

Patient information factsheet

Welcome to the coronary care unit (CCU)

We've written this factsheet as a guide to the coronary care unit (CCU). We hope it helps to answer some of the questions you may have. If you have any further questions or concerns, please speak to a member of our team.

What is the coronary care unit (CCU)?

The coronary care unit, or CCU as it's more commonly known, is a 22-bedded emergency admission unit (located on D level, East Wing) for people with cardiac (heart) problems. It is made up of three bays: CCU A, B and C. Your COVID-19 status will determine which bay you will stay on.

Due to the emergency nature of the unit, you will be cared for in a mixed-sex bay. If you are worried about being cared for in a mixed-sex bay, please speak to the nurse-in-charge.

Most people stay in the CCU for approximately 24 to 48 hours. Once you are clinically stable, we will either transfer you to another cardiovascular and thoracic ward for the rest of your stay in hospital or discharge you home. We try to move patients from CCU to other wards during the day. However, sometimes this can happen overnight.

The CCU team

A cardiology consultant (a specialist heart doctor) will carry out a ward round at approximately 8am each day. They will make a plan for your care. A specialist registrar, junior doctors, and the nurse-in-charge will continue your care plan for the day.

We will assign a nurse to care for you each day during your time on CCU. The nurse will be supported by healthcare professionals. Other hospital staff may be involved during your time on CCU, such as speciality doctors, pharmacists, ward clerks and domestic staff

Please speak to the nurse-in-charge if you are concerned about any member of staff.

Visiting

Visiting is restricted on CCU. Please speak to your nurse for up-to-date guidance on visiting.

Safety

Each bed is surrounded by a large amount of specialist equipment. Please take extra care when walking around the unit and listen to any instructions we give you.

Personal belongings

Please only bring essential items into CCU, such as:

- medications you are currently taking
- night clothes, slippers and a dressing gown

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UHS is unable to accept responsibility for any lost or stolen articles, including valuables, unless you deposited these with our staff for safe custody and have a signed receipt.

Please note that mains-powered electrical items are not allowed on the unit.

Discharge

We will prepare you for discharge when the cardiology team are happy for you to go home. We may need to carry out some more tests before you can go home, and we will need to prepare your discharge summary and any medication you are taking home with you. This can take time, so we would be grateful for your patience.

If you have any concerns about going home or think you may need extra support, please speak to a member of staff as soon as possible.

Raising your concerns

We welcome feedback, whether positive or negative, because it helps us to improve the care and services we provide. If you have any comments or would like to raise a concern, please speak to one of the nurses on duty, or ask to speak to the nurse-in-charge.

Charity fund

We have a small ward charity fund that allows us to purchase items to improve the ward environment for our patients. If you would like to make a donation, please speak to the nurse-in-charge.

Contact us

Your relatives or friends are welcome to ring the ward for an update. However, we can only give out limited information over the phone.

CCU A bay	CCU B bay	CCU C bay
Telephone: 023 8120 4723 Telephone: 023 8120 3635 (portable)	Telephone: 023 8120 8572 Telephone: 023 8120 5067 (portable)	Telephone: 023 8120 2338 Telephone: 023 8120 2365 (portable)

The telephone lines will be answered 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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For help preparing for your visit, arranging an interpreter or accessing the hospital, please visit **www.uhs.nhs.uk/additionalsupport**