

Walsall Virtual Wards

Fiona Micheli
Lead Nurse
Virtual Wards



Virtual Wards Walsall.

- **What is a virtual ward ?**

Virtual wards allow patients to get a hospital level of care in the comfort of their own home.

- **Why have virtual wards ?**

To ensure prompt discharge from hospital

To stop unnecessary admissions to hospital

Reduced the chance of hospital associated deconditioning

Reduce hospital acquired infections

What is a Virtual Ward ?

- Patients are supported in their own home by a dedicated team of Staff for up to 14 days.
- The staff known as the '**M**ulti-**D**isciplinary **T**eam' meet daily to discuss the care, tests or support patients might need.
- Links community and acute hospital services together to ensure patients move quickly through the system.



How does the ward work ?

- Each ward has a set criteria for admission.
- A patient is identified as suitable by a senior clinician who makes the referral to the virtual ward staff.
- Virtual ward staff visit the patient at home to provide the red box and explain the process.
- The patient, their proxy or in some circumstances a virtual ward clinical support worker records vital signs each day and answers a ward specific series of questions.
- The questions will be sent via the tablet to the virtual ward base.
- The information will be shared with the MDT daily.

Pulse oximeter

Blood pressure machine

Thermometer

Tablet

The **RED** box !



Daily Morning Questions

(willing to answer today)



Our Virtual Wards

Walsall has **5** virtual wards providing care for patient who would otherwise be in hospital.

- Acute Respiratory Infection
- Heart Failure
- Fast track
- Frailty
- Hospital @ Home



What do patient's think ?

- The staff were lovely, they really helped me feel safe.
- The girls explained my tablets and helped me feel much better.
- Thank you for being so helpful, I felt really supported.
- I was so pleased to be at home and happy to have the consultant support. First class service.



Thank you for listening

Any Questions?

Caring for Walsall together

