

## Information on partners / support person staying overnight in single room accommodation on the antenatal/ postnatal wards

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This leaflet provides guidance for you and your partner when staying overnight in single room accommodation on the antenatal/postnatal wards.

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### Staying overnight

If you would like your partner / support person to stay overnight, or if the staff consider there is a specific need for your partner to stay overnight, then your partner/support person may be able to stay with you outside the current daytime visiting hours (8am-10pm) if there is a single room available. If there is a clinical reason for you to be in a single room or in exceptional circumstances there will be no charge for this facility. When it is possible a reclining chair will be provided for your partner/support person but no refreshments will be supplied. Rooms will be allocated according to clinical need. You and your partner/support person should be aware that there may be circumstances when it becomes necessary to move to a multi-bedded bay if another woman has a greater clinical need. This will mean that your partner/support person will no longer be able to stay.

If there is no specific clinical need and your partner would like to stay outside current visiting hours and there is a single room available, s/he may stay but there will be a charge for this facility. As before there may be circumstances when it becomes necessary to move to a multi-bedded bay if another woman has a greater clinical need. This will mean that your partner/support person will no longer be able to stay.

### Privacy and dignity

You and your partner should also be aware of NHS requirements to ensure the privacy and dignity of all women on the ward:

- Partners / support person must be clothed at all times.
- Partners / support person must keep movement around the ward to a minimum, especially at night.
- Partners / support person must use the designated toilets.
- Partners / support person must not use the bed for resting/sleeping.
- Please note that we are a smoke free Trust and smoking is not permitted anywhere on the hospital site.

- If the fire alarm rings, your partner / support person should stay with you at your bedside and wait for instructions from the ward staff.

You and your partner must also be aware that there may be circumstances in which the midwife or other health professional may need to discuss your care with you privately, and your partner must respect this need if requested to leave temporarily.

### The partner's / support person's role

This is to provide support to you overnight in addition to the midwifery care you will already receive. This may include nappy changing, assisting with feeding and soothing an unsettled baby. If your partners tired, it may be better to go home and get good quality rest so that they can best support you when you need it most.

### Health and safety and security

Please inform staff that your partner / support person is staying, so this can be updated on the ward log in case of emergencies such as a fire. If they change their mind at any point during the night, please update ward staff. Staff will need to continue giving care to you and your baby so this may mean disturbing your partner when he/she is resting. Meeting your clinical and care needs and those of your baby will always be the priority for the staff.

### Hospital facilities providing food and drink

- Hospital Restaurant, Level 1, South Block (open 7 days a week). Breakfast 7am - 11am; Lunch 12 noon - 2pm; Supper 4.30pm - 7.30pm.
- The Café (near the Restaurant in South Block) - (open 9am - 4.30pm Mon - Fri only).
- AMT coffee cart, Level 1, Main Entrance.
- Pumpkin Café (opposite Whistlestop), Level 2, Main Entrance (open Mon - Fri 7am - 6pm, Sat 10am - 4pm, closed Sun).
- WRVS tea bar, Level 2, Maternity Block - (open clinic hours).
- Vending machine, Level 2, Maternity Block.

### Parking permits

Free parking permits will be issued if you are having an induction of labour or you are in labour for your partner/birth support. This will cover up until the day of delivery of your baby only.

If you have any further questions or concerns then please speak to a member of staff.

This document can be made available in other languages and formats upon request.

Written: A Wood-Blagrove (MW) & B Romaine (Practice Devt. MW) September 2012

Reviewed: February 2013, April 2015, May 2016, July 2016 (G Valentine & L Rough), Aug 2018

Approved: Maternity Information Group & Patient Information Manager, 2018

Review due: September 2020

**Please sign below to say you agree to the conditions as set out in this leaflet:**

*Partner copy (to retain with information sheet)*

**I have read, understood and comply with the above conditions.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_

Room number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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***Please detach this section and staple to ward book for partners staying.***

**I have read, understood and comply with the above conditions.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_

Room number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_