

District Nursing Service



About our Service

District Nurses are registered nurses who have completed a Community Specialist Practitioner graduate course. They are responsible for overseeing nursing teams who deliver care in a variety of community settings.

Working in collaboration with GPs, Allied Health Professionals, Specialist Nurses, Hospice Care, and Social Work teams, community nurses are able to deliver complex care in the patient's home or care setting. Our nurses also work with private care homes, agencies, and the voluntary sector.

Community based care allows for a speedier discharge from hospital and ensures the patient's needs are better addressed in an environment they are familiar with.

The team consists of District Nurses, Senior Registered Nurses, Registered Nurses, and Senior Health Care Assistants. Occasionally, our staff may be accompanied by student nurses who are undertaking on-Island training.

Our nurses are skilled in many areas, including:

- Administration of insulin and monitoring of blood sugars
- Continence promotion, including the assessment and management of incontinence
- Care of indwelling urethral or suprapubic catheters
- Administration or supervision of injections
- Syringe drivers for palliative or end-of-life care
- Leg ulcer care and management
- Wound management and pressure area care
- Removal of sutures, clips, or staples for housebound patients
- Nutritional assessments, and support with parenteral nutrition for patients with special dietary needs
- Venepuncture (taking blood)
- Intravenous therapy (including antibiotics) and PICC line management

When our nurses visit patients in their homes, they can also advise on a number of issues, including:

- Diet, exercise, and lifestyle changes to help weight control and promote wellbeing
- The use of (or need for) equipment to promote independence around the home
- Long term conditions such as diabetes or chronic airways disease
- Other services which may be able to provide support in the community

Referral

Referrals to the District Nursing service can be made by:

- The patient
- Carers or next of kin (with the patient's consent)
- GPs and other health professionals (with the patient's consent)

To qualify for a visit, patients must:

- Be aged 16 or over and have an identified nursing need which requires intervention or advice from a Registered Nurse
- Be housebound due to illness, surgery,* or disability
- Live in a community setting (e.g., their own home, sheltered accommodation or residential care homes)

**Post-operative patients may be asked to attend services in other health care settings once their mobility improves.*

District Nurses do **not** provide basic care (e.g., washing and dressing) or assist with shopping or meal preparation etc.

Hours of Work

The service operates from 08:30 to 17:00hrs, every day. This includes weekends and Bank Holidays.

Contact Details

If you would like to make contact with our District Nurses, please call the team based nearest to your home:

Ramsey and the North	811834
Peel and the West	686966
Southern	836284
Douglas and the East	616757 or 612332
	656032 or 656033



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