



## **Surgical Day Unit (SDU)**

**i** Important information for all patients attending the day unit.

## About this booklet

The purpose of this booklet is to tell you about our Surgical Day Unit. You will come to the unit if you are having a surgical procedure which does not normally require an overnight stay.

## About the Surgical Day Unit (SDU)

The unit is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 8pm. There are eight rooms within the unit. Each room has space for two patients.

On arrival at the hospital, you will be directed to the SDU waiting area on Level 3 (please use the West lifts, there are signs to the waiting area from there). Please wait here and a member of staff will come and collect you at your admission time. Your letter will tell you to report to the SDU waiting area at a specified time. Please note that this is not your theatre time; you may go to theatre much later in the day. When you arrive, we will tell you what time you are scheduled for theatre and what time you are likely to be ready to go home.

We will aim to get you home from hospital on the same day, however, this may not be possible in some cases. If it is not possible to discharge you on the same day as your operation, you will be transferred to another ward. We will let you and your relative/carer know this as soon as possible.

## What to bring with you

Please bring a dressing gown and slippers as you will be walking to theatre and also bring any medication you are currently taking. You may also wish to bring an overnight bag in case you need to stay in. Please make provisions at home for a possible overnight stay. There is limited storage space within the unit, so please bring as little as possible, and do not bring any valuables with you.

## Relatives/carers

The surgical day unit cannot accommodate visitors due to the size, double rooms and fast pace throughout. You can discuss this at any time with the nurse in charge. Your relatives/visitors are welcome to stay in the waiting area when you have been taken through to the SDU, you can join them in the waiting area in between medical consultations. Depending on your procedure, you may see the Consultant Surgeon, Surgical Registrar, Consultant Anaesthetist, Ward Doctor, Physiotherapist, Pharmacist, Occupational Therapist and your nurse. Relatives and visitors are also welcome to use the facilities on the ground floor, dining room, coffee shop and hotel. There is free Wi-Fi available and a TV in the waiting area. You may be able to visit in the SDU late afternoon and early evening when the rooms on the SDU have only one patient per room.

## Discharge

When you return from theatre, we will check your vital signs, wounds, pain and assess when you will be ready for discharge. We will then discuss with you any arrangements for follow-up appointments, a district nurse visit or suture removal, and start making arrangements for you going home. We will also advise you when it is safe to mobilise and will assist you to do so. We will give you a letter for your GP and will post details of follow up appointments to your home. We will provide any discharge medication you may need, but you should ensure you have some paracetamol or simple pain killers at home.

**Following your operation, you cannot be discharged on your own or drive yourself home. Please arrange to have someone escort you and stay with you overnight, even if you are staying in the hotel.**

If you are required to stay overnight, you will normally be discharged at around 10am the following morning, unless the medical team wish you to remain longer. Please be patient as we may have several patients to discharge at the same time.

## Contact

If you have any problems or questions, please contact the day unit during Monday to Friday 7.30am to 7.30pm via the switchboard on 0141 951 5000. Out of hours you should contact the Senior Nurse via the switchboard as well.

**All of our publications are available in different languages, larger print, braille (English only), audio tape or another format of your choice.**

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: 0141 951 5513

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