



HOW YOU CAN  
HELP TO REDUCE  
CROSS INFECTION  
IN THE INTENSIVE  
CARE UNIT/HIGH  
DEPENDENCY  
UNIT (ICU/HDU)

Patient & Visitor Information  
Leaflet



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*Infection Control & General  
Intensive Care Unit/High  
Dependency Unit (ICU/HDU)  
St James's Hospital*

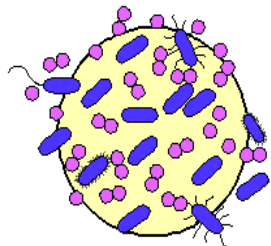
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## Visitor Information

### Reducing the Risk of Transmitting Infection

The staff in the Intensive Care Unit try to do everything possible to reduce the risk of cross infection of micro-organisms to your relative or friend. However, we need your assistance to help us to achieve this.

Listed below are a few simple requests we ask you to follow. If you have any questions the doctors and nurses are always available to answer any queries.



◆ **Please do not visit the hospital** if you have been in recent contact with someone who has, or if you have any of the following infections:

- ◆ Chicken Pox
- ◆ Winter Vomiting Bug,
- ◆ Diarrhoea
- ◆ The 'flu'

◆ Patients are limited to visits from relatives or very close friends. There should be no more than **two** visitors at any time. Children under 14 years are not allowed to visit, except in very special circumstances.

◆ On arrival at the Intensive Care Unit or High Dependency Unit, please ring the door bell and wait for assistance from a staff member before being given permission to enter the unit.

◆ On entering the main ICU, put on an apron (located at the entrance doors). Then apply the alcohol hand rub. If visiting the side rooms, apply apron & the alcohol hand rub which is located in the ante-room (handwashing room) of each sideroom.



◆ Before you leave the main unit, remove your apron and put it in the waste bin by the sinks at the exit. Use the alcohol hand rub at the sinks. In the side rooms, you should remove your apron in the ante-room and then clean your hands.

◆ Do not sit on patients' beds.

◆ Visitors are not permitted any food or drink in the Intensive Care Unit.

◆ Fresh flowers or plants are not allowed as the water and soil carry bacteria.



◆ Patients, please limit the amount of personal items that you bring to the hospital. This is to allow for cleaning of your bed area.

◆ Do not stick pictures on the walls, again this is to assist cleaning. Framed photos may be placed on the bedside locker.