



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Ty Skirrid Ward Maindiff Court Hospital

Tel number: 01873 735551



Welcome to Ty Skirrid Unit



Welcome to Ty Skirrid. We are a rehabilitation unit based at Maindiff Court Hospital in Abergavenny. We are a 12 bedded male unit with ages ranging from 18-65 years. Adjacent to the ward is Lindisfarne, a 3 bedded step-down unit which is supported by Ty Skirrid staff.

Patients have a diagnosis of a serious mental illness and are in the recovery phase of their journey. All individuals are encouraged to take part in therapies and activities both on and off the ward as part of their rehabilitation programme. Ty Skirrid is also part of a wider team that include a Consultant, Psychologists, Occupational Therapists, Pharmacists and other outside agencies which are accessible to all on the unit.

Admission to the unit

To support you during your admission, a care-coordinator will be allocated to you. They will assist and support you and the team in identifying your needs and will work with you in developing your individualised care plan and care pathway.

In the interest of your safety on admission: -

- ✓ Please hand in all medication so that the administration and monitoring can be managed by a qualified member of nursing staff.
- ✓ If you have any illicit substances or alcohol, we also ask that you hand these in so that they can be disposed of safely.
- ✓ Ward staff will list any items that you have come into hospital with and record them in a property book with you. We would encourage you to send home amounts of money larger than £30.00. Any potentially unsafe items will be stored appropriately to reduce any potential risks. This would include sharp items, illicit substances etc.
- ✓ During your stay we encourage that you send home any valuables. If you do wish to keep certain items with you, individualised lockable safety boxes will be accessible to you during your stay. This is because the Health Board does not accept responsibility for your belongings during your stay in hospital.

If you have electrical items that require charging, you are able to charge them in your bedroom.

Advocacy Service

All patients have access to advocacy services, the Advocate visits the ward regularly and will be available to talk to you and provide practical support or advice. Details of how to contact the advocacy service can be requested from the ward staff.

Visiting times

Between 3pm and 8pm, 7 days a week. Where possible, we ask that you please provide notice prior to visiting.

In the case of children visiting, you on the ward, please could you inform us in advance so that appropriate arrangements can be made, anyone under the age of 16 will need to be accompanied by an adult.

Meals



As part of the rehabilitation programme, you will be supported to purchase and to cook your own meals. The hospital will provide you with a food allowance each week to buy your own food items. A Sunday lunch is provided weekly to the ward.

Transfer

There may be occasions when, due to clinical reasons, you will need to move to a different ward within the Health Board. We will always try to limit these occurrences and ensure that any transfers are based on clinical need.

Observation and Safety

The unit operates a safe observation policy in the interests of reducing risks and maintaining a safe therapeutic environment for all patients in our care. Any increase or decrease in your observation level will be clearly explained to you by the nursing team.

Admission Status

The ward accommodates both Informal and Formal patients. If you are an **Informal patient**, you are voluntarily on the ward, which means you can leave when you want to but we would request that you inform the nurse in charge.

In some cases, nursing staff may prevent a voluntary patient from leaving the ward if they feel that there are any risks attached to self or others.

If you are a **formal patient**, you will be detained on the ward under the Mental Health Act 1983. Formally detained patients may leave the unit upon agreement with their Responsible Clinician.

Further information will be provided to you in relation to your Mental Health Act status and you will have the right to representation by an Independent Mental Health Advocate (IMHA). As a detained patient you have a right to appeal to the hospital managers and/or a Mental Health Review Tribunal.

Ward Round



The ward consists of 1 Consultant who reviews the patients at least once per week. This information will be provided upon admission:

- Ward Round - Thursday afternoon

The Ward Round is an opportunity for you and those involved in your care to review your progress and current treatment. A member of staff will explain to you in advance what form the review will take and discuss with you who may be in attendance.

If you feel uncomfortable with any of this then please make the member of staff or patient Advocate aware.

Usually in attendance will be yourself, a Registered Nurse (or nominated deputy) and a Medical Representative (usually a Consultant Psychiatrist). Other disciplines

may also be invited should specific needs be identified but this will be discussed with you in advance. You will have the choice as to whether a patient advocate and/or a family member or friend can attend the Ward Round with you. As a service we actively encourage the inclusion of family and carers in the formulation of Care and Treatment Planning.



