Additional information

The Infection Prevention Team are always available to offer advice or information to patients, staff or visitors on Infection Prevention matters.

If you would like further information about your infection, please ask your named nurse to contact one of the Infection Prevention Team who will be happy to help you.

If, after reading this leaflet you have any further questions, please contact your doctor or discharge ward on:

Whiston Hospital Warrington Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L35 5DR Telephone: 0151 426 1600





Infection Prevention while you are in isolation

This leaflet can be made available in alternative languages / formats on request.

如有需要,本传单可提供其他语言/版式 此單張的其他語言/格式版本可按要求提供 Na żądanie ta ulotka może zostać udostępniona w innych językach/formatach.

Author: Nurse Specialist
Department: Infection Prevention
Document Number: STHK0702
Version: 6

Review date: 30 / 04 / 2024

While you are in isolation

At the moment you may be wondering why you have been placed in a private room by yourself. You may be feeling upset, lonely and a little afraid, wondering what is going to happen to you, or if everyone will forget about you. This booklet is to help you to understand why it has been necessary to care for you in a single room (in isolation). This is a normal procedure in hospital, and there is no need for you or your visitors to worry. Hopefully, it will answer some of your questions and make your stay in isolation as comfortable and as pleasant as possible.

Why am I in isolation?

It is necessary in your own interests (and those of your fellow patients):

- That you are temporarily nursed away from the main ward, so that there is no chance of your illness or infection being passed on to other patients
- That you do not contract any infection whilst your resistance is low. At the moment it is not possible to tell you how long your isolation will last for, but nurses and doctors will keep you fully informed of your progress. They will tell you as soon as it is advisable to return to the main ward, or be discharged
- Quite often isolation only lasts for a few days, but sometimes this may be longer

Please ask the nurses or doctors about any aspects of you isolation or treatment.

What is going to happen to me?

Your care will continue as normal, so there is no need to worry that you are going to be neglected. You might notice that the staff will wear personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, plastic aprons and/or face masks when working in your room, or that they wash their hands more frequently than in the ward. Please do not worry about this, it is all part of normal hospital procedure to stop harmful germs being passed on to you or other patients.

How can I help myself?

Please stay in your room unless a member of staff tells you otherwise. It is usually only permitted to leave your room for essential investigations or procedures. Keep the door of the room closed at all times. If you have any concerns about this please discuss with the staff caring for you who will if required, discuss with the Infection Prevention Team. Should you require any help or assistance, there is a call button by your bed for you to press, which will bring a nurse to you.

Do not be afraid to ask questions. Remember that staff are here to help you get better, and want you to be as comfortable and as happy as possible. It is good for you to be involved in your care and treatment. The nursing staff will keep you informed of anything special they wish you to do.

How can my visitors help?

To ensure that there is no chance of visitors either getting your illness or infection, or of them passing it on to others, we ask them please:

- Follow the visiting guidance current at the time of the COVID pandemic
- All visitors wash his or her hands on entering and leaving the room
- No more than 2 visitors at any one time, and ask your visitors not to sit on your bed
- They do not sit on the commode if present
- They do not need to wear aprons and gloves unless assisting you with personal care
- They do not visit any other patients or other wards after visiting you
- No articles should be removed from or taken into your room without permission of the nurse in charge
- Not to visit if they have an infection e.g. sore throat, colds, flu, or any other illness they could pass on to you
- Not to bring young children to visit without the permission of the nurse in charge
- Visitors must not use the toilet or shower facilities in your room