

Dermatology in Birmingham

Celia Moss and Helen Lewis

1980s:

There were 2 dermatology Departments: (1) Birmingham General Hospital (BGH) and Birmingham Children's Hospital (BCH) which served Central and South Birmingham (2) Birmingham Skin Hospital (BSH) which served West Birmingham. The consultants and their places of work were:

Tony Cowan BGH and East Birmingham Hospital.

Ernest Fairburn BGH and BCH (replaced in the late 1980s by Jerry Marsden).

Jerry Marsden BGH (from 1987 to present day)

Courtney Hodgson at BSH.

Chin Tan solely at BSH.

Iain Foulds (the only consultant with some academic sessions (Occupational Health) at BSH.

Kamaljit ("Ken") Ryatt at BSH and Walsall

Jose Paul at BSH and Sandwell

1990s

Celia Moss was appointed to replace Tony Cowan. She dropped her sessions at East Birmingham Hospital (which had no dermatologist for a year or two) in order to develop the service at Birmingham Children's Hospital

Adrian Heagerty was appointed at BSH but soon left to set up a department at East Birmingham Hospital (later Heartlands and then, together with Solihull Hospital, becoming Heart of England NHS Trust). He gradually extended the department, recruiting Irshad Zaki and Tracy Finch (later married to each other).

The Dermatology Department of Birmingham General Hospital moved in 1995 to Selly Oak Hospital, which together with Queen Elizabeth Hospital became University Hospitals Birmingham (UHB) NHS Trust. Jerry Marsden was joined by Helen Lewis (1994) and Graham Stewart (1997).

Birmingham Skin Hospital closed and moved to Dudley Road Hospital (now combined with Sandwell Hospital as Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospital (SWBH) NHS Trust. Newer appointees include Tony Abdullah, Malobi Ogboli and Sean Lanigan

The old Birmingham Children's Hospital was demolished and moved to the refurbished General Hospital site.

2000s

Heart of England gets bigger (new recruits include Alena Salim, Annette Loffeld, Jaideep Bhat and Jo Hague).

BCH also expands: recruits 3 part-timers, Malobi Ogboli, Hossain Shahidullah and Saleem Taibjee, with adult sessions elsewhere. Acquires the NCG funded Epidermolysis Bullosa service (shared with Great Ormond Street).

UHB expands. Farida Shah (appointed SOH - 2002 to present day) Regina Lim (appointed 2005) Saleem Taibjee (appointed 2007, part time with BCH, but due to move to Warwick Hospital). Agustin Martin-Clavijo (appointed 2008 to present day).

Some staff drift away (Graham Stewart to Dudley in 2003 and Regina Lim to Singapore in 2007).

SWBH also struggles as consultants are sent out to do community clinics. Iain Foulds resigns, Jai Bhat goes to Heart of England. Newer consultants include Shireen Velangi and Michele Thompson.

In 2008 Celia Moss was appointed to an honorary chair in Paediatric Dermatology. There are no other academic posts in dermatology in Birmingham above honorary senior clinical lecturer.

Local dermatologists meet at the monthly regional meetings, twice yearly at the Regional Services Committee and 4 times a year at meetings of the West Midlands Regional Dermatology Society.

Selly Oak site due to close in 2010 with move planned to new "Super Hospital" on the Queen Elizabeth Hospital site - to be renamed Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham. Dermatology will have a department within the new hospital but is expected to provide a community adult dermatology service - this process began in 2008 and is still at an early stage.

