

Preparing for your stay/Providing a safe environment

Information on what to pack & items that should not be brought in to The Victoria Clinic.

We look forward to welcoming you to The Victoria Clinic. We understand that this might be a difficult time for you. Even if you have been to the clinic before, this brochure can help you to prepare for your stay.

A safe environment for all

The Victoria Clinic aims to provide a safe environment for all patients, visitors and staff.

To achieve this certain items are regarded as items of risk in that they are potentially harmful to either you or other people. These items are categorised as prohibited, controlled or restricted.

The following lists of prohibited, controlled and restricted items are not exhaustive. Your access to items may change during your admission at the discretion of staff and assessment of risk.

We suggest you bring in a short corded recharging device and blue tooth ear phones.

Bed and belongings checks

On admission and in your presence nursing staff will conduct a property check of your belongings.

At any time during your admission, if there is a concern for your safety, a property and room search may be conducted by the nursing staff, in your presence.

When you return from leave, nursing staff will ask to check your bags for any items of risk you may inadvertently have brought with you.

Sometimes these checks will keep you waiting and we thank you for your patience and for understanding the importance of maintaining a safe environment dependent on the potential risk to you or others.

Alcohol, drugs and medicines

The Victoria Clinic requires patients and visitors not to bring alcohol, illicit substances or non-prescribed medications into the hospital.

- All prescribed medicines and over the counter medicines should be given to nursing staff on arrival in the original packaging.
- The hospital does rely on the honesty and integrity of patients, families and carers
- Any breaches of this directive may result in patient discharge and notification to Victoria Police.

Items that are prohibited

The following items can present a risk either to you or to other people. We request you do not bring them with you.

Sharp objects

- Knives of any kind
- Wire
- Razor Blades
- Cutlery
- Needles, syringes

Appliances

- Hair straighteners, curling wands or hair clippers
- Fans, heaters
- Electric blankets
- Personal irons *
- Lights or lamps

Glass

- Mirrors
- Photo frames
- Glass bottles, jars & cups
- Vases

Substances

- Alcohol
- Illicit/ illegal drugs and paraphernalia
- Non-prescribed medications

Other items

- Plastic bags
- Oil burners or candles
- Vapourisers
- E-cigarettes
- Coat hangers
- Tools
- Hot water bottles, heat packs of any kind
- Helium balloons
- Cans - soft drink & food cans
- Linen bags with cords
- Measuring & electrical tapes
- Exercise equipment

Items that are controlled

These items can be considered for temporary use by you but will be stored in a secure area by staff when not in use.

- Disposable razors
- Scissors
- Any cords over 30cm - phone chargers, ear phones, ear buds, head phones etc.
- Cables
- Hair dryer *
- Shower caps
- Electric Shaver
- Washing powder
- Nail polish remover
- Perfume Bottles
- Musical Instruments
- Art and craft materials
- Tubing
- Hospital iron *

* The hospital has a hair dryer & iron.

Items that are restricted

These items can be brought in by you but may be restricted if the treatment team are concerned for your safety or the safety of others around you. If that is the case, they may be stored securely for you. These are:

Cords, or cord-like materials

Electrical cords / chargers less than 30cm

- Dressing gown sashes
- Shoelaces
- Long bag straps
- Any other clothes with cords
- Some other clothing apparel
- Surgical tapes, bandages and slings.

Some personal items

- Tweezers and nail files
- Some jewellery and necklaces
- Nail polish, aerosols
- Metal stationary items
- Umbrellas.

What to pack

Medications

Please bring your current prescription and over-the-counter medications with you in the original packaging and give these to the nursing staff upon arrival.

A current list of medications you are taking is also very useful to ensure these are prescribed during your stay.

Paperwork

Please bring in the following paperwork (if applicable) for your admission:

- Name and contact details of your next of kin and a second contact person
- Name and contact details of your General Practitioner
- Medicare Card
- Department of Veteran's Affairs Cards
- Private Health Insurance Membership Card
- Safety Net Card
- Pharmacy Entitlement Card
- Driver's license or accepted identification
- Workcover or Transport Accident Commission insurance details
- Any letters from your doctor
- All other health records, such as x-rays or Cardiac card and/or book.

Personal items to pack

- Comfortable non-slip shoes and/or slippers
- Comfortable clothes including night attire
- Notebook and pen
- Toiletries.

Devices

You are welcome to bring devices that will make your stay more comfortable, such as mobile phones, tablets, laptops. Please do not bring in monitors and gaming systems.

To meet safety requirements, all electrical devices, including chargers, will be checked, tested and tagged by our maintenance team before they can be used.

Wireless charging pads and chargers are available in the nurses stations for charging phones.

We suggest you bring in a short corded recharging device and bluetooth earphones

Food and special diets

If you have special dietary needs, you can advise your nurse when you arrive, and our kitchen will do their best to accommodate your needs

Any questions?

Please see your nurse or the Nurse Unit Manager for any further information regarding items of risk and providing a safe environment. If you wish to provide feedback to The Victoria Clinic either speak with one of our clinical staff or complete the "Your Experience of Service" survey which is displayed at reception.