

Provisional results from en suite trials at Hillingdon 20 & 21 April 2006

Installation 1 – Rectangular room

1. Door access

	Comments
Switch on en suite light	OK for most but pull cord with hand loop preferred. Extra switch at bedside also recommended. Hands free automatic door operated light most preferred
Release door catch for entry	Door handle and horizontal bar needs to be lower. Check BS 8300
Open entry door	Space considered sufficient. Universally liked
Close door	Space considered sufficient. Universally liked
Lock catch	Catch too stiff for some, Longer lever handle would be an improvement. Lock that doesn't rely on precise location of the bolt preferred to avoid misalignment. The need for a lock was questioned.
Release catch for exit	Ditto
Open exit door	Space considered sufficient. Universally liked
Close door	Space considered sufficient. Universally liked
Lock catch	See above
Switch off en suite light	See above

2. Use toilet

	Comments
Manoeuvre to a position for getting on toilet	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Lower supporting rail	Requirement to lift rail to unlock universally disliked by those who need them for transfer. Rails generally considered to be of poor design (heavy, obstructive with leg in wrong position). Other provision needs to be investigated.
Get on toilet	Toilet roll holder position universally disliked – obstructs transfer and when seated. The door adjacent to the toilet gave extra room for transfer in exceptional difficult independent transfer.
Get toilet paper	Position unacceptable. Could be further back but a single sheet toilet dispenser on the rail was preferred.
Operate emergency call	Need for emergency cord adjacent to the toilet essential. Check BS 8300 guidelines,
Use waste bin	
	Essential to have sufficient waste bins for disposable colostomy bags, catheter bags, wipes
Use bin 2 (name)	
Use wipes	Essential for some users
Other tasks (name)	
Other tasks (name)	
Get off toilet	See above
Manoeuvre to a position for using wash basin	Space sufficient
Manoeuvre to a position for using shower	Space sufficient
Manoeuvre to a position for opening door	Space sufficient

3. Use wash basin

	Comments
Manoever to a position for using wash basin	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Location of wash basin	Universally considered too low. Check with BS 8300
Insert plug	Lever or knob operated plug preferred
Operate tap	Some would prefer two taps. If single tap, must be of the up/down for flow, left/right for temperature. Some asked why not sensor operated
Use soap dispenser	Single handed operation required
Remove plug	See above
Operate emergency call	Needs to be provision for operating cord over the whole room area in case of emergency including falls
Get paper towel	Generally OK
Discard paper towel	Required two handed operation, universally disliked, either open bin or one handed push down spring return lid.
Move away from wash basin	Space considered sufficient
Manoever to a position to exit room	Space considered sufficient
Manoever to a position for using toilet	Space considered sufficient
Manoever to a position for using shower	Space considered sufficient

4. Use shower

	Comments
Manoever to a position to access shower	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Set shower flow and temperature	Single control preferred of the up/down for flow, left/right for temperature.
Transfer to seat (or move into shower)	Some use shower chair. There are issues of stability and rigidity on wet floor or drainage area. Some want to grasp head and check temperature before entering shower. Shower head needs to be at lower height – check with BS 8300
Use shower	
Use soap dispenser	None provided. Should be between control and shower head
Operate emergency call	Must be closer to shower and further from wall. Check with BS 8300 guidance
Exit shower	
Turn off shower	See above
Get towel	None provided. Should be located on wall next to door at suitable height. Check with BS 8300
Manoever to a position to exit room	Space considered sufficient
Manoever to a position for using wash basin	Space considered sufficient
Manoever to a position for using toilet	Space considered sufficient

5. Assisted transfer in to shower (not tested, comments arrived at in conjunction with nurses)

	Without hoist	With hoist
Open entry door	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Manoeuvre wheelchair/hoisted patient into room	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Manoeuvre to a position to access shower	Not possible. Space insufficient. Nurse unable to access one side of wheelchair. Space insufficient to access shower	Not possible. Space insufficient. Nurse unable to access one side of hoist. Space insufficient to access shower
Set shower flow and temperature	NA	NA
Transfer to seat	NA	NA
Remove sling	NA	NA
Use shower	NA	NA
Use towel	NA	NA
Attach sling	NA	NA
Transfer to hoist	NA	NA
Manoeuvre hoisted patient out of room	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient

