IRCU Major

Healthcare / Refurbishment

Key Features:

- Five laboratories refurbished
- Live laboratories adjacent to our site areas
- Enhanced infection controls

Our works comprised upgrading five individual laboratories, in preparation for the installation of new Siemens specialist equipment. These spaces were then to be used as the new Intensive Respiratory Care Units (IRCU).

New M&E services to each laboratory was arranged to facilitate the new Siemens equipment, A separate UPS room was built alongside phase one, which then provided back-up power for each refurbished laboratory when brought online. The existing ventilation arrangement meant that all laboratories were fed in pairs from the Air Handling Units and an enabling arrangement was required to facilitate our phased approach. New finishes were installed throughout to floors, walls and ceilings.

The Trust used this project as an opportunity to add several other localised improvements to the Department. Examples included the refurbishment of the IRCU corridor and HAS entrance.

Complex and Dynamic Phasing Strategy

The original programme showed three laboratories sequentially, followed by laboratories four and five being completed together. Due to the intensive use of the laboratories however, the last phase was split and became two separate phases. All other laboratories were maintained outside of the one that we were working in. To mitigate disruption to the live laboratories, numerous elements were completed outside of normal working hours.

Construction within a High-Risk Infection Control Area

Under HTM 00-09, our site was categorised as a Class 3 Risk. Enhanced infection control included isolating the HVAC system, when necessary, to prevent contamination of the duct system. Moreover, we maintained negative air pressure with the strategic use of a HEPA equipped air filtration unit. These measures were in addition to the noise, dust and migration strategy that we incorporated, based upon our past works in Hospitals.

Client:	Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust
Project Value:	£2,000,000
Programme Duration:	76 weeks
Architect:	Ansell & Bailey
Quantity Surveyor:	WT Partnership