

Patient Information



Milton Keynes
University Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust

**Women's and
Children's Health**

**Supporting your partner at night
on the maternity wards**

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NHS Foundation Trust
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Why stay with your partner?

The maternity department recognises that new mothers or mothers-to-be value support from their partners **or** perhaps their own mum. We would like to facilitate this support, whilst minimising the inconvenience it may bring to other families and staff. Your partner will appreciate your help with caring for your baby or supporting her in labour.



To make your stay more comfortable

We are able to provide recliner chairs at the bedside to facilitate periods of rest, although do not expect to get a good night sleep as your new baby or partner will need you to support them. There are limited recliner chairs available so it may be that you have to sleep in an arm chair. To assist staff please make sure the recliner chairs are fully upright in the morning to give more space around the bedside to allow staff to complete essential checks.

- Please remain dressed at all times as a courtesy to other women and staff.
- Please understand that due to the risk of infection, beds are solely for the use of mothers.
- There is a toilet designated for visitor use.
- Please do not use the showers or bath facilities intended for mothers use only.

We are unable to provide hotel services for partners

All food is limited to inpatient mothers and is not for visitors regardless of the duration of your visit. You are encouraged to access



refreshments from the shop, restaurant and vending machines in the hospital corridors. If you would like to have a drink we have a hydration station for hot drinks on the ward and ask for a small payment of 50p. We do not have facilities for the heating or storage of food or drink for visitors.

Unfortunately there is limited availability of pillows and bedding for mothers use only. We are unable to provide any linen, blankets, pillows or towels for visitor use.

Promoting a positive and restful environment

Please ensure that any disruption is avoided, this includes keeping mobile phones in silent mode. Electronic equipment must not be put on to charge batteries as



this represents a fire hazard. All equipment has to pass a safety check prior to use. Should any behaviour be disruptive you will be asked to leave the ward environment.

Night time access to maternity wards

We would appreciate no requests for access in and out of the ward during the night. The door buzzer is disruptive to both women sleeping and providing care. The expectation is you will remain with your partner throughout the night to provide support. If you are a smoker it is not advised you stay overnight as it is not recommended that you cuddle or hold the baby following smoking to reduce the risk of sudden infant death syndrome.

Please remain vigilant about your property and ensure you take home all your property when you leave.

Thank you for your co-operation and understanding in supporting us to ensure the ward is a secure and pleasant environment for mothers and their babies.

We ask information about you so that you can receive proper care and treatment. This information remains confidential and is stored securely by the Trust in accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998.

**Author: Rebecca Tyers
Date written: 07/2013,
reviewed 04/2016
Review Date: 04/2019
Document No: MIDW/PI/50
Version: 2**

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