

Welcome to the Planned Admissions Unit

Information and advice for patients

Ward D6

Welcome to Ward D6, the Planned Admissions Unit. We hope that your stay with us on the Planned Admissions Unit is a pleasant experience. The Planned Admissions Unit is a surgical ward specialising in preparing patients for elective surgical procedures.

Preparing to come into hospital

Eating and drinking

You will have been sent an admission letter telling you when to stop eating (including sweets and chewing gum) and drinking before coming into hospital. Please follow these instructions carefully as failure to do so may mean your operation has to be cancelled.

Washing

On the day before and morning of coming into hospital you should have a bath or a shower using the antiseptic wash given to you in the pre-operative assessment clinic. Please also remove all nail varnish and do not wear any make up. If you have false nails please remove these before coming into hospital.

Medication

If you normally take prescribed medicines, tablets, inhalers or injections only take those as advised by the nurse at your pre-assessment appointment, with a sip of water only. If you are unsure about what medication to take please contact the unit before the day of your admission on the number at the back of this leaflet.

Smoking

Try to stop smoking or at least cut down 2 days before coming to the unit. This will help you to recover from the anaesthetic more quickly.

If you are unwell

Please contact the Planned Admissions Unit if you have had symptoms of diarrhoea and/or vomiting in the 72 hours before coming into hospital.

What to bring into hospital

Please bring the following items with you:

- Any medication you are taking regularly
- Dressing gown, nightwear and slippers
- Toiletries and a towel
- Something to pass the time, e.g. a paper, book or magazine
- Anything else requested in your admission letter

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Please note that any personal items you bring with you will be at your own risk.

Please do not bring:

- Large amounts of money or any valuables
- Jewellery (except a wedding ring)
- Electrical items such as laptops, televisions, mobile telephones or their chargers

Mobile phones should not be used on the ward as they can interfere with medical equipment.

Where is the Planned Admissions Unit?

The unit (Ward D6) is on the ground floor of the main City Hospital building.

What happens when I arrive?

When you arrive please press the buzzer outside and a member of staff will let you in. Please use either the alcohol gel provided or wash your hands as you enter the ward and then report to the receptionist.

You may not be admitted in the order of arrival to the unit as we will admit patients in the order they are going to theatre on that day. When we are ready to admit you, a nurse will call you in and your relatives will be asked to leave. They will be given the contact number for the unit, so that they can ring later in the day to find out which ward you are being admitted to following your surgery. Please ask them to wash their hands or use the alcohol gel as they leave the ward.

You will then be shown to your chair space or bed and will be given a quick tour of the unit and its facilities and routine. Please make sure you tell the nurse if you are taking any regular medications and which medicines you have taken on the day and at what time. If you have brought them with you, please pass them to the nurse who will store them safely.

You will then be asked to change into a theatre gown and the nursing staff will ask you questions about your health and check your blood pressure, temperature, pulse, breathing and weight and will ask you to provide a urine sample. Your surgeon and the anaesthetist will then come to see you to answer any further questions you may have and ask you to sign a consent form. When it is time for your operation a nurse will take you to theatre.

What happens after my operation?

After your operation you will be transferred to a surgical ward to recover. Your property will remain in a secure cupboard in Ward D6 while you are in the theatre and will then be transferred to you on your ward.

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Comments on your care

If you or your relatives are unhappy with any aspect of your care on the ward please do not hesitate to speak to the Ward Manager or Ward Sister who will do everything possible to rectify the problem. If neither is on duty you can speak to the senior staff nurse.

If you feel unable to discuss your concerns with the ward staff directly, then the Patient Advice Liaison Service (PALS) is available within the hospital. You can contact PALS on 0121 507 5836, Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm.

Further information

There is a pay on foot patient car park in operation. Disabled blue badge parking spaces are available on site, subject to car parking charges.

Please note that City Hospital is a no smoking area. Patients and visitors are not permitted to smoke anywhere within the buildings except outside, within designated smoking shelters.

For more information about our hospitals and services please see our website:

Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust

www.swbh.nhs.uk

Contact details

Planned Admissions Unit

0121 507 4006 or 0121 507 4306

Monday – Friday, 7am – 5pm

If you would like to suggest any amendments or improvements to this leaflet please contact the communications department on 0121 507 5420 or email: swb-tr.swbh-gm-patient-information@nhs.net



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