

23 February 2010

Visiting Times at the Knoll Community Hospital are changing

The visiting times for Knoll Community Hospital in Duns change from this Thursday (25 February).

Currently visiting hours at the Knoll are fairly open, allowing relatives and friends to visit patients throughout the day. The new arrangements will see visiting times reduced, but will have benefits for patients and they follow the successful changes to visiting times at the BGH which were introduced last year.

The benefits of the change in visiting times mean patients will have dedicated rest times to allow them to recuperate from their illness, to provide additional time for ongoing rehabilitation and to allow protected mealtimes.

The changes will be effective from the Thursday 25 February 2010. The new times will be: **2.30 pm- 4.30pm** and **6.30pm- 8.00pm**.

Exceptions can be made for relatives who may have transport restrictions or work commitments provided this is discussed with the Ward Sister or Charge Nurse.

Ralph Roberts, Director of Integrated Health Services said: "We all recognise that having friends and relatives visit us in hospital can lift our spirits, but it can also be quite tiring for someone who is very poorly or recovering from an operation. It is important that patients have time to rest and time to eat their meals at their own pace. Protected mealtimes have already been tried on wards at the BGH and the feedback has been very positive."

Ends

For further information, contact Public Involvement & Communications NHS Borders, telephone 01896 825589