



IPU Visitor Update Monday 12th April

From Friday 9th April 2021 the Government has introduced the ability for all households to obtain Lateral Flow Device Test (LFD's) to test twice weekly at home.

Testing before you visit the Hospice provides greater protection for us all as, if your test is positive, you have not travelled to and entered our Hospice building.

Therefore, with **effect from Monday 12th April we will no longer offer visitor testing on site**. We are asking that you to **continue with your twice weekly testing from home prior to visiting**. You will need to **register your test and result** and we will ask you to **show your most recent test result when you arrive on the unit**.

Tests can be obtained from the following link. www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test

Whether you are testing at home or are being tested for work or other purposes, **please provide proof of a recent negative test when you visit**. Testing remains one way that we can help in the battle against Coronavirus, as well as **washing your hands, wearing a face mask, social distancing, and adequate ventilation**. These all help to protect your loved ones, staff, volunteers and other visitors to the Hospice.

On arrival to the Inpatient Unit, staff will ask to see the confirmation text/email. **Test results can be valid up to 4 days**. Please talk to a member of staff if you are having problems obtaining your test kits or if you have any questions or queries.

Once again, we ask that **if you or a member of your household are displaying any symptoms of Coronavirus that you do not visit**. Staff will happily keep you updated. iPads and Facebook portals are available for patients to use to maintain contact with their loved ones.

On **Monday the 12th April we will also be opening the inpatient unit communal areas**. We ask all visitors using the communal areas to observe **social spacing** and when using the **kitchen one family is permitted at a time**. Please **wash your hands before and after using any items and use the wipes provided to wipe down any areas that have been touched once** you have finished using this space.

Visitor numbers will currently remain at two visitors per patient in a 24-hour period. This will be reviewed in accordance with government guidelines.

Thank you for your continued support with our efforts to keep loved ones connected and keeping everyone as safe as possible.

If you have any further questions or queries about visiting loved ones at the Hospice, please contact the Ward Manager on 01223 675777 or 01223 675900.

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Allen,

Chief Executive