

SURE – Equipment Provided during 2021

During 2021 SURE committed funding of **£126,234** to the Radiotherapy Department at the Beacon Centre at Musgrove Park Hospital to further improve patient diagnosis, treatment and outcomes. The focus of the Radiotherapy Department in 2021 during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic continued to be on delivering patient treatment alongside the introduction of Stereotactic Ablative Radiotherapy treatment (SABR).

Projects Funded by SURE in 2021:

1. In 2018 SURE allocated funds to the maintenance contract of the replacement SURE funded CT Scanner/Simulator in the Radiotherapy department at the Beacon Centre to cover 2 years maintenance. In 2021 SURE provided funds of Year 1 £14,704.66 and Year 2 £54,241.55; a total cost to SURE in 2021 of **£68,946.21**
2. SURE fully funded the development and launch of a new Radiotherapy App, known as the Beacon Buddy, to provide tailored support information to patients receiving radiotherapy treatment, at a cost to SURE of **£31,425**. All patients receiving radiotherapy at the Beacon Centre are now offered the app as part of their support package during treatment.
3. In 2017 SURE funded the purchase of 2 ultrasound scanners to enable bladder volume scanning in relation to certain radiotherapy treatments. In 2021 demand for bladder volume scanning increased and SURE funded the purchase of an additional 2 ultrasound scanners, at a cost to SURE of **£13,990**.
4. SURE funded the purchase of 2 Spirobal Incentive Spirometers to be used by patients following breast cancer treatment, as encouraging them to breathe deeply can reduce pain and improve movement following treatment, at a cost to SURE of **£141.60**.
5. SURE allocated **£2,064** to fund the purchase of additional Immobilisation Devices.
6. SURE approved funding for the purchase of additional Valley Cushions and disposable covers as replacements to SURE funded cushions, due to wear and tear, and to provide additional cushions. The Valley cushions are used to provide comfort to patients during travel to/from the Beacon Centre, 5 cushions and 15 disposable covers provided at a cost to SURE of **£826.35**.
7. SURE funded the purchase of Gafchromic Film to enable Quality Assurance testing relating to the introduction of Stereotactic Ablative Radiotherapy treatment (SABR) in 2021 at a cost to SURE of **£3,297.15**
8. SURE allocated funds for the purchase of higher spec memory (RAM) and graphics cards required for the 25 PCs in the Radiotherapy and Radiotherapy Physics departments being replaced as part of a Trust wide replacement programme, the higher spec being required to view and manage patient imaging as image analysis moves into the Mosaik software, funded at a cost to SURE of **£5,543.70**.

The Way Ahead for 2022

SURE is committed to ensuring cancer services at Musgrove Park Hospital, and the Beacon Centre in particular, continues to offer high quality cancer care to internationally recognised standards, as SURE continues to provide equipment and support not otherwise available within the NHS budget that is assessed to be of real benefit to patients, including enabling participation in national cancer treatment trials, leading to more patients being able to be treated locally at the Beacon Centre.

In November 2020 the SURE management committee and Trustees agreed a new Vision and Roadmap paper for the future development of advanced radiotherapy services with the Radiotherapy management team, outlining where SURE support and funding might best be used to the benefit of patients, an extract of which is available to download from the SURE website. The Vision & Roadmap is not set in stone, it is a living document setting out an agreed pathway for key areas of development, it

will continue to evolve as these new projects move forward. In December 2021 SURE and the Beacon Centre management reviewed the roadmap, the revised table shows how some projects have been moved/revisited and are likely to be revised further.

YEAR	PROJECT	DELIVERY DATE	Approx Cost (£K)
2020	RT App	Feb-21	£40
2020	Staff room	Jan-21	£10
2021	SABR – ArcCheck and MapCheck	Sep-22	£150-200
2021	Space Conversions	Dec-21/Jan22	£30
2022	Ra223/Lu177	Under review	£150
N/A	Training Needs	Annual	£20
2021	ePROMS	Mar-22	
2022	SABR – gating and immobilisation	Sep-22	£200
2022	SGRT	Jan-23	£500
2022	Hexapods	Mar-23	£150
2023	MRI planning software	May-24	£60
2023	MRI planning scanner	2024	£1m
2023	SXR	Dec-24	£500
2024	BiGART	not yet commercialised	
2025	AI planning system	not yet commercialised	£750
2025	Linac 4	2025	£1.5m

As a result we still have an ambitious programme of projects for 2022. Already in the first quarter of 2022 SURE funding has been approved for:

- Funding of **£2,700** to enable support/ changes/ updates to the Radiotherapy Beacon Buddy App as and when required in 2022.
- Funding of **£25,877** to purchase immobilisation devices in support of expansion of operationalising the next part of the SABR programme to include Oligometastases 1 (simple non-vertebral bone and nodes), required to restrict movement during treatment of sites in the abdomen.
- SURE has given outline approval (subject to receiving final request paper and final quotes) to funding the replacement of the Superficial X-Ray (SXR) machine that was originally funded by SURE in 2009. The SXR is being relocated as part of the building plans at Musgrove Park and moved to a purpose built modular building close to the Beacon Centre and the opportunity is being taken to replace the SXR at the same time, at an expected cost to SURE of **£153,000**
- SURE has given outline commitment to funding the equipment required to implement Surface Guided Radiotherapy Treatment (SGRT), a major project to implement this advanced treatment expected to require **£650,000** of SURE funding.
- Stereotactic Ablative Radiotherapy treatment (SABR) – split into two elements: ArcCheck and MapCheck, followed by SABR Gating and immobilisation, awaiting proposal.

Whilst the Covid pandemic continues to impact the NHS we are unable to confirm how many of the projects proposed will be able to be delivered in 2022, but the overall Vision Roadmap remains our joint view of how SURE funding can continue to help deliver world class treatment for patients.