

## Patient information

### Hands, Face, Space – Safety precautions for inpatients

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic we have some extra safety precautions in place. These actions support the Government's message "Hands – Face - Space" to help keep us safe from COVID-19. Please follow these measures for your safety and the safety of others whilst in hospital.

- **Hands** - Alcohol hand rub (sanitiser) is provided at every bed space for you to clean your hands regularly. Please ask us for some if you don't have any.
- **Face** - We ask all patients to wear a facemask at all times, including when you are in bed on a ward please. A surgical facemask will be provided for you as personal face coverings are not allowed whilst an inpatient. The facemask must cover your nose and mouth. If this is very difficult for you for any reason, or if you are exempt from wearing one, please talk to a member of the nursing team looking after you.
- **Space** - If you are moving around the ward or leave the ward at any time, you must wear a facemask. This is because when moving around you'll be unable to guarantee to keep two metres away from others.
- **Please ask all your visitors to follow the "Hands – Face – Space" guidance as well.**
- Routine COVID-19 testing – This involves nose and throat swabbing and will happen at regular intervals as an inpatient. This will be explained to you by a member of the team looking after you.
- We will advise you if you have been in contact with someone who has tested positive while you are an inpatient. If you have already gone home, we will telephone you and ask you to self-isolate. If you develop symptoms you will need to have a test. This is the same process you would need to follow if you had contact with anyone who tested positive in the community.
- Sometimes we need to move people to another area/ward if they have a positive test. We do this to keep you as safe as possible and we will aim to keep this to a minimum to avoid too much disruption for you.
- Our teams work hard to ensure you are given the best quality care in a safe and clean environment. To protect you from infections our staff will clean their hands every time they attend to you. Please feel free to ask any member of staff if they have washed their hands before providing you with direct care.
- We want to make sure your safety is a priority and that you have a good experience during your time as an inpatient. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to a member of the team looking after you.

**Please help us to keep you, your loved ones and our staff safe by following the above guidelines and encouraging your visitors to do the same: [Hands – Face – Space](#)**

