (at full capacity) including day beds and approximately 2490 WTEs.

The population of its local catchment area is approximately 170,000.

The hospital has approximately 16,000 admissions (emergency admissions 9,500) each year. Annually approximately 48,000 patients attend for day cases and 48,000 attend the Emergency Department.

Annual outpatient attendances exceed 200,000 and almost 13,000 operations are performed. There are in excess of 4.5m lab tests performed and approximately 153,675 X-ray procedures.

Centre of Excellence

The Mater is the major accident and emergency hospital serving Dublin's north inner city.

It is the national centre for:

- Cardiothoracic surgery;
- Heart and Lung Transplantation;
- Extra Corporeal Life Support (ECLS);
- Spinal injuries;
- Pulmonary hypertension;
- National Isolation Unit; and
- National Centre for BAHA (Bone Anchored Hearing Aid).

Other specialties *include but are not limited to:*

Cardiology, Ophthalmology, Haematology / Oncology, Nephrology, Urology, Infectious Diseases, Psychiatry, Ear Nose and Throat, Rheumatology, Diabetes and Endocrinology, Neurology and Stroke Care, Breast Health Unit,, Respiratory Medicine, Vascular Surgery, Interventional Radiology, Emergency and Intensive Care Medicine, Plastic Surgery, General and Colo-Rectal Surgery, Orthopaedics, Medicine For The Elderly, Pain and Palliative Care Medicine.

In addition to medical and nursing training and its link with the post graduate colleges and faculties it has significant teaching and research commitments in association with the largest university in Ireland, University College Dublin. These teaching and research commitments range from diagnostic radiology, oncology, cardiology, and other clinical specialties to healthcare informatics.

Dublin Academic Medical Centre (DAMC)

Dublin Academic Medical Centre (DAMC) is Ireland's 1st patient academic medical centre, incorporating the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, St Vincent's Healthcare Group and University College Dublin School of Medicine and Medical Science. This academic medical centre was established in July 2007 with the signing of a tripartite memorandum of understanding between the founding institutions. This initiative will build on longstanding ties between the founding institutions to create a world-class hub of clinical care, teaching and research.

Main Projects Including Campus Development

Major achievements include but are not limited to:

1. Mater Campus Development is currently progressing. The agreed design / construction programme for the adult hospital will be completed and full handover will take place in Spring 2012;
2. Heart transplant programme started in 1985;
3. In 2005 the 1st lung transplant procedure ever undertaken in the State took place in the Mater followed by the 1st double lung transplant in 2007. Since the programme commenced (based on April 2011 statistics) 32 patients had lung transplants (12 double lung transplants with 5 cystic fibrosis patients receiving double lung transplants);
4. First major academic teaching hospital in Ireland to become accredited by the Irish Health Service Accreditation Board (IHSAB);
5. PET / CT service opened in 2005 - private public partnership;
6. In 2006 the official opening of the hostel building and the Centre for Nurse education;
7. In 2008 Ireland's first Neurological Institute opened at the Mater;
8. UCD Mater Clinical Research Centre was established in 2006, currently supporting a range of research projects. Among the research trials are studies of stroke, cancer, HIV, lung disease, diabetes and retinal transplantation;
9. In 2010 a Prostate Rapid Access Clinic and a Lung Rapid Access Clinic opened in the Mater funded by National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP);
10. In April 2010 the hospital opened the Mater Smithfield Rapid Injury Clinic for the rapid treatment of people with minor injuries and illnesses with the added benefit of bringing some capacity relief to the hospital's main ED facility. In excess of 8000 patients have been seen to date and is a model for service development and delivery around the country;
11. In 2010 BreastHealth Mater in conjunction with the National Cancer Control Programme and The Mater Foundation, celebrated 5 years of the BreastHealth Mater Unit. The entire facility was upgraded and now has an additional mammography suite and ultrasound room.

In addition:

- ❖ Midlands Cancer Screening Service;
- ❖ Additional CT scanner 2009;
- ❖ New cardiovascular laboratory;
- ❖ September 2010 assigned as one of the hospitals in the Dublin North East region on a rotational basis to take all acute / emergency surgery referrals from Our Lady's Hospital, Navan;

- ❖ Launch of new Mater internet site www.mater.ie in March 2011
- ❖ Designated site for the location of the new National Paediatric hospital and relocation of the Rotunda Hospital.

Mater Campus Hospital Development (additional information)

Opening Spring 2012, this development (involving the rebuilding of key parts of the Mater) will address the need for modern buildings and equipment for existing services and provide significant additional capacity to service growing patient needs.

New facilities will include:

- ❖ New Emergency Department;
- ❖ New Outpatients Department;
- ❖ 12 new theatres, Intensive Care and High Dependency Units;
- ❖ New Radiology Department;
- ❖ 120 replacement beds (100% single rooms);
- ❖ New Central Sterile Services Department, Catering and Waste Management Departments;
- ❖ New Energy Centre; and
- ❖ Basement car park (444 spaces).