

CORPORATE HEALTH BULLETIN

THE **PRINCESS GRACE** HOSPITAL

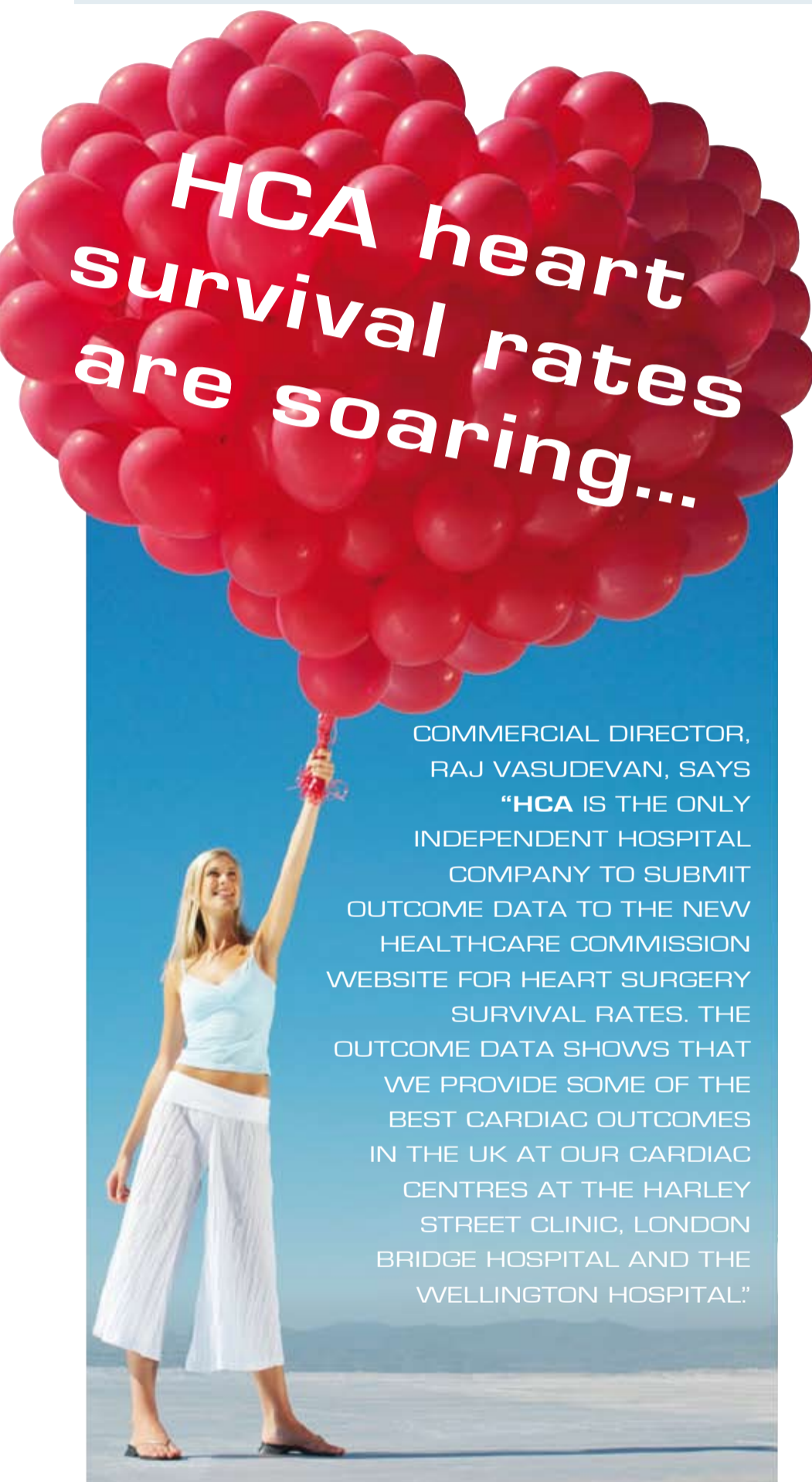
The Wellington Hospital

London Bridge Hospital

THE **LISTER** HOSPITAL
chelsea

The Portland Hospital
for Women and Children

THE HARLEY STREET CLINIC



HCA heart survival rates are soaring...

COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR, RAJ VASUDEVAN, SAYS "HCA IS THE ONLY INDEPENDENT HOSPITAL COMPANY TO SUBMIT OUTCOME DATA TO THE NEW HEALTHCARE COMMISSION WEBSITE FOR HEART SURGERY SURVIVAL RATES. THE OUTCOME DATA SHOWS THAT WE PROVIDE SOME OF THE BEST CARDIAC OUTCOMES IN THE UK AT OUR CARDIAC CENTRES AT THE HARLEY STREET CLINIC, LONDON BRIDGE HOSPITAL AND THE WELLINGTON HOSPITAL."

and more outcomes to come...

Leading the way

Visiting hospital can be a worrying time, but simply knowing you are 'in the best place' can take away a lot of your anxiety. But how do you know where 'the best place' is?

Increasingly hospitals are being required by the Healthcare Commission to provide evidence to show their success rates. Although until very recently this didn't include independent hospitals' outcome data, HCA has routinely been collecting this for over five years.

This autumn we will release our first results showing how we have performed in key areas such as cardiac surgery survival, MRSA, surgical site infections, intensive care survival rates and unplanned readmissions.

Access to HCA results

Acute procedures are a major feature of our hospitals and we have always monitored areas like intensive care survival rates so we can identify areas for improvement.

More and more, private medical insurance companies and advisors are asking us for this data. Patient satisfaction surveys just aren't enough. Anyone who has paid for private treatment has done so because they want access to 'the best' and they therefore have a right to this information.

The HCA Quality Report is to be published in Autumn 2006. For copies or more information, please contact Raj Vasudevan, Commercial Director, on 020 7616 4848.

New corporate scheme offers patients the Platinum Choice

HCA is launching a corporate privilege scheme for employers in London. Members will be able to access hospital inpatient benefits such as chauffeur services together with discounted self-pay services, including maternity care and cosmetic surgery. The scheme will be tailored around existing PMI schemes and is designed to run alongside insurance policies.

For more information about Platinum Choice please contact the HCA Commercial Team on 020 7616 4848 or talk to your PMI advisor.

BREAST CANCER FOCUS



One in three women will suffer from breast cancer at some time in their lives but although the disease rate is rising, the outlook is better than ever. New types of treatments are not only more effective, they also allow women to continue to live their lives as normally as possible, with fewer side effects and less inconvenience.



Discount for corporate breast screening

Companies who want to offer breast screening to female employees can take advantage of a new programme being offered to London-based employers.

The breast screen includes a digital mammogram, together with advice about future monitoring and general education. Employees can choose to have their screen at a number of locations to suit them.

Screening is recommended from the age of 40 years, for patients not considered to be high risk.

For more information about the screening service, please call Daniel Oberholzer on 020 7616 4848.

HCA is delighted to have won two major categories in The Independent Healthcare Industry Awards 2006.

The **award for Healthcare Outcomes** was based on excellent patient outcomes and survival rates for cardiac surgery which are amongst the highest in the UK.

We also won the **Nursing Practice award** based on nursing services for cancer patients.

London's award-winning private hospitals



Jonathan Canham, Nursing Practice Award



Lucie Katsumba, Healthcare Outcomes Award

Living and working with breast cancer – new drugs speed return to normality

THERE IS A HUGE AMOUNT OF RESEARCH INTO BREAST CANCER TREATMENT BEING CONDUCTED CONTINUALLY, SO NEW DRUGS AND THERAPIES ARE COMING THROUGH ALL THE TIME.

THESE DON'T JUST OFFER A BETTER OUTCOME, BUT ALSO AN IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE DURING TREATMENT.



Same-day surgery helps speedy recovery

A new and advanced vacuum-assisted breast biopsy system is now in use at The Princess Grace Hospital, enabling women to have benign (non-cancerous) breast lumps removed quickly and efficiently without the need for general anaesthetic or an overnight stay in hospital.

Digital breast screening improves detection

Digital mammography provides high resolution images of breast tissue, often in more detail than conventional breast X-rays. It is particularly useful for screening women under 50 who tend to have denser breast tissue. We now offer digital mammography screening at four of our London sites, including 31 Old Broad Street.



Screening saves lives

“Numerous randomised controlled trials demonstrate conclusively that breast cancer screening using mammography reduces a woman’s chance of dying of the disease by approximately 40%.”

Digital mammography offers a superb new technology for screening and has been demonstrated to give superior results to conventional mammography.”

