

This NHS Trust is smokefree.

Information for patients.



SMOKEFREE

Frequently Asked Questions

What does Smokefree mean?

Smoking is not permitted inside any of the Trust's premises or anywhere in the grounds. Patients, members of the public and staff are not allowed to smoke on Trust sites.

Why did we become a Smokefree site?

Four out of five people don't smoke. Complaints from patients and the public about smoking at our sites particularly around entrances were increasing. In a survey of the public and staff conducted at the hospital, seven out of ten people said that they thought that smoking should not take place anywhere on the site. As a patient, smoking makes it harder for you to recover. As a health community we want to help people live a healthy life. Being a Smokefree site helps everyone by being a healthy place to visit, stay or work.

How will the hospital ensure it stays Smokefree?

There is nowhere to smoke on any of the Trust sites i.e. no smoking shelters. Information and the contact details of NHS Stop Smoking Service are easily available to members of the public and for all patients at Trust sites, via GP surgeries and community health centres prior to admission. Multi-skilled VINCI Park operatives, senior management and site services staff are on patrol 24/7 to ensure that patients, members of the public and staff do not smoke on site. Staff are encouraged to challenge and support patients and members of the public not to smoke.

What support will I be given before I come into hospital?

Talk to your GP or nurse at the pre-assessment clinic, they will be able to provide you with a prescription for Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) prior to your admission. For support to quit smoking please contact NHS Stop Smoking Service on 0800 022 4332 before you come into hospital.

I haven't taken up the opportunity previously but I feel the need to smoke on admission or I am brought in as an emergency, what can I do?

Talk to a nurse in the emergency department or on the ward. They will be able to provide you with nicotine replacement therapy that will help with the cravings for a cigarette. Wards hold stock of patches and gum for the use of patients whilst staying in the hospital. If you would like to quit smoking in the long term the ward will refer you to NHS Stop Smoking Service for support. Please do not be tempted to have a cigarette; help is available to support you and to ensure you are comfortable whilst you are in hospital.

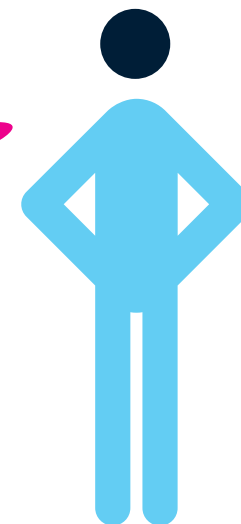
Is it a human right to be allowed to smoke?

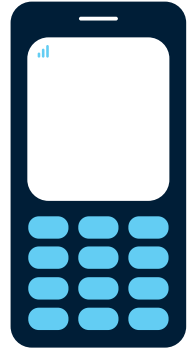
The British High Court (2008) ruled that smoking is not a basic human right. It is reasonable to expect the Trust to take action to preserve the health of patients and staff.

What happens if patients smoke within the grounds?

Any patient smoking within Trust grounds will be approached by a member of Trust staff and asked to stop smoking. Their nurse and their doctor will be informed so they can provide the patient with suitable medication to manage their cravings. The fact that the patient has been smoking will be documented in their notes as they may have compromised their recovery. If a patient continues to smoke the doctor in charge of their care will need to consider whether treatment can continue to be effective.

The Trust will take very seriously any patient smoking in secret or dangerous places either inside or outside Trust property.





This leaflet is available in large print
and other formats and languages.