

Help us, help you, tell us...

We appreciate that a visit to the Emergency Department (ED) can be stressful. It is a visit that is never planned. The ED can be a noisy and busy environment. We have put this leaflet together to let you know about the supports that are available.

If you have been diagnosed and / or self identify as being neurodivergent, please tell our team members when you arrive and are registering at the desk.



If you or your loved one that you are with, have a health passport which details your abilities and needs, a copy can be scanned to your file. The medical staff that will care for you during your visit will see this information. Emergency clinicians will do their best to see you in a way that best suits your needs.



Support Organisations

- Aspire. The Autism Spectrum Association of Ireland.
<http://www.aspireireland.ie/>
- AsIAM <https://asiam.ie/>
- Neurodiversity Ireland
<https://neurodiversityireland.com/>



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PATIENT
INFORMATION
LEAFLET

Neurodiversity & the Emergency Department

Neurodiversity

Neurodiversity is a broad term that we use to acknowledge that some people's brains work in a different way (neurodivergent). Some of the conditions (which may or may not have been formally diagnosed) that are most common among those who describe themselves as neurodivergent include:

- Autism
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Dyscalculia (difficulty with math)
- Dysgraphia (difficulty with writing)
- Dyslexia (difficulty with reading)
- Dyspraxia (difficulty with coordination)
- Down syndrome
- Intellectual Disabilities
- Sensory processing differences



Patient Liaison Officers

The ED has two Patient Liaison Officers who work six days a week 8am to 8pm.

They can help patients and care givers on what happens in the ED and the order that things are done. They can also link with the clinical staff.



Sensory Room

The ED has one sensory room. It is a space that is quiet and has low lighting. When it is available it can be used for patients who do not need a clinical space with enhanced monitoring.

The sensory room has:

- Comfortable seating with a custom-made bench
- Multi-sensory room projector
- Remote controlled lights
- Infinity tunnels
- Bluetooth music player

Support During a ED Assessment

Please tell us if you or your loved one needs pictorial aids to help with communication.

For patients discharged directly from the ED, we forward a discharge letter to their GP. If you require a hard copy of this letter, please just ask us.



Did you know?

One in 10 people in Ireland identify as being neurodivergent