

Patient Information Leaflet

Advice for Lodging mothers on Transitional Care Ward

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www.plymouthhospitals.nhs.uk



Congratulations on the birth of your baby

At present it is necessary for your baby to be in hospital under the care of the neonatal team and we appreciate that you need to be close to your baby to feed and provide care, although you are fit and well and would not otherwise remain as an inpatient in hospital.

Therefore, we are happy to accommodate you with a bed and meals so you can be here but you do not need to consider yourself to be a patient, rather a mother who is here with her baby. We call this becoming a “lodger” within the hospital.

The ward staff will undertake all necessary actions to enable you to become a lodger; this includes dispensing any medication from the pharmacy for you to self-medicate.

If you have been readmitted from home with your baby you may wish to use your own painkillers etc. All medication should be kept in the locked cabinet next to your bed. If you are a lodger the ward staff will not be able to issue any medication.

Routine postnatal checks will be carried out by the ward midwife, usually on Days 1, 3, 5 & 10 following the birth. We will keep your postnatal notes until you are discharged to the community midwife with your baby or in some circumstances you may be able to be discharged completely (usually after 10 days) after which we file your notes within hospital records.

The staff will be on hand to guide you with the care of your baby and please feel free to discuss any issues with them.

When the time comes for you to take your baby home we will notify the community midwife and health visitor and they will contact you by phone or in person to continue your care.

**This leaflet is available in large print and
other formats and languages.
Contact: Administrator
Tel: 0845 155 8153**

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