

Referrals will be processed during office hours: Monday to Thursday 08.00-16.30 hours, Friday until Midday. Out of hours referrals will be processed the next working day. Information regarding the referral will be placed on Trak. End of life or emergency visits Or public holidays please contact the relevant DN Team directly. If your request is complex or to support immediate discharge, please complete the referral form and contact the relevant DN team directly.

District nurses provide high quality nursing interventions to individuals, adults who are housebound or in clinically agreed circumstances where care is best provided in their homes.

Treatment plans will be explicitly agreed with individuals, using an evidence-based approach to help them regain maximum independence and health, including but not limited to the following:

- ✓ Wound care assessments.
- ✓ Administration of treatment or medication using specialist nursing equipment.
- ✓ Continence assessments and care planning if housebound and on district nursing caseload.
- ✓ Pressure area assessments and care.
- ✓ Admission avoidance support which requires nursing interventions.
- ✓ Health needs assessments of chronic disease management requiring generalist nursing input.
- ✓ Palliative or end-of-life care.
- ✓ Health promotion for housebound patients and their carers assessment and appropriate provision of specialist nursing equipment for patients in their own homes.
- ✓ Teaching self-care procedures to re-enable patients, and their carers, to manage their own healthcare needs within the confines of their own home.

Reasons for not referring to the district nursing teams:

- Diagnostic or support visits requiring a general practitioner's or mental health practitioner's specialist skills.
- Patients requiring routine bloods (including INRs) who have no nursing needs that require specialist district nursing interventions.
- Patients requiring vaccinations who have no nursing needs that require specialist district nursing interventions.
- Check visits without clearly identified and agreed nursing needs.
- Emptying or changing urine bags
- Routine skin care that does not require trained nursing skills.
- Administration of ophthalmic, nasal or oral medication.
- Filling Dosette boxes or collecting and delivering prescriptions.
- Filling in medication administration charts for patients that the district nurses are not already actively seeing.
- Supporting people with social care needs alone. Patients who need help with personal hygiene, bathing, meals, housework, toileting, applying/removing hosiery, getting up / going to bed, access to day centre or respite care should be referred directly to Social Services
- Ordering/fitting equipment assessed by other professionals.

Process for submitting a referral to district nursing services from other Professionals and Secondary Care.

General Practitioner Colleagues will submit details by e-mail.

