

MEDIA RELEASE

16th January 2023

Contact: Sarah Nuttman
E-mail: sapn89@hotmail.com
Tel: +44 (0) 7429 397311



The Patient Charity

Royal Papworth awarded hosting of Aortic Dissection Awareness Day UK 2023 by national patient charity

Royal Papworth Hospital NHS Foundation Trust is celebrating being awarded the hosting of an important national conference - Aortic Dissection Awareness Day UK 2023 - by the national patient charity Aortic Dissection Awareness UK & Ireland.



Aortic Dissection is a life-threatening condition involving a tear in the body's biggest artery, the Aorta, which carries blood from the heart to the brain, limbs and vital organs. Aortic Dissection kills more people in the UK each year than road traffic accidents. In 2016, a small group of survivors from the UK, Sweden and Italy created global Aortic Dissection Awareness Day on 19th September. The first Aortic Dissection Awareness Day UK was held in 2016 at the Royal Brompton Hospital in London. By 2022, the event had grown into a

Aortic Dissection Awareness UK & Ireland is a charity registered in England & Wales, number 1198617.

www.aorticdissectionawareness.org

We also lead the global **THINK AORTA** campaign www.thinkaorta.net

major national conference held at the headquarters of the British Medical Association. Each year the national patient charity, Aortic Dissection Awareness UK & Ireland, awards the hosting of Aortic Dissection Awareness Day UK to an organisation that is doing excellent work in the field. This week the charity announced that **Royal Papworth Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust** has been awarded the honour of hosting Aortic Dissection Awareness Day UK 2023.

Announcing the award, Mr. Gareth Owens, Chair of the national patient charity, said: "Royal Papworth is an excellent specialist Aortic surgery centre, in addition to its renowned track record in heart transplantation. Our Aortic patients tell us that they receive exceptional care there. The Royal Papworth Aortic team are also raising awareness of Aortic disease and actively sharing their expertise both regionally and nationally through education events. We have awarded Royal Papworth the hosting of Aortic Dissection Awareness Day UK 2023 in recognition of their care quality and leadership in this field."

Dr. Bobby Agrawal, Consultant Cardiac and Thoracic Radiologist at Royal Papworth Hospital, said: "We're delighted that Aortic Dissection Awareness UK & Ireland have recognised our expertise and excellence in Aortic surgery to the profession and to our patients and our role in sharing our knowledge to the sector. We look forward to welcoming them and all the delegates to Royal Papworth in September."

Dr. Stephen Webb, Deputy Medical Director at Royal Papworth Hospital, said: "We are very proud to be hosting Aortic Dissection Awareness Day UK at Royal Papworth in September and that we have been recognised for our care to our patients."

"We are the UK's leading heart and lung hospital and the first hospital trust in the country to receive the top rating of 'outstanding' by the Care Quality Commission, as well as being the first NHS acute Trust to have gained an 'outstanding' rating in the 'Safe' category. An increasing number of patients are now surviving after Aortic Dissection, demonstrating our expertise in this field by quickly recognising the symptoms and our considerable experience in treating aortic dissection."

"It is important that we continue to provide an exceptional level of care for our patients from the moment they are admitted, through to supporting them for the rest of their lives."

Aortic Dissection Awareness Day UK on **Tuesday 19th September 2023** will see around 120 patients, relatives, healthcare professionals and policymakers gather at the new **Royal Papworth Heart & Lung Research Institute** for a day focused on improving patient care in Aortic Dissection. More details will be published on the charity's website **www.aorticdissectionawareness.org**.