

You have decided to go ahead with a procedure our office will begin coordinating your admission. If you have insurance, which covers you in a public hospital, or are uninsured then we will organise for your admission to The Royal Melbourne Hospital.

The Royal Melbourne Hospital

When having any surgical procedure performed in a public hospital you are placed on a waiting list. The aim of the waiting list is to categorise patients in order of urgency. When placed on the Waiting list you are designated a category according to your disease process and symptoms. There are three categories:

- Category 1 Most Urgent
- Category 2 Urgent
- Category 3 Not Urgent

Though there are approximate waiting periods for each category these can often be lengthened due to emergency admissions. Though your admission date may be cancelled or postponed due to a more urgent case you maintain your position the waiting list.

Before you arrive

Once you have decided to go ahead with a procedure at the Royal Melbourne Hospital you must sign a consent form, along with the treating doctor. This is then forwarded on to the appropriate departments by our office.

Once on the Waiting List, you will be contacted by the hospital to attend Pre-Admission Clinic (PAC). This clinic has been established to prepare patients for pending surgery. When you attend PAC you will be seen by a Nurse, Resident Medical Officer and an Anaesthetist. These three health professionals will take a medical history, baseline observations and blood tests. This is to help predict any possible complication intra or post operatively so that you can be more appropriately monitored. It is also important to identify any new problems/conditions so that these can be corrected prior to surgery.

Either the Neuroscience Nurse Liaison or Neurosurgical Registrar will then contact you with a planned operation date. Sometimes this date is set weeks in advance but sometimes it may be quite short notice should another patient cancel at late notice.

What to Bring

- All X-rays/Scans/MRI films
- Medications
- Health Insurance Details
- Medicare/Veterans Affairs/Pension Card
- Toiletries/Comfortable Bed Attire

What not to bring

- Jewellery
- Valuables
- Electrical Appliances
- Mobile Phones

On arrival

You are usually admitted on the day of surgery or the evening prior. You need to present to 3 East – PAC/Admissions unless told otherwise. Once all admission formalities are completed you will either go from there directly to theatre and then 4 South post operatively or directly to 4 South if not having surgery that day.

4 South – Neuroscience Unit

This recently built ward can accommodate for up to 53 patients including an 18 bed High Dependency Unit. Each room has an ensuite bathroom.

Personal televisions are available for hire in the general ward areas but not in the High Dependency Unit.

There are no telephones by the beds. There is access to public phones in the 4th Floor lift area at a cost of 40 cents each. Incoming calls from immediate family can at times be put through to the patients.

Nursing staff will not give out any information about a patient's condition over the phone due to being unable to confirm a caller's identity or what the patient wants them to know. It is suggested that patients choose a close relative or friend that enquiries can be directed to.

Visiting Hours

Monday – Friday	11 00am – 1 00pm 4 00pm – 8 00pm
Weekend & Public Holidays	11 00am – 1 00pm 2 00pm – 8 00pm

These visiting hours are not flexible as they allow valuable time for patients to recover from their surgery or illness. Anyone wishing to visit outside of these hours should direct their enquiries to the Nurse in Charge.

In the High Dependency Unit visitors are limited to immediate family and only two visitors are allowed by the bedside at any one time.

Discharge

This is by 10 am and this is to allow for the bed to be used for urgent admissions.

Car Parking Wilson Car Park

This is run independently of the Hospital. Entrance is via Royal Parade at the set of traffic lights 50 metres after Grattan Street if approaching from the South and 50 metres before Grattan Street if approaching from the North. (Please see Map)

You need to take a ticket to enter and must pay on level 2 of the Car Park (entrance to the Hospital) prior to collecting your vehicle and exiting the car park.

Rates:	First 30 Minutes	Free
	First Hour or part thereof	\$5.00
	1 –2 Hours	\$7.50
	Every Hour or part thereof is in addition	\$2.50
	Daily Maximum Charge	\$18.00
	Weekend Maximum Charge	\$10.00

Please note: There is a two day charge for storing your car in the car park overnight.