



PRESS RELEASE

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New Dental General Anaesthetic Equipment

Following a donation from the Gibraltar League of Hospital Friends, the Dental Department has purchased a specialised Dental General Anaesthetic (GA) unit.

The equipment is similar to a complete dental unit that is found in a dental surgery. However, it is completely mobile and thus allows a wider range of dental treatment to be performed under general anaesthetic in hospital theatres.

With the purchase of this new equipment, patients with special needs, who cannot tolerate treatment in a standard dental clinic, will now be able to have fillings, scaling and polishing. The regular screening of children and adults from St. Martin's Special School and the Dr Giraldi Home and the availability of this piece of equipment, has greatly improved the care that can be provided to these patients.

Following successful commissioning of the equipment, GHA dentists, nurses and theatre staff have undergone training on its use. Eight patients have either had their treatment or have been given appointments. A parent of one of these patients said "I am very impressed with the service that this equipment provides and I hope that many more will benefit from the new service."

When asked to comment, Health Minister Yvette Del Agua said "The significant investment made by this Government in the Dental Department has paid off. In addition to the elimination of the historical dental waiting list for children, and the commencement of a 'day at the dentist' programme for all year 1 pupils, the delivery of this new service is yet another significant development in the GHA's Dental Programme and ensures that there is now equitable access to conservative dental treatment for all members of our community."

“This dental unit provides quality dental care to the most vulnerable in our society. I have seen first-hand how much this equipment has been appreciated by both parents and carers and I am delighted to have contributed to this programme” said Brian Delgado a member of the GHA’s Dental Team.

Lydia Griffiths, Chair of the Gibraltar League of Hospital Friends said “We are delighted to be able to provide a contribution to the health of those who are among the most vulnerable in our community.”

Members of the media may attend the presentation at 11:30 on Monday 11th July at St. Bernard’s Hospital. Please register at the Main Entrance at St Bernard’s Hospital