Delivering Same-Sex Accommodation
Declaration of compliance

We are proud to confirm that mixed-sex accommodation has been virtually eliminated in all our hospitals.

Further information on our work to deliver same-sex accommodation
Every patient has the right to receive high quality care that is safe, effective and respects their privacy and dignity. The Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust is committed to providing every patient with same-sex accommodation, because it helps to safeguard their privacy and dignity when they are often at their most vulnerable.

We are proud to confirm that mixed-sex accommodation has been virtually eliminated in our Trust. Patients who are admitted to any of our hospitals will only share the room where they sleep with members of the same sex, and same-sex toilets and bathrooms will be close to their bed area. Sharing with members of the opposite sex will only happen by exception based on clinical need (for example where patients need specialist equipment such as in Critical Care areas, or when patients choose to share (for instance the Dialysis Unit).

What does this mean for patients?
Other than in the circumstances set out above, patients admitted to the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust can expect to find the following

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<th>Same-sex accommodation means:</th>
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<td>- The <strong>room where your bed is</strong> will only have patients of the same sex as you</td>
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<td>- Your <strong>toilet and bathroom</strong> will be just for your gender, and will be close to your bed area</td>
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It is possible that there will be both men and women patients on the ward, but they will not share your sleeping area. You may have to cross a ward corridor to reach your bathroom, but you will not have to walk through opposite-sex areas.

You may share some communal space, such as day rooms or dining rooms, and it is very likely that you will see both men and women patients as you move around the hospital (e.g. on your way to X-ray or the operating theatre).

It is probable that visitors of the opposite gender will come into the room where your bed is, and this may include patients visiting each other.

It is almost certain that both male and female nurses, doctors and other staff will come into your bed area.

If you need help to use the toilet or take a bath (e.g. you need a hoist or special bath) then you may be taken to a 'unisex' bathroom used by both men and women, but a member of staff will be with you, and other patients will not be in the bathroom at the same time.

**The NHS will not turn patients away just because a 'right-sex' bed is not immediately available**
What are our plans for the future?

The Trust will continue to take into account the elimination of mixed-sex accommodation in any refurbishment or new-build capital schemes. The Trust will review its accommodation to ensure it meets the privacy and dignity needs of its patients. The Trust will listen to the views and experience of patients and will act quickly to rectify those rare occurrences when mixing happens for non-clinical reasons. Same-sex accommodation is provided in all new capital building or refurbishment projects.

How will we measure success?
The Trust will measure success through improvement in the inpatient survey results, through local surveys, through patient engagement focus groups and we will report to the Trust Board.

What do I do if I think I am in mixed-sex accommodation?
We want to know about your experiences. Please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service / Caroline Heason, Adult Safeguarding & Patient Services Manager: email caroline.heason@ouh.nhs.uk or call 01865 234954 if you have any comments or concerns.

Elaine Strachan Hall
Chief Nurse

Caroline Heason
Adult Safeguarding & Patient Services Manager

28 March 2013