

Delivering Same-Sex Accommodation Declaration of compliance

We are proud to confirm that mixed sex accommodation has been virtually eliminated in our hospital.

1. Further information on our work to deliver same sex accommodation

Every patient has the right to receive high quality care that is safe, effective and respects their privacy and dignity. The Priory Hospital Roehampton is committed to providing every patient with same sex accommodation, because it helps to safeguard their privacy and dignity when they are often at their most vulnerable.

We are proud to confirm that mixed sex accommodation has been virtually eliminated in our hospital. Patients who are admitted will be accommodated in individual bedrooms and where this is not ensuite, only share the toilet and bathroom with members of the same sex. Sharing with members of the opposite sex will only happen by exception based on clinical need (for example where patients need specialist help for example in observation rooms; or when patients choose to share.

2. What does this mean for patients?

Other than in the circumstances set out above, patients admitted to the Priory Hospital Roehampton can expect to find the following:-

- Individual bedrooms.
- Ensuite facilities in most rooms but **toilet and bathroom** will be just for your gender, and will be close to your bedroom where there is no ensuite.

It is likely 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 will 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 (e.g. on your way to the theatre department).

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 bedroom from time to time.

If you need help to use the toilet or take a bath (e.g. 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.

3. What are our plans for the future?

As the hospital has always run on the basis of individual rooms, the plans for the future are not extensive but include:-

1. Quarterly structured monitoring of patient satisfaction specifically geared towards same sex accommodation issues – to commence July 2010.
2. The development of increased access to women only day areas in the general psychiatry areas – by December 2010.

4. How will we measure success?

Success will be measured through patient feedback as noted above.

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

We want to know about your experiences. Please contact Ron Gutu, Clinical Services Manager on 0208 392 4230 if you have any comments or concerns.