



**ROYAL FREE LONDON**  
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# Attending Your In-patient Admission at Royal Free London – Private Patients Unit

During COVID-19

At Royal Free London – Private Patients Unit, we are committed to providing a safe and clean environment for you to recover post op. We're following the latest national guidelines and our teams are working round the clock to make sure your visit is worry free.

This guidance is in effect so you know what to expect throughout your in-patient journey.

## Before Your Operation

- 72 hours prior to your surgery you will be required to come into the hospital for your pre-assessments and COVID-19 swab. Where possible these will be carried out on the same day. In necessary circumstances, telephone pre-assessments may be advised.
- You will be greeted at the entrances on the ground floor by a hospital security guard who will provide you with a disposable surgical grade mask; you must wear this mask for the entirety of your visit at the hospital. Please do not remove the mask unless your consultant advises you otherwise. Please dispose of your mask into the clinical bins in the hospital when you leave.
- Please ensure you maintain social distancing while inside the hospital and adhere to the guidance we provide while onsite.
- You will undertake a temperature check at the Royal Free Hospital's main reception. If your temperature is higher than 37.5 you will not be attending for your COVID-19 swab.
- Following your COVID-19 swab, you and your household will be required to shield and undertake strict isolation for 72 hours prior to your surgery. Depending on your surgery and advised by your consultant, you may be required to undertake strict 14 or seven day isolation.
- Patients undergoing major surgery and/or who are considered at high risk/COVID-19 vulnerable will need to undertake a strict 14 or seven day isolation prior to their treatment.





## Your Stay in Hospital

- If you are staying overnight following your procedure or surgery, please only bring essentials with you.
- On the day of your surgery, you'll need travel to the hospital by private car or taxi; you must not use shared public transport. You can speak to your healthcare team if this might be a problem for you.
- Please wear a face covering which covers your nose and mouth during the taxi journey, if applicable and on arrival at the hospital. Please wash or sanitise your hands on arrival.
- On the day of your admission, if your test is COVID-19 negative you will be admitted for your planned procedure. You will also have another COVID-19 screening at the PPU reception which includes a temperature check.
- You'll see patients and our staff wearing a face mask or face covering at all times and we have hand sanitising facilities throughout the unit.
- You will be given your own en suite single room which is cleaned after each patient.
- In line with the trust strict IPC (Infection Prevention and Control) measures you will be screened regularly. The team caring for you will introduce themselves to you. They will be wearing different types of personal protective equipment – this may include a face mask, gloves, an apron and a visor. Please don't be alarmed by this as this is to help keep both you and your healthcare team safe.

- Subject to COVID-19 guidelines, you will not be able to have any visitors during your stay with us except in exceptional circumstances. You can use the free NHS Wi-Fi to keep in touch with family and friends by video or phone call. If you don't have a suitable device, let us know and we will help you to make calls.

## After Your Operation

- You may need to self-isolate with your household again after your operation. The number of days required will be explained to you as this will depend on the type of operation you are having.
- Where suitable, we'll offer you a phone or video follow-up appointment if you need one.

Our top priority is ensuring you receive the very best care in a safe way. If you have any further questions about your operation or how to prepare for it, please don't hesitate to speak to your healthcare team.

If you develop COVID-19 symptoms or test positive for the virus, please contact the admissions team on **020 7472 6451**. After a discussion with your consultant and clinical team, they will advise you on how to move forward with your planned admission.

T: **020 7317 7751**

W: **royalfreeprivatepatients.com**

E: **rf-tr.privateenquiries@nhs.net**

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