



## Notice of Acceptance

### **MERGER OF THE ROYAL NATIONAL THROAT, NOSE AND EAR HOSPITAL (OF THE ROYAL FREE HAMPSTEAD NHS TRUST) WITH UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST**

The Cooperation and Competition Panel (CCP) has decided that the proposed merger between the Royal National Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital (of The Royal Free Hampstead NHS Trust) with University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust meets the CCP's acceptance criteria for a merger reference. That is:

- i. the proposed arrangement falls within the scope of Principle 10 of the Principles and Rules for Cooperation and Competition;
- ii. the CCP is the most appropriate body to consider this matter;
- iii. the parties have made available the relevant and applicable information on the case to the CCP; and
- iv. the turnover threshold is satisfied as the combined acute organisation will exceed the relevant threshold of £70 million.

As a result, the CCP is accepting this case with its investigation starting from the date of this notice, with Phase I to be completed by 16 March 2012 and Phase II, if required, by 13 July 2012.

Catherine Davies  
Director, Cooperation and Competition Panel  
20 January 2012