How you can access the team

You can be referred to the District Nursing Service by your GP, hospital ward or outpatients department, treatment room nurse or other healthcare professionals.

The service operates from 8.30am until 5pm seven days a week (including bank holidays). When patients require planned care outside these hours they will receive it from the Evening, Overnight or 24/7 services who will undertake these activities on behalf of your District Nurse.

You can get more information about us from your GP surgery or Health Centre.

All staff will wear identification badges which enable you to confirm their identity before allowing entry into your home.

Your District Nursing Team contact number is:

___________________________

The Out of Hours contact number is:

___________________________

NHS South of Tyne and Wear (serving Gateshead Primary Care Trust, South Tyneside Primary Care Trust and Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust) is committed to raising the standard of written information for patients, their carers, people who use the NHS and the general public.

If you require further copies of this leaflet please contact: Senior Nurse Business Manager - Planned Care Tel: 0191 529 7207

This information can be made available in another format or language on request. Please contact the Communications and PR Team Tel: 0191 529 7118

Email: mopil@sotw.nhs.uk

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Working together to make South of Tyne and Wear HEALTHY FOR YOU

District Nursing Service

Gateshead Primary Care Trust
South Tyneside Primary Care Trust
Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust
What is the District Nursing Service?
District Nurses are registered nurses who have had additional specialist practitioner training.

District Nursing Sisters or Charge Nurses lead a team which includes Community Staff Nurses and Health Care Assistants. They work closely with a wide range of health and social care providers including general practitioners, therapists, dieticians, voluntary services, social services and local hospitals.

The District Nursing Service provides expert nursing care and advice in a variety of health care settings. This may include Health Centres, GP premises, Primary Care Centres, Residential Homes and the patients own home for those who are housebound.

A housebound patient is someone who is permanently or temporarily confined to their place of residence due to illness or disability and unable to use any form of transport as a means to access clinics for treatment.

How can we help you?
By providing:

• Ongoing nursing care to those who are housebound
• Long term conditions management
• Health promotion and education, and advice in relation to self-care
• Assessment of continence needs and advice about available services, treatments and products
• Referral to other specialist services as necessary
• Highly skilled care to those patients who choose to have end of life care at home
• Care that focuses on quality of life for patients with progressive illnesses or at the end of life
• Care that focuses on partnership with the patient

What you can expect?
The District Nursing Service will assess your individual health needs in order to provide highly skilled nursing care. You can expect the following from our service:

• To be treated as an individual and to have care delivered with respect, privacy and dignity
• To have care provided by a named nursing team who have the right knowledge and skills to look after you
• The district nurse will negotiate and agree an individually tailored plan of care with you. This plan of care will remain in your home for the duration of your treatment for other members of the nursing team to follow. The plan may need be revised if your condition changes
• Contact telephone numbers will be left with you to enable you to contact the community nursing services at anytime during the day or night should you require advice or assistance
• We are a learning organisation and on some occasions there may be student nurses or trainee doctors working with your District Nurse. If you do not wish to have students involved in your care then please let us know