Eliminating Mixed Sex Accommodation
Declaration of compliance 1/4/17 – 31/3/18

Every patient has the right to receive high quality care that is safe, effective and respects their privacy and dignity. The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust is committed to providing every patient with same sex accommodation because it assists in safeguarding their privacy and dignity when they are often at their most vulnerable.

The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust strives to achieve and be compliant with the Government’s requirement to eliminate mixed-sex accommodation, except when it is in the patient’s overall best interest, or reflects their personal choice. In general, the Trust has the necessary facilities, resources and culture to ensure that patients who are admitted to our hospitals will only share the room where they sleep with members of the same sex and same-sex toilets and bathrooms will be close to their bed area. Sharing with members of the opposite sex will only occur when clinically necessary, for example where patients need specialist support and equipment such as in the Critical Care Unit.

We have confirmed with our commissioners that should we not meet the required standard, we will report it and discuss it with them. We also assess this as part of our matrons audits to ensure that the classification is deemed to be correct.

Our volunteers help patients to complete the surveys which assesses whether the Trust has achieved the elimination of mixed sex accommodation and have maintained the patient’s individual privacy and dignity requirements.

- Throughout 2017 / 2018 the Trust were compliant with eliminating mixed sex accommodation, with the exception of January 2018 where 3 breaches occurred. This was in critical care and involved 1 male and 2 female patients.
- The Unit strive and have achieved all year to ensure that mixed sex accommodation does not occur however in January 2018, there was an increase in support given to neighbouring Trusts which impacted on the bed base within WCFT.
- Within critical care, in addition to the side rooms, there is an additional area that can be utilised to segregate 2 patients, however on this occasion, these rooms had been used for infection control reasons and containment of CPE.
- Despite the breach, due to the acuity and confusion of one of the patients in particular, staffing ensured that the privacy and dignity of the three patients was maintained at all times. None of the patients complained about their care experience for this part of their journey.

The staff within the Trust continue to work hard to ensure the safety, wellbeing and privacy and dignity of patients is maintained as part of eliminating mixed sex accommodation.
REPORT TO THE TRUST BOARD
26 April 2018

Title | Eliminating Mixed Sex Accommodation - Declaration of Compliance 2017/18
---|---
Sponsoring Director | Lisa Salter
Acting Director of Nursing & Governance
Author(s) | Lisa Salter
Acting Director of Nursing & Governance
Previously considered by: | NA

Executive Summary

The Trust is required to provide an annual declaration against ‘eliminating mixed sex accommodation’. A declaration of compliance is published on the Trust’s website to ensure patients and their families can be assured of the arrangements the Trust has in place, this declaration is attached.

The Trust has been compliant from April 2017 until January 2018 where a breach occurred involving 3 patients however staffing ensured that patients were cared for appropriately to ensure their privacy and dignity were maintained. These patients were moved to the appropriate area once beds were available.

There were no complaints received as a consequence. The breach was due to bed pressures across the region and The Walton Centre supporting local Trusts with both staffing and bed resources. The Trust has maintained compliance since this breach.

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<th>Related Trust Strategic objectives/goals</th>
<th>Strategic Objectives</th>
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<td>1. Improving quality by focusing on patient safety, patient experience and clinical effectiveness;</td>
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| Risk and Assurance | As detailed in the report |

| Related Assurance Framework entries | N/A |

| Are there any associated legal implications / regulatory requirements? | Compliance with Commissioners |
| Equality Impact Assessment completed? | NA |

| Action required by the Board | To consider and note |