

# Information for patients and carers

# Important information for people with Parkinson's being admitted to hospital

Parkinson's Team Central Lancashire

This leaflet provides important information for people with Parkinson's disease or Parkinsonism needing admission to Lancashire Teaching Hospitals, so they know what to expect as an inpatient.

# **Admission to hospital**

There may be occasions when you are admitted to hospital, this could be due to your Parkinson's, the need for surgery, or due to another acute medical issue. It is important that you are aware of what to expect when you are admitted to Lancashire Teaching Hospitals. Please alert the staff immediately that you have Parkinson's disease or Parkinsonism to ensure that you receive relevant medications on time.

### **Medications**

At Lancashire Teaching Hospitals we recognise the importance of medications for Parkinson's disease. If you are admitted to hospital, always bring your medications or an up to date list of your medications with you. It is really important that the team looking after you are aware of the medications you take and the times you take them. Bringing your medications or a list will help to ensure you receive your medications on time.

We are aware of the importance of medications being given on time. If appropriate you will be assessed and you may be able to self-medicate whilst an inpatient. If this is not appropriate staff will ensure your usual medication regime is followed.

# Important information

It is important to be aware that when you are admitted to hospital, there may be some changes in your behaviour. This can happen for a number of reasons, such as being in a different environment, having an infection or being post-operative. On occasion people in hospital with Parkinson's

disease and related conditions can become confused and agitated or aggressive. This may result in you behaving in a manner that is unusual for you. The team looking after you have received training in how to support you and any family/carers through this period, it is important that you and your family/carers are aware of possible changes that can occur whilst in hospital.

We may need to speak with your family members/carers, or they may need to attend the ward at times other than the usual visiting times to support you.

These changes in behaviour do not always occur but it is important that we inform you about the possibility.

### Parkinson's team

Please inform the Parkinson's team if you are admitted to Lancashire Teaching Hospitals, this will ensure the Parkinson's specialist nurses are able to review you during your admission and enable you to discuss any concerns you may have.

#### **Contact details**

Should you require further advice or information please contact Parkinson's Team on **01772 523575**.

## Sources of further information

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk

www.nhs.uk

www.accessable.co.uk

www.patient.co.uk

www.parkinsons.org.uk

www.msatrust.org.uk

www.pspassociation.org.uk

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All our patient information leaflets are available on our website for patients to access and download:

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals is a smoke-free site. Smoking is not permitted anywhere on any of our premises, either inside or outside the buildings. Our staff will ask you about your smoking status when you come to hospital and will offer you support and advice about stopping smoking this will include Nicotine Replacement Therapy to help manage your symptoms of withdrawal and the opportunity to speak to a nurse or advisor from the specialist Tobacco and Alcohol Care Team.

If you want to stop smoking, you can also contact Smokefree Lancashire on Freephone **08081962638** 

Please ask a member of staff if you would like help in understanding this information.

This information can be made available in large print, audio, Braille and in other languages.

**Department**: Specialist Medicine, Parkinson's Team

**Division**: Medicine

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