Confidential /Medical Information

Every member of staff who works for the NHS and the Local Authority has a legal obligation to keep information about you confidential and secure. There are times when it is appropriate to share information about you and your healthcare with others such as GPs and Social Care services. The need to share relevant information is to help us work together for your benefit. There may also be exceptional circumstances where your information is disclosed or where the law requires information to be discussed. With your permission we may also share information with your named relative, carer or friend.

Staff on the Ward

The staff team on the ward is made up of Registered Nurses, Health Care Support Workers, Occupational Therapists, Doctors, Psychologists and Domestic staff.

On occasions, nursing/medical/occupational therapy students might be involved in your care though you have the right to decline their input if you wish. Consultants are supported by junior doctors, who rotate throughout the Health Board.

Occupational Therapy

Occupational therapy (OT) aims to support you with the things that matter to you in your life. This can mean working towards small, manageable goals that start to help with adding structure and routine to your daily life, leading up to longer term goals to work towards in future.

OTs focus on recovery whilst addressing life skills in the areas of self-care, productivity and leisure. Graded 'Recovery through activity' programmes are offered on each ward covering various interesting topics throughout your admission. These sessions involve participation in activities you may be familiar with as well as opportunities to try something new. Some will be information based and some will be activity based.

Activities and Therapies

There are activities and therapies available



on the ward. A Recovery Time Table has been devised which incorporates a range of activities/interventions aimed at supporting you through your recovery whilst on the ward. Some of these are facilitated by the Occupational Therapy Team, others by ward staff and external agencies who provide in-reach services to the ward. Some activities take place on the ward and others can take place in the community; these activities will be tailored to your individual need.

Psychological Therapy

As part of the delivery of the therapeutic programme psychological therapies are available on the unit to explore ways of coping with crisis and distressing emotions. Skills are practised such as relaxation and mindfulness. These sessions are flexible and as much as possible tailored to meet your individual needs. You are very welcome to speak to a member of staff should you require more information. This is delivered by both the psychologist and nursing staff.

Laundry Facilities

This is a communal facility. As part of the rehabilitation programme, you will be supported to attend to your laundry. You will be allocated set times and days.



Alcohol and Drugs

Whilst you are an inpatient, we would request that you refrain from the use of alcohol or illicit substances. In some circumstances, nursing staff may ask you to carry out an alcohol or drug screening, should clinical observations indicate the need. This is because they could have a significant risk upon your mental and physical health and cause harmful interactions with any prescribed medication.

Violence and Aggression

The Health Board operates a zero-tolerance approach to any violence or aggression displayed towards fellow patients, visitors or health board staff. Any breach of this could result in police involvement and possible prosecution.

Smoking

The ward has a designated smoking area where smoking is currently permitted. In line with the Health Board Smoke Free Environment policy, we ask that you refrain from smoking in any other areas and that all cigarette lighters are handed in at night.

If you would like support to stop smoking whilst you are in hospital, please speak to ward staff on or during your admission.

Mobile Phones/Devices – Confidentiality

Please feel free to use your mobile device whilst on the ward in a safe and respectful manner – preferably in the privacy of your room. The use of mobile devices for



taking pictures/recording, or for the inappropriate use of social media can significantly impact upon someone's confidentiality and recovery. We therefore would request that you comply with the HB's policy and refrain from using your mobile in this manner.

Your mobile phone and other devices can be charged in your bedroom. If you do not have access to a mobile phone and wish to make or receive a telephone call, please speak to a staff member.

Compliments and Complaints



We welcome your feedback and will utilise any positive or negative comments you may have about our service to improve the patient experience.

If you are unhappy with any elements of our service, please raise your concerns with the staff involved in your care or treatment so that they can try to resolve your concerns immediately. If this does not help or you do not wish to speak with the staff about your concerns, the Health Board's **Putting Things Right** leaflet is available on the ward.

We would also welcome any positive feedback or compliments which can again be forwarded to a member of staff on the ward.

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn y Gymraeg