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Patient Clothing Bags

Information for patients,
relatives and staff on the use
of patient clothing bags

**PATIENT
INFORMATION**

Admission to Hospital

During your admission to hospital you will have clothing that requires washing at home. If you have soiled clothes or have an infection then we place your clothes in a special orange bag (alginate). This enables the clothes to be taken home safely.

The bag is made of a special material which means you can put it straight into the washing machine.



How do you use the clothes bag?

- Staff will place the patients clothing / laundry in the clothing bag
- The bag is closed and tied using a pink/orange soluble tie
- You can put the clothing sack in a carrier bag with handles to make it easier to carry it home
- At home take the bag with the clothes in it from the carrier bag and put it in your washing machine with detergent but with no other laundry
- The bag is suitable for washing items in hot and cold cycles'. During the first cycle clothes are released from the bag as the seam and tie dissolve within 30 seconds of the wash cycle starting
- As the seam dissolves the clothes come out of the bag and are washed as normal
- **Once this wash cycle is over remove the bag and put it in your bin – it cannot be reused**
- You must then wash the clothes with detergent at the hottest possible temperature recommended for these items
- After the second wash cycle the clothes are clean and safe to handle