Dr Nick Perry, Consultant Radiologist and Clinical Director of the Comprehensive Breast Care Centre at The Princess Grace Hospital.



Aida Yousefi is Pharmacy Manager at The Harley Street Clinic. She and her team are responsible for making sure patients at HCA hospitals have access

to the very latest drug therapies for cancer including breast cancer treatment.

Aida comments, “We don’t have to wait for NICE (National Institute of Clinical Excellence) approval. As soon as something new comes out and the clinical evidence is satisfactory, we’ll offer it to our patients. Take Herceptin. As soon as we knew how effective the treatment was for early stage breast cancer we made sure that we had an immediate supply of the drug and were geared up for its use.”



Xeloda is another good example. This is an oral chemotherapy drug which is more convenient for some patients to take than conventional intravenous drugs. It has shown to be effective in late breast cancer. We are also evaluating new ‘Herceptin’ drugs of the future such as Lapatinib and Avastin. These are novel agents which, unlike chemotherapy, are better both in terms of side effect profile and administration.

Supportive care

The way in which a drug is administered has a big impact on patients’ lives due to both side effect profile and the sheer inconvenience of having to travel for treatments. At HCA we use the latest advances in supportive care to reduce side effects of treatment and hence also allow for administration of treatments such as ‘accelerated chemotherapy’. Anti-sickness and ‘blood-boosting’ drugs are used to lessen the adverse effects associated with this type of chemotherapy.

Herceptin increases survival rates

Clinical trials have already shown a 50% increase in disease-free survival for patients taking Herceptin, but it is early days and too soon to see what the real impact of this drug will be. There is also evidence that the speed with which it is administered can make a difference.



At The Harley Street Clinic we can start giving Herceptin straight away. A patient can receive her first dose within an hour of the consultant deciding it will benefit her.

HERCEPTIN

WHAT IS HERCEPTIN?

A drug that works on specific types of breast cancer cells that have a particular type of protein (HER2) on their surface. Herceptin attaches itself to this protein to stop the cancer cell from dividing and growing and attracting the body’s immune system to destroy cells.

HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN AVAILABLE?

Herceptin has been available since 2006 for early breast cancer and has only recently been approved by NICE. However HCA has been offering it to patients with early breast cancer since 2005. HCA has also been using Herceptin in advanced breast cancer patients since 2002.

WHO SHOULD BE GIVEN HERCEPTIN?

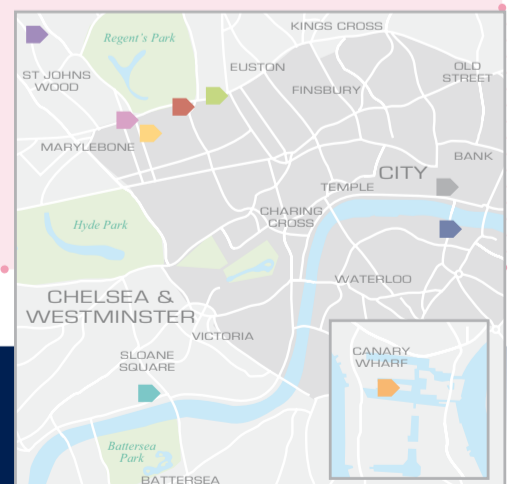
Women with breast cancer who have tested positively for the HER2 protein and are not suffering from any cardiac problems. This is approximately one in five women with breast cancer.

HOW EFFECTIVE IS IT?

Two major trials have shown that Herceptin administered in early stage breast cancer reduces the risks of the cancer returning by 50%.

HOW LONG DO YOU HAVE TO TAKE IT FOR?

Data so far is based on two years’ continued treatment.



- The Harley Street Clinic
- London Bridge Hospital
- The Princess Grace Hospital
- 31 Old Broad Street
- Harley Street on 15
- The Lister Hospital
- The Portland Hospital
- The Wellington Hospital
- Docklands Healthcare

HCA The leading private cancer network

HCA operates London’s largest private cancer network and treats more than 7,000 patients a year with symptoms. Through our six hospitals, two outpatient centres and partnerships with leading NHS cancer centres, such as University

College Hospital, we offer world-class cancer therapy.

For more information, please contact the HCA Commercial Team on 020 7616 4848 or visit www.londoncancergroup.co.uk.