CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION – DAY SURGERY UNIT

KEY POINTS

1. All patients attending DSU (including DOSA) must be ambulatory and self caring.

2. Patients not suitable for DSU include
   - Patients with any physical limitations e.g. paraplegia, quadriplegia
   - Patients requiring assistance with mobility.
   - Frail elderly
   - Vision impaired (legally blind), unless carer in attendance.
   - Mental impairment e.g. dementia, intellectual disability, severe anxiety disorder
   - Patients who require a fulltime carer
   - Women in the care of corrective services with guards / shackles.
   - Patients who have no one to stay with them overnight (DSU patients).

3. This list does not replace the medical criteria for DSU as determined by the anaesthetic department.

4. Patients are considered suitable if
   - They are to undergo surgery which involves an uncomplicated recovery period (i.e. minimal physiological disturbance, low risk of haemorrhage, early controlled post operative pain).
   - They are assessed as uncomplicated based on a Patient Health Questionnaire completed following referral by a surgeon.
   - They are assessed as suitable following review in the anaesthetic clinic
   - Most day surgery patients meet the medical criteria of the American Society of Anaesthesiologists (ASA) classification I or II; however some ASA III patients are also suitable if well controlled. Consideration should also be given to the type of planned surgery and anaesthesia, social factors and patient motivation.
   - All patients must have suitable home circumstances to be eligible. This includes a reliable escort to accompany them home from hospital, a travelling time that is not excessive, a responsible adult to supervise the night after surgery and access to a medical facility.