Contact

The Alcohol Liaison Service is part of the Primary Care Alcohol and Drug Service (PCADS) run by the Whittington Hospital. The service is based in the community and can be contacted via:

PCADS administrator and referrals
Tel. 020 3316 8778
E-mail: whh-tr.alcoholdrugservice@nhs.net
Fax: 020 7690 3533

Patient advice and liaison service (PALS)
If you have a question, compliment, comment or concern please contact our PALS team on 020 7288 5551 or whh-tr.whitthealthPALS@nhs.net

If you need a large print, audio or translated copy of this leaflet please contact us on 020 7288 3182. We will try our best to meet your needs.

Whittington Health
Magdala Avenue
London
N19 5NF
Phone: 020 7272 3070

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Who will the service see?

Any adult (over 18 years old) requiring assessment and/or treatment of alcohol related problems.

Under 18s should be referred to the separate Young People’s Services.

Who cannot be seen by the service?

This service is for people with primary alcohol related problems over 18.

People with a primary drug problem or severe mental illness should be referred to appropriate services such as IDASS (Islington Drug and Alcohol Specialist Service) on 0203-317-6240 or mental health liaison services respectively.

What is the Alcohol Liaison Service?

- The alcohol liaison service (ALS) works within the Whittington hospital to offer assessment, advice and treatment for anyone with an alcohol problem which is having a significant effect on their health or who is worried about their alcohol drinking.
- This can include supervising alcohol detoxification and giving advice to doctors and nurses on the wards and in the emergency department.
- People who have started an alcohol detoxification on the ward and are otherwise fit for discharge can be assessed for suitability to be seen in the ambulatory clinic to complete their treatment course.

What will the Alcohol Liaison Service do?

- Assess alcohol problems
- Advise on treatment
- Monitor progress while in hospital
- Continue detoxifications commenced in hospital via the Ambulatory care service.
- Advise on community services in the patient’s home area
- Liaise with the patient’s GP and arrange on-going support if possible e.g. via the Primary Care Alcohol and Drugs Service (PCADS) shared care scheme.
Who works within the Alcohol Liaison Service?

The Alcohol Liaison Service is staffed by specialist nurses from Whittington’s Primary Care Alcohol and Drug Service, and the team’s Nurse Consultant, Jeff Fernandez.

How can patients be referred?

Clinical and support staff can refer patients to the Alcohol Liaison Service by Bleeping them on BL 2634, or calling PCADS on 0203 316 8778 and leaving a message with the patient’s name and date of birth, and the location within the hospital.

A specialist nurse is on duty each day to take referrals and will see patients on the same or next day.

The Aims of the Alcohol Liaison Service are to:

- Improve the management of people with alcohol problems within the hospital, reduce the discomfort experienced by people undergoing alcohol detoxification and support them through the process.

- Reduce rates of readmissions to hospital for alcohol related problems.

- Reduce alcohol related harm including the emotional, physical and psychological impacts for the individual and carers.

- Train support clinical teams in managing alcohol related problems.

- Advise on sources of support within the community following discharge.

- Prevent delayed discharges by allowing patients to complete treatment in the ambulatory care department.

- Help reduce the effect of alcohol across Islington and neighbouring boroughs.