

PATIENT INFORMATION

Helping you return home safely

Information for Patients: Home Visits and Moving Furniture



Why We May Need to Visit Your Home

As part of your care, we want to make sure your home is safe and suitable for your return. This may include putting equipment in place to help you move around or complete everyday tasks more easily.

To do this properly, we may need to visit your home to look at the space and layout of your rooms. We may need to move your furniture.

Do We Have Your Consent to Visit?

We will only visit your home with your permission. We can:

- Arrange a visit with a family member present, or
- Visit with two staff members if no one else is available.

We can access your home by:

- Collecting a key directly from you, or
- Using a key safe, if one is available and you provide the code

We will always treat your home with respect and leave everything as we found it, unless we have your permission to move something.

What Happens During a Home Visit?

1. Home assessment: We check room sizes, layout, and any obstacles
2. Discuss changes: We talk to you (and your family, if needed) about any equipment or furniture that may need moving
3. Safety first: We complete a risk assessment before moving anything.

Why Might We Need to Move Furniture?

- Make space for specialist equipment like a hospital bed, chair, or walking aids
- Ensure you can move safely around your home and reduce the risk of falls
- Make sure you can access important areas like your bedroom, bathroom, or kitchen.

What you need to know

- We will always explain what needs to be moved and why.

- We may request that friends or family support with moving furniture.
- For heavy items we may ask the family to make private arrangements due to manual handling risks for our staff.
- Whilst we will always take great care when moving furniture, by consenting for us to do so, you will be agreeing that we will not be liable if any damage may occur.

Your Consent Matters

Before any furniture is moved:

- We will ask if you have a family member or friend who can move it for you
- If not, we will ask your permission to move it ourselves
- If we have your consent, trained staff will move the furniture carefully and safely

We will record your consent in your care notes. If you are unable to give consent yourself, we will speak to a legal representative or family member involved in your care.

What If You're Unsure or Prefer Not to Give Consent?

That's completely ok. If you're unsure or prefer not to give permission, we will:

- Explore alternative solutions that suit your needs
- As Occupational Therapists, we can consider other suggestions with you.

Need More Information?

If you have questions or want to talk about your preferences, please let your therapist or healthcare professional know.

We are here to work with you and your family to make sure you feel comfortable, safe, and supported.

Thank you for helping us make your home safe for your return.

For further assistance or to receive this information in a different format, please contact the department which created this leaflet.