
Intermediate Dependency Area

Intermediate Dependency Area – Information for patients and their families

- **Telephone Number: 01223 217873**
- **Visiting Times: 13:00 – 19:00 hours**
- **Senior Clinical Nurse: Alison Nessling**
- **Senior Nurses: Moira Howley, Pam MacDonald, Napoleon Gavino & Vikki Smoothy**

What is the Intermediate Dependency Area?

The Intermediate Dependency Area (IDA) provides close monitoring during the serious stage of your condition. The time spent in IDA will vary according to your condition.

We have close links with the critical care areas and critical care staff may visit you to provide help and advice with the management of your illness. The Critical Care Outreach Team may also continue to see you when you return to a general ward.

The IDA does not have separate male and female sections but every effort will be made to ensure your privacy and dignity is maintained.

When will I be reviewed?

You will be reviewed at least daily by your own team of doctors. Please do not hesitate to ask if you require any further information regarding your progress. During out of hours (after 17:30 and at weekends) there will be an 'on call' team on duty.

It is often best to make an appointment to speak to a member of your own team of doctors because they will be best placed to update you. The nursing staff will be happy to arrange this for you.

Can I bring personal belongings?

Due to a lack of space within the area, please keep personal belongings to a minimum. We suggest a bag no larger than a small holdall. We advise you not to bring valuables into hospital as we cannot guarantee their safety. We also ask that you do not bring plants or flowers into the area as there is a small infection risk.

Unfortunately we do not have Patientline facilities in IDA.

Who can I or my family speak to if we have any questions?

We aim to make your stay here as pleasant as possible. Please approach any of the staff involved in your care if you have any questions or concerns.

Our nursing staff all wear the same uniform, but if you would like to speak to the nurse in charge, please ask at any time.

Please nominate one member of your family to make telephone enquiries regarding your progress. This helps to keep the number of calls to the IDA low. However, we are unable to give detailed medical information over the phone.

Please switch off all mobile phones whilst in the hospital.

Other people you may meet during your stay:

- Critical Care Outreach Team
- The Acute Pain Service
- Physiotherapist
- Dietician/Nutrition Team
- Pharmacist
- Specialist Nurses/Services as necessary

Infection Control:

All patients are tested for MRSA on admission to IDA. We will take every precaution to prevent the spread of infection during your stay.

You can help by encouraging your visitors to use the alcohol handrub when they arrive and when they leave. Please ask all staff if they have taken appropriate hand hygiene measures as well.

If you have any questions regarding infection control, please ask your nurse.

Support:

If you require any further advice or support you may contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) located by the hospital reception. The hospital also has a chaplaincy service, which may be accessed through the nursing staff.

Discharge:

As your condition improves and you no longer need the close monitoring, you will be transferred to a ward. You may notice at first that there are less nursing staff and equipment. However, this is a natural progression towards discharge from hospital.

Unfortunately, due to emergency admissions, you may be transferred to a ward at short notice and at all times of the day or night.

Car Parking:

For those visiting regularly, it is possible to purchase a reduced price ticket, please ask at Main Reception, Level 2.

Further Information:

If we can be of any further assistance please let the IDA team know and we wish you a speedy recovery.



We are currently working towards a smoke free site. Smoking is only permitted in the designated smoking areas.

For advice and support in quitting, contact your GP or the free NHS stop smoking helpline on 0800 169 0 169

Help with this leaflet:



If you would like this information in another language, large print or audio format, please ask the department to contact Patient Information: 01223 216032 or

patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk



Document history

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Department	Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Hills Road, Cambridge, CB2 0QQ www.cuh.org.uk
Contact number	01223 217873
Publish/Review date	September 2010/September 2013
File name	IDA_information_for_patients_and_their_families
Version number/Ref	3/PIN744