Northumberland, Tyne and Wear MHS Foundation Trust

People you will meet during your stay Older Peoples Functional Services Patient Information Leaflet



Some of the staff you may meet while you are in hospital.

Chiropodist - There is a chiropody service. If you need an appointment please ask a member of staff.

Community Psychiatric Nurse (CPN) - This is a qualified nurse who is a Registered Mental Nurse who visits people at home. It may be considered appropriate for you to receive this support for a period of time after discharge. The type of support you may receive will be discussed with you.

Consultant psychiatrist - This is the doctor who is the responsible medical officer for your treatment. They form part of the multidisciplinary team and provide supervision for the junior doctor. They work with the multidisciplinary team to develop treatment plans for each patient. This includes psychiatric diagnosis, prescribing of medication, (and monitoring effects).

Dietician - These are qualified health professionals that assess, diagnose and treat dietary and nutritional problems for individuals.

Discharge Facilitator - The primary purpose of the discharge facilitator is to support clients and carers, in the effective, timely and clinically appropriate discharge from hospital.

Facilities Assistant - Responsible for ensuring that high standards of cleanliness are maintained on the ward at all times and can assist in the preparation of meals.

Named Nurse - This is the nurse who is responsible for coordinating your care whilst you are in hospital. Your named nurse will also want to meet with your carers and friends, with your agreement to discuss your progress. All named nurses are staff nurses.

Nurse in Charge - This is the nurse who is in charge of a shift and is responsible for ensuring the smooth running of the ward.

Nursing Assistant and Health Care Assistants - All of these staff provide a similar role and support the qualified nurse in maintaining high standards of care and implementing individualised care plans. They may also organise activities on the ward.

Occupational Therapist (OT) - The Occupational Therapist will ensure that the occupational needs of each patient are considered and addressed. They aim to help individuals reach their maximum level of function and independence in all aspects of daily life.

Pharmacy Staff - The pharmacy team ensures that you receive your medication in a safe and effective manner whilst you are on the ward. The team can offer advice on medicines and any side effects. If you would like to speak to a member of the pharmacy team whilst on the ward, ask one of the nursing staff who will let the team know.

Physiotherapist - A physiotherapist works with patients to help restore movement. They provide any necessary physiotherapy assessment and treatment.

Psychologist - A psychologist is trained to help people deal with emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Speech and Language Therapist - A Speech and Language Therapist will assess and give advice to people with eating and swallowing difficulties. They will also help people who may have communication difficulties.

Staff Grade/Junior Doctor - This is a doctor who together with the consultant psychiatrist will diagnose illness, prescribe medication, monitor the effects of medication and regularly perform physical health reviews.

Staff Nurse - This is a qualified nurse who is a Registered Mental Nurse.

Students - The Trust participates in the use of work experience placements and students in training. If you would prefer them not to be involved in your care please let a member of staff know.

Ward Clerk - Provides administrative support and assists in the smooth running of the ward.

Ward Manager - The ward manager is a nurse. The ward manager is responsible for all aspects of your care and provides both managerial and clinical leadership to all staff on the ward.





Further information about the content, reference sources or production of this leaflet can be obtained from the Patient Information Centre.

This information can be made available in a range of formats on request (eg Braille, audio, larger print, easy read, BSL or other languages). Please contact the Patient Information Centre Tel: 0191 223 2545

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