

# Coronary Care Unit

## Patient Information

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary

Author ID: CD  
Leaflet Number: Card 010  
Version: 8  
Name of Leaflet: Coronary Care Unit - RAEI  
Last reviewed: July 2020  
Next Review Date: July 2022



The Coronary Care Unit, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan Lane, Wigan, WN1 2NN  
Telephone: 01942 822621.

## **The philosophy of our Coronary Care Unit is**

The Coronary Care Unit nursing staff provide specialist and bespoke care to cardiac patients to ensure a high standard of care is provided at all times.

The patient's privacy and dignity will be maintained throughout the admission period and consideration will be given to ensure that the patients' individual needs are met wherever possible.

The patient's right to confidentiality will be respected during their stay. However, we will strive to ensure that the family and members of the multi-disciplinary team are kept informed of changes in the patient's condition where appropriate.

## **Welcome to the Coronary Care Unit**

The unit provides care for both male and female patients who are admitted with acute coronary conditions.

The unit receives referrals from the Emergency Care Centre and other areas within the Trust, on some occasions there are direct admissions from cardiology clinics or directly from the patients home.

After initial assessment of the patients' condition, the appropriate treatment plan and pathway will be initiated, progress on care and treatment will be continually monitored. This will determine the length of stay on the Coronary Care Unit, before transfer to an appropriate medical ward prior to discharge home. A team of doctors, nurses and bed managers will be involved in finding the most suitable area to speed your recovery.

If appropriate a referral to Cardiac Rehabilitation Services will be made prior to discharge for support after discharge home.

## **Your stay with us on CCU**

On arrival in the unit you will be greeted by your named nurse, who is responsible for your care. Various routine tests and investigations will take place such as:

- Recording your blood pressure, pulse, temperature and oxygen saturation
- Routine blood tests
- ECG (heart trace monitoring)
- X – rays

If you have any worries or questions regarding these matters, please do not hesitate to ask your nurse.

Initially a doctor will take a detailed medical history from you. Your care will then be reviewed and further planned by a dedicated Consultant Cardiologist who will review all the investigations that have been completed and advised you of the treatment plan, your progress and the forward planning for your transfer to another ward when your condition improves.

Please be aware that it can take some time for all tests and investigations results to be completed and it is the Consultant or Registrar who makes the decision on your treatment plan and not the nursing staff.

A dedicated Cardiology Consultant visits the Coronary Care Unit on a daily basis.

In order to maintain the privacy and dignity of our patients, it is requested that relatives, carers and friends are not present during these rounds unless the patient and relatives have requested this.

If your relative or carer wishes to speak specifically to the Consultant, please ask the nurse in charge to arrange a convenient time and date.

The Coronary Care Unit admits and discharges patients 24 hours a day, therefore transfers to wards may take place during the night. In the event there is a requirement to transfer you to an alternative hospital for emergency surgery or other treatments not provided at the Trust transfers will be facilitated throughout this 24 hour period including during the night time.

## **Medicines and tablets**

If you bring any of your own tablets or medicines with you please give them to a member of staff as you enter the unit. They will either be given to your relative or carer to take home for you or be locked away safely.

## **What belongings will you need to bring to hospital?**

- Night wear
- Toiletries
- Book/magazine
- A small sum of money for telephone or papers, television pre-paid card etc.

## **We ask you not to bring**

- Valuables
- Large sums of money

Due to the fast turnover of patients it is best to keep property to a minimum and packed away safely in your draw. As the Trust cannot accept responsibility for the loss of personal property, it is advised that any large sums of cash or valuables are handed over

to the staff to be deposited in the General Office safe and the staff will ask you to sign a disclaimer form. You will receive a receipt for all property that is deposited in the safe and general office

## Confidentiality

Information about your condition and treatment is strictly confidential. Sometimes to help your recovery, parts of your information may need to be discussed with other clinical teams such as physiotherapists and dieticians for example. However, staff will not disclose any information without your consent.

If you have any questions about your condition please ask your nurse or doctor, they will be only too happy to help.

## Privacy and dignity

Although the Coronary Care Unit is a mixed gender unit please be assured that privacy and dignity will be maintained at all times.

## Meal times

The catering department provides three meals per day, i.e. breakfast, lunch and evening meal. A selection of sandwiches and salads are also available. There is also a snack service available in the morning. The Coronary Care Unit, as part of the health life styles promotion encourages a low fat diet. If you have any specific dietary needs such as vegetarian or gluten free for example, please tell a member of staff as soon as possible after your arrival.

## Visiting times

In order to take into account the wellbeing of all our patients, we only allow two relatives at the bed side at any one time, from 2pm to 5pm and again from 6:30pm to 7:30pm each day. **Visiting is not allowed between 5pm till 6.30pm as this is for patient's protected meal times.**

Due to the varying conditions of our patients we ask that no young children visit the unit. If you would like to discuss these visiting times please discuss with the nurse in charge. In some cases open visiting is permitted at the discretion of the nurse in charge.

Flowers are not allowed in the unit due to the directives from infection control and prevention, this includes the bringing in of food items unless they are in their original unopened packaging from a named supplier and in consumable date. In the interest of safety, we do ask visitors to replace their chairs at the end of visiting.

## Interpreters

If you require an interpreter, please inform the nursing staff. A 24 hour **telephone interpreter** service is available within the trust for patients whose first language is not English.

## **Phone Calls**

All staff appreciates the worry involved for family members and friends when their loved ones are admitted into hospital. However, we would politely ask relatives to minimise telephone enquiries to the Unit, by appointing one family member to telephone the unit and then pass the information on to other family members afterwards. This is to enable staff to carry out quality care to all of our patients.

## **Telephones and TV's**

TV's and telephones are situated at each bed area via a pre-payment card.

## **Mobile phones**

In the interest of other patients, mobile phone/iPad or similar, usage is restricted to day time hours.

## **No smoking policy**

The Trust operates a no smoking policy. There is no facility for smoking on any hospital site and this includes electronic cigarettes. Please do not smoke in the hospital or in its grounds.

---

## Comments, Compliments or Complaints

The Patient Relations/Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Department provides confidential on the spot advice, information and support to patients, relatives, friends and carers.

## Contact Us

Tel: 01942 822376 (Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm)

The Patient Relations/PALS Manager  
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary  
Wigan Lane  
Wigan WN1 2NN

---

## Ask 3 Questions

Become more involved in decisions about your healthcare. You may be asked to make choices about your treatment. To begin with, try to make sure you get the answers to three key questions:

1. What are my options?
2. What are the pros and cons of each option for me?
3. How do I get support to help me make a decision that is right for me?



---

## How We Use Your Information

For details on how we collect, use and store the information we hold about you, please take a look at our “how we use your information” leaflet which can be found on the Trust website: [https://www.wwl.nhs.uk/patient\\_information/leaflets/](https://www.wwl.nhs.uk/patient_information/leaflets/)

---

This leaflet is also available in audio, large print, Braille and other languages upon request.

For more information please ask in the department/ward.

---

© Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
All rights reserved. Not to be reproduced in whole or in part without the permission of the copyright owner

