

# Patient Information for Admission to the Inpatient Unit

## Welcome to Rowcroft Hospice

Rowcroft Hospice offers care and support to patients with progressive, life limiting illnesses. We hope this leaflet answers some of the questions that you or your family may have.

## Why do people come to Rowcroft Hospice?

Patients come to Rowcroft Hospice for a variety of reasons. You may need help with:

- Symptoms such as pain, sickness or breathlessness
- Emotional needs or support for your family
- You may also need care at the end of your life

On arrival, you will be welcomed by one of our nursing team. A doctor and nurse will talk with you to find out about the difficulties you are having.

The length of your stay will depend on the help you need.

Rowcroft Hospice is not a long stay unit. Sometimes patients still need nursing care but not the specialist care that Rowcroft Hospice provides.

Planning for discharge will be discussed with you and your family.

## What is Rowcroft Hospice like?

Rowcroft Hospice is set in a large garden, on top of a hill in Torquay. The hospice inpatient unit looks out across our gardens towards the sea.



**rowcroft**  
hospice



There are 17 inpatient beds at Rowcroft Hospice. There is one male ward and two female wards. There are also three single rooms. We try to use our single rooms for those in most need.

Bathing and shower rooms are spacious and private. Facilities are designed with easy access and comfort in mind.

Our Chapel provides a peaceful sanctuary that can be accessed by all patients and families.

### **Who is available at Rowcroft Hospice to help me?**

Our inpatient team includes: nurses, doctors, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, social workers, a chaplain, chronic oedema nurses, music therapist, art therapist, complementary and beauty therapists.

A large team of volunteers provide assistance to patients, relatives and staff.

If you or your family wish to know about how our team can help you, please ask us for more information.

### **Can I ask questions?**

We believe in being open and honest with patients and their families and try to answer any questions you may have.

### **What should I bring with me?**

Please bring any tablets, medicines, feeds and special dressings you are using at home.

You should bring your own wash things, such as soap, flannel, shampoo, shaving kit, etc.

Towels are provided. Please bring comfortable nightwear, slippers and day clothes if you wish. You can use your mobile phone on the inpatient unit.

### **What can I leave at home?**

Please try not to bring in large amounts of money or valuables with you. We cannot easily store these for you. Mains power electrical items such as radios, televisions and hairdryers are provided by the hospice.

### **Is smoking allowed?**

There is a no smoking policy inside hospice buildings. However, a smoking room is available to patients who wish to smoke. There is also a paved area in the garden away from the wards, which patients and families can use.

### **What happens at mealtimes?**

A copy of the weekly menu will be given to you. Please tell us about your likes and dislikes and how you prefer your food to be prepared. If you have any special dietary needs, please let our staff know.

Your family can bring in favourite foods and treats for you. These can be kept in a fridge in the ward kitchen.

Breakfast is served from 8.00am, lunch at 12.30pm and evening meal at 5.00pm.

Tea, coffee and soft drinks are available all day.

For more information please

**Call: 01803 210800 Or visit: [www.rowcrofthospice.org.uk](http://www.rowcrofthospice.org.uk)**



### **When can my family and friends visit?**

We try to be flexible to meet our patients' needs.

We do ask visitors to avoid busy periods on the inpatient unit.

Mornings are when patients are washed and the unit is cleaned. It is helpful if visits are after 11.00 am. Please discuss the best times to visit with our nursing staff.

We ask all visitors to let our receptionist know that they have arrived at the hospice. Our staff will check that the patients are able to accept visitors.

Sometimes they can be very tired and visitors may be politely asked to return later.

### **Where is Rowcroft Hospice?**

Our driveway is found half-way along Avenue Road opposite the Bancourt Hotel. Please note that if you are coming by public transport or on foot, our driveway is a ½ mile steep uphill walk. There is a free car park for all visitors at the top of the driveway and disabled parking outside the inpatient unit.

If you require this information in an alternative format please call 01803 210844

For more information please

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