

RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

Name of Assessor- [REDACTED]

Post Held- Operational Lead Midwife

Department-First Floor Maternity

Date 11/06/2021

Subject of Assessment

Re-Introduction of visiting in maternity during COVID-19 pandemic

First floor maternity is situated on the first floor of the maternity unit and encompasses the post-natal ward, transitional care unit and IOL suite.

First floor maternity is made up of 3 areas-East- 2x 4 bedded bays and 9 side rooms

West transitional care- 2 x 4 bedded bays, 1x 3 bedded bay and 4 side rooms

North- inter linked 4 and 5 bedded bay.

Women are admitted to the ward both antenatally and post natively-all women have a COVID swab prior to admission and if negative are placed in a general bay, if awaiting result placed in side room until result is available.

On admission to the ward the women are unaccompanied-if antenatal attend on their own, or if post natal partner leaves from delivery suite prior to transfer.

All staff entering or providing care wear PPE as per UHB guidance

All staff and women are advised to socially distance where possible and wear a face covering if walking around ward.

Hazards

The addition of visitors to the ward area would significantly increase the risk of COVID-19 being shared with patients and staff as -

COVID-19 is highly infectious and its effects have been devastating. The infection can be passed very easily from person to person and the use of public spaces (especially internal) and episodes of close contact increases that risk. Social distancing could not be maintained within the ward area due to the confined bed spaces. Currently the beds are 2 metres apart and the chairs have been placed on the furthest side of the beds to ensure social distancing is maintained for patients the addition of visitors in the bed area would breach social distancing guidance.

Appropriate hand washing facilities could not be provided –as the hand basin in the 4 bedded bays are very close to one of the bed spaces breaching social distancing guidance. Alcohol based hand gel is available outside of the bays for patient use.

Existing Precautions

Beds 2 meters apart-chairs on furthest side of bed away from next patient

Alcohol hand gel available outside of bay

One 2 hour visiting period per day

- The standardised appointment times for visiting will be
 - 10.00-12.00 (odd numbered beds)
 - 14.00-16.00 (even numbered beds)

This is required to minimise the amount of people in bays in order to maintain social distancing requirements

All visitors to wear face coverings at all times unless exempt

Risk Matrix

Likelihood x impact/consequences

Possible x moderate = Moderate Risk

Practical advice /proposed actions

- Any women or partners with Covid symptoms or positive test will not attend first floor
- Ensure staff are informed of the current visiting guidance
- Have clear signage for visitors
- There will be zero tolerance for those not adhering to the rules
- Clear guidance to be given to women and partners re precautions whilst on first floor
- All partner to scan QR code/ complete questionnaire for trac and trace purposes.