

VISITING

We try to restrict visiting to immediate family only, and encourage short visits. You will find visitors very tiring, despite their kind intentions. Regular rest periods are encouraged throughout the day.

Visiting times:

11 - 12 am
2:30 - 8:00 pm.

MEAL TIMES

There is a wide choice of meals available in hospital. You will be offered an advice sheet to help you choose healthy meals to suit your appetite and food preference. The nurses are also available to help and advise you.

Meal times:

Breakfast : 07:30 - 08:00 am
Lunch : 12:00 - 12:30 pm
Dinner : 6:00 - 6:30 pm.

Regular beverages are served during the day.

NEWS PAPERS

A paper trolley visits the unit between 8:00 - 9:00 am every morning. It is useful to keep some small change for papers. The hospital shop also stocks papers ,magazines ,books and toiletries.

SUPPORT

There is a wide range of support and information available from the nurses on the unit. In addition, June O'Mara, the Cardiac Rehabilitation Sister, visits all patients who have had a heart attack.

There is also a hospital chaplain available at all times to offer further support.

MOST IMPORTANTLY

You are our prime concern. We are always available to talk to you. Please do not hesitate to ask the nurses or doctors anything you wish to know.

Patient Information Leaflet

Coronary
Care
Unit

Queen
Alexandra

Hospital

This leaflet has been produced to give you some useful information while you are a patient on the Coronary Care Unit. There is also an information folder in each room for you to read at your leisure.

The Coronary Care Unit has 8 beds and specialises in the treatment and care of people suffering from heart problems and other acute illnesses. The rooms are arranged around a central desk, so the nurses are always nearby.

LENGTH OF STAY ON CORONARY CARE

This obviously depends on your reason for admission and your progress. Most people are on the Unit for the first 24 - 48 hours, before being transferred to a general medical ward. The wards are located on 'F' level. This is just along the corridor from Coronary Care.

PAIN

Our priority is to keep you pain free and comfortable. If you experience any pain or discomfort please tell the nurse so that we may help you.

CARDIAC MONITORS

Please do not be alarmed by any of the equipment used in the Coronary Unit. It is for routine observation and investigation. There are cardiac monitors above each bed to provide us with a constant picture of your heart rhythm. A central monitor on the main desk also provides us with a continuous reading.

VALUABLES

No responsibility can be accepted by the hospital staff for valuables or money held. We strongly advise that you send money home with your family, only keeping small change for papers etc.

DOCTORS

On admission you will be allocated to a team of doctors headed by a consultant. A member of your medical team will see you, and review your progress and treatment on a daily basis. The consultants have ward rounds on different days. Your consultant will usually either see you on the Coronary unit or the general ward.

NURSES

On arrival on the Coronary Unit you will be admitted by a trained nurse. She will become your 'Named Nurse' for your stay in the Unit. Although you will be cared for by a number of nurses, your named nurse will have overall responsibility for co-ordinating your treatment and nursing care.

Nurses uniforms

Sister - Navy blue dress and navy belt.

Senior Staff nurse - Blue checked dress and navy belt.

Staff nurse - Blue checked dress and blue belt.

Enrolled nurse - Blue checked dress and green belt.

You may also meet the following people:

Health care support worker - Brown checked dress and brown belt.

Housekeeper - Navy blue dress.

Domestic - Pale green dress.

Pharmacist - White coat.