

Delivering Same-Sex Accommodation

What does this mean for patients?

Other than in the circumstances set out above, patients admitted to University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust can expect to find the following

Same sex-accommodation means:

- The **room where your bed is** will only have patients of the same sex as you
- Your **toilet and bathroom** will be just for your gender, and will be close to your bed area

It is possible that there will be both men and women patients on the ward, but they will not share your sleeping area. You may have to cross a ward corridor to reach your bathroom, but you will not have to walk through opposite-sex areas.

You may share some communal space, such as day rooms or dining rooms, and it is very likely that you will see both men and women patients as you move around the hospital (eg on your way to X-ray or the operating theatre).

It is probable that visitors of the opposite gender will come into the room where your bed is, and this may include patients visiting each other.

It is almost certain that both male and female nurses, doctors and other staff will come into your bed area.

If you need help to use the toilet or take a bath (eg you need a hoist or special bath) then you may be taken to a “unisex” bathroom used by both men and women, but a member of staff will be with you, and other patients will not be in the bathroom at the same time.

The NHS will not turn patients away just because a “right-sex” bed is not immediately available

What are our plans for the future?

- Implementation of newly designed Privacy Signs for Curtains
- Provision of alternative gowns to maintain modesty
- Review patient pathways to ensure principles are maintained when patients moving around the hospital
- Clearly identify bays as male or female
- Patient satisfaction in relation to provision of same sex accommodation
- Reporting mechanism for breeches



We **Care**. We **Achieve**. We **Innovate**.

- Include information relating to DSSA in patient bedside information booklets
- Monitoring compliance through completion annually of self assessment

How will we measure success?

- To provide regular updates in to the Trust Board in relation to commitment to Delivering Same Section Accommodation including the outcomes of surveys, self assessment and observation of practice.

What do I do if I think I am in mixed sex accommodation?

We want to know about your experiences. Please contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service on 0800 028 4203 if you have any comments or concerns.