Patient lounge room

There is a comfortable patient lounge room providing entertainment options including novels, jigsaw puzzles and crossword books. Also available is a large box of children’s toys, colouring books, crayons and children’s books relating to cancer of loved ones, grief and loss. Please ask children to tidy up when finished. A selection of religious books, from a variety of religions, are also available.

Patient and visitor kitchenette

Tea and coffee are available in a kitchenette located opposite room 23 for your use. A fridge for milk and patient food is provided, but please be aware of how long food is stored, as cancer patients are at a greater risk of food borne infections than the general public. Food not labelled or stored in the fridge longer than 24 hours (unless unopened) will be discarded. A freezer is also available, please ask your nurse for more information.

Visitor’s meals

Visitors meals are not routinely provided, however, if your relative or friend needs to stay overnight, a meal can be provided if the visitor is unable to cater for themselves. There is a café and shop located on level 3 and a coffee cart at the Platt Street Entrance.

Patient phones

Each bed has its own phone allowing relatives and friends to ring direct. The prefix is 401, the extension is printed on the phone.

Mindful Movement Group

Oncology allied health staff run a movement and meditation session for patients each day. Sessions are very gentle, seated and work with each person’s abilities. Patients are encouraged to attend and participate. The group may be of assistance in helping you to keep mobile, as well as manage pain and stress.

Sessions begin at 9:30am. Please let your nurse know if you are interested or would like more information.

About Calvary

Founded in 1885 by the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary, Calvary is a charitable, not-for-profit, Catholic health care organisation. We're responsible for over 12,000 staff and volunteers, 15 Public and Private Hospitals, 15 Retirement and Aged Care Facilities and a national network of Community Care Centres.
Calvary Mater Newcastle is a public hospital within the Hunter New England Local Health District network.

Welcome to Ward 5B, a 30 bed Oncology Unit. The Nursing Unit Manager is Linda Liversidge. Linda is available Monday to Friday from 8:00am to 4:30pm to discuss any questions you may have.

Inpatient chemotherapy

Ward 5B delivers care for patients with symptoms of cancer or cancer treatment for Oncology/Haematology patients. Chemotherapy is administered on the ward, either from a scheduled appointment or as needs basis.

Visiting hours

Visiting hours are from 8:00am to 8:00pm.

It is very important unwell patients get as much rest as possible, as a result we maintain the rest period between 1:00pm and 3:00pm. Please ask relatives to refrain from visiting during this time. If they need to visit, we recommend the patient lounge room so other patients may rest.

Security

Visiting hours end at 8:00pm. If visitors need to stay longer, they should speak to a nurse who will assist them in obtaining a security pass before this time. When leaving the hospital before 5:30am, security will provide an escort as the hospital is locked down.

Medications

When admitted please inform your nurse of the medications you have on your possession, so we can identify which medications may be useful and which medications should be sent home with your family. We recommend that any medications classified as scheduled drugs be either left at home or given to a family member.

Accommodation

Patients are allocated a bed in either single or shared rooms depending on their level of need. It is not always possible to make allocations based on whether a patient is classified as public or private. If your relatives require accommodation during your stay, we can arrange for the social worker to assist.

Estimated Date of Discharge

On the Patient Care Board beside your bed, medical staff will write an anticipated discharge date. If you are not well, you will not be discharged. Alternatively, if you are well enough, you may be discharged earlier.

Patient education and information

Education brochures regarding your treatment are available from the Cancer Council Information Centre located on level 3, near the lifts. Leaflets on falls prevention, pressure area care and current hospital policies are available from the ward.

Personal belongings

Please give your valuables to your family members to take home. The hospital will attempt to locate lost items, but cannot be responsible for any losses. When you are admitted without toiletries, an emergency supply can be provided until your family bring yours. Please ask your nurse.

TV/DVD players/CD players

Each bed in Ward 5B has a TV and DVD player, a selection of movies/TV series are also available. CD players with music and meditation CDs are available to borrow. Please ask your nurse.

Newspapers

The ward receives two Newcastle Heralds and a Daily Telegraph every weekday. Please ask your nurse for copies.