

Welcome to Leicester Neonatal Services

Neonatal Services

Information for Patients

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Introduction

Welcome to the Leicester Neonatal Services at Leicester Royal Infirmary and Leicester General Hospital.

We understand that you are very worried and overwhelmed by your baby needing extra support after birth. This leaflet will try and answer a few questions you may have. It will tell you about the facilities that are available to use.

Please remember that we are here to help you and your baby. Feel free to ask questions about anything you do not understand.

Leicester Neonatal Service

We give specialist care for newborn babies who need extra help after birth. This can be for a little support or high level Intensive Care.

Our experienced team is made up of specialist:

- Neonatal consultants,
- Neonatal doctors and nurses,
- Allied Health professionals
- Surgeons.

We also work closely with the East Midlands Congenital Heart Centre, offering joint care for babies with complex heart problems. Leicester is also home to the UK's largest ECMO centre.

**Health information and support is available at www.nhs.uk
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

Visit www.uhleicester.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals.
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact uhl-tr.informationforpatientsmailbox@nhs.net

Where are we based?

Our Neonatal Service is based across **2 hospitals in Leicester**.

- **Leicester Royal Infirmary (LRI):** This is our larger Unit. It delivers the highest level of care, with:
 - Intensive Care for the most seriously ill babies.
 - High Dependency. This is based within the Intensive care environment.
 - Special Care. Babies here do not need as much support.
- **Leicester General Hospital (LGH):** This is a smaller unit. It gives special care to babies who are more stable and continuing to grow.

Your baby may be cared for in 1 or both of the Leicester Neonatal Units during your stay. This depends on what support your baby needs at each stage. Your baby could also be transferred to another hospital.

Can I may baby be transferred to another hospital?

Yes. All hospitals work together as part of a **Neonatal Network**. This helps make sure every baby gets the right care in the right place.

Sometimes, this means that your baby needs to be **transferred to another hospital**. This could be because they need more specialised care or because they are needing less support and can be safely cared for in a different unit. This also makes space for other babies who need more urgent intensive care. It can also mean getting your baby **closer to home** as they get better.

These transfers are carefully planned and are **not optional**, as they are based on what is safest and best for yours and other babies. Your baby will be transferred if needed. This is for their best care.

Ward round

The main ward round on the Neonatal Unit starts between 9:30am and 10:30am. This is when the medical staff meet and review your babies progress and talk about the treatment plan for the day. We encourage you to be involved in the ward round when possible.

Visiting hours

Parents/carers and siblings are allowed to visit their baby 24 hours a day.

We have set visiting times for friends and relatives. This is from 12pm to 8pm. You are only allowed 2 visitors at a bed space at one time. This does not include the parent or the siblings. 1 parent must be present at all times when you have visitors. No swapping of visitors is allowed throughout the day.

Parent bedrooms

We have a small number of parent bedrooms available. We give **these on a priority basis**. We **review this daily** depending on needs.

We understand how important it is to be close to your baby. We do our best to support families during this time. Due to limited space, we can't guarantee parent bedrooms.

Please note: **No siblings or extended family are allowed to stay in these bedrooms overnight.**

Staying safe on ward

- The babies we care for are very vulnerable, so it's important that **Parents, siblings and visitors are feeling well** before coming to the unit. This helps us to protect all the babies in our care.
- **You must wash your hands.** Please wash your hands when you arrive and before you leave. It is also important to wash your hands before and after touching your baby.
- **No outdoor jackets** are allowed in the clinical area. Please remove them in reception before entering.

Parking

- There is **free parking for parents**.
- We are able to offer free car parking for 1 car while your baby is being cared for by the Leicester Neonatal Service.

Parent lounge and parent meals

While your baby is being cared for, **both parents are able to access free meals** during your stay.

We also have a **parents' lounge** where you can make your own drinks and snacks. There is a **fridge available** if you would like to store any food you bring in from home.

Breast milk for your baby

Breast milk is the best nutrition for your baby, especially if they are on the Neonatal Unit.

If you choose to express milk, we have **breast pumps and private spaces** available for you to use. There is also a **fridge and freezer** for safely storing your expressed breast milk.

Donor Expressed Milk is available for a short period for our smallest and most vulnerable babies.



What do I need to bring for my baby?

If you are planning to formula feed your baby, we kindly ask that you bring in some ready-made (pre-prepared) formula with you.

Other items your baby will need include:

- Nappies
- Cotton Wool Balls
- Wet Wipes (fragrance free)
- Baby Grows, Vests, cardigan, Hat, mittens.
- Your own blankets and Muslins. These are lovely for making your baby more comfortable and also help add those important personal touches from home.

More information

If you need any more information, please speak to your healthcare professional, who will be happy to help.

You may also find the following websites useful:

- The **East Midlands Neonatal Operational Delivery Network**: This gives more information about our Neonatal Services, including a virtual tour: www.emnodn.nhs.uk/
- **Bliss**: This is a charity dedicated to supporting babies born premature or sick, with lots of helpful information for families: www.bliss.org.uk/
- The **University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust** neonatal services: Gives more information about our services: www.uhleicester.nhs.uk/services/neonatal/

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔
على هذه المعلومات بلغةٍ أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل
જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।
Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu

If you would like this information in another language or format such as EasyRead or Braille, please telephone 0116 250 2959 or email uhl-tr.equalitymailbox@nhs.net