

Going into hospital – being ‘admitted’

If you are ill, your doctor may say you need to go to hospital to help you get better.

Sometimes, you go into hospital, have your treatment and go home the same day.

Sometimes, you may need to stay in hospital for a longer time.



If you are very ill or hurt you may have to go to the Emergency Department (A&E).

You may have to stay in hospital until you are well enough to go home. This is called ‘being admitted’.



This leaflet will tell you what happens when you are admitted.



Going into hospital – Easy Read

On the ward, the nurse will show you to your bed and where to put your things.

The nurse will show you where the toilet is.

The nurse will show you how to use the call bell if you need help.



The nurse and the doctor will ask you and your carer some questions about your health.



The nurse will put a plastic bracelet on your wrist.

You must keep the bracelet on as it has important information about you.



The nurse or your carer will help you get into your nightie or pyjamas.



Going into hospital – Easy Read

During your stay in hospital you will meet many different people.



All the staff in the hospital wear a name badge and when they speak to you, they should always tell you their name.



There will be hand gel near your bed to rub into your hands.

People who visit you should use the hand gel too.

You must always wash your hands after you have been to the toilet.



The nurses and doctors will explain everything that happens to you and to your carer.

If you don't understand what is happening or you are frightened, tell your carer or the nurse or doctor.



You may be asked to sign a form to say you want to have treatment.

If you aren't able to consent yourself, the doctors and your family / carer will make a best interest decision on your behalf.



As well as the call bell, there is a light and a radio next to your bed.

Most beds also have a television and phone by the bed. Ask the nurse how to use them.

A trolley visits the ward, selling snacks, toiletries and magazines.



The staff will ask if you want tea or coffee and you will be offered three meals a day.

The nurses can help you fill in your menu card to decide what you want to eat the next day.



Going into hospital – Easy Read

If you need help eating or drinking, ask one of the staff to help you.



The nurses will give you tablets if you need them. If you feel sick or you are hurting, ring your call bell for the nurse.



Your carer can stay with you while you are in hospital or can visit you at any time.



If you or your carer needs help while you are in the hospital, ask one of the nurses to either call the Learning Disability Liaison Nurse on ext 8159 or on mobile number 07879 425 803 or Patient Relations on 8338.



More information for people with learning disabilities and their carers can be found on the Trust website at: www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk



Also available in this series:

- Coming in for checks (pre-op)
- Getting help in hospital
- Going to the Acute Medical Unit (AMU)
- Going to the Emergency Department (A&E)
- Having a blood test
- Having a general anaesthetic
- Having a scan
- Having an x-ray
- Washing your hands



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