6. Assisted transfer onto toilet

	Without hoist	With hoist
Open entry door	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Manoeuvre wheelchair/hoisted patient into room	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Manoeuvre to a position to access toilet	Space sufficient. Extra door opened to allow nurse to access both sides of wheelchair.	Not possible. Space insufficient. Nurse unable to access one side of hoist. Space insufficient to access shower
Transfer to seat	Very easy. Space insufficient to transfer	Very easy
Remove sling	NA	NA
Adjust clothes	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	NA
Use toilet	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	NA
Clean patient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	NA
Adjust clothes	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	NA
Attach sling	NA	NA
Transfer to wheelchair/hoist	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	NA
Manoeuvre hoisted patient out of room	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space sufficient

Installation 2 – Room with diagonal corner

1. Door access

	Comments
Switch on en suite light	OK for most but pull cord with hand loop preferred. Extra switch at bedside also recommended. Hands free automatic door operated light most preferred
Release door catch for entry	Door handle and horizontal bar needs to be lower. Check BS 8300
Open entry door	Space considered sufficient. Universally liked
Close door	Space considered sufficient. Universally liked
Lock catch	Catch too stiff for some, Longer lever handle would be an improvement. Lock that doesn't rely on precise location of the bolt preferred to avoid misalignment. The need for a lock was questioned.
Release catch for exit	Ditto
Open exit door	Space considered sufficient. Universally liked
Close door	Space considered sufficient. Universally liked
Lock catch	See above
Switch off en suite light	See above

2. Use toilet

	Comments
Manoeuvre to a position for getting on toilet	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Lower supporting rail	Requirement to lift rail to unlock universally disliked by those who need them for transfer. Rails generally considered to be of poor design (heavy, obstructive with leg in wrong position). Other provision needs to be investigated.
Get on toilet	Toilet seat required. Need to check position of back rest to ensure seat will stay in up position (for use by men). Toilet roll holder position universally disliked – obstructs transfer. The door adjacent to the toilet gave extra room for transfer in exceptional difficult independent transfer.
Get toilet paper	Position unacceptable. Could be further back but a single sheet toilet dispenser on the rail was preferred.
Operate emergency call	Need for emergency cord adjacent to the toilet essential. Check BS 8300 guidelines
Use waste bin	
	Essential to have sufficient waste bins for disposable colostomy bags, catheter bags, wipes
Use bin 2 (name)	
Use wipes	Essential for some users
Other tasks (name)	
Other tasks (name)	
Get off toilet	See above
Manoeuvre to a position for using wash basin	Space sufficient
Manoeuvre to a position for using shower	Space sufficient
Manoeuvre to a position for opening door	Space sufficient

3. Use wash basin

	Comments
Manoever to a position for using wash basin	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Location of wash basin	Universally considered too low. Check with BS 8300
Insert plug	Lever or knob operated plug preferred
Operate tap	Some would prefer two taps. If single tap, must be of the up/down for flow, left/right for temperature. Some asked why not sensor operated
Use soap dispenser	Single handed operation required
Remove plug	See above
Operate emergency call	Needs to be provision for operating cord over the whole room area in case of emergency including falls
Get paper towel	Generally OK
Discard paper towel	Required two handed operation, universally disliked, either open bin or one handed push down spring return lid.
Move away from wash basin	Space considered sufficient
Manoever to a position to exit room	Space considered sufficient
Manoever to a position for using toilet	Space considered sufficient
Manoever to a position for using shower	Space considered sufficient

4. Use shower

	Comments
Manoeuvre to a position to access shower	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Set shower flow and temperature	Single control preferred of the up/down for flow, left/right for temperature.
Transfer to seat (or move into shower)	LH and RH rail required. Some use shower chair. There are issues of stability and rigidity on wet floor or drainage area. Some want to grasp head and check temperature before entering shower. Shower head needs to be at lower height – check with BS 8300
Use shower	Some participants need to grasp shower head (at suitable height) to shower all over
Use soap dispenser	None provided. Should be between control and shower head
Operate emergency call	Must be closer to shower and further from wall . Check with BS 8300 guidance
Exit shower	
Turn off shower	See above
Get towel	None provided. Should be located on wall next to door at suitable height. Check with BS 8300
Manoeuvre to a position to exit room	Space considered sufficient
Manoeuvre to a position for using wash basin	Space considered sufficient
Manoeuvre to a position for using toilet	Space considered sufficient

5. Assisted transfer in to shower

	Without hoist	With hoist
Open entry door	Very easy	Very easy
Manoever patient into room with wheelchair/hoist	NA	Very easy
Manoever to a position to access shower	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Set shower flow and temperature	Very easy	Very easy
Transfer/lower patient to seat	Very easy. Space considered sufficient for assistant to stand on both sides of the shower seat	Space considered just adequate for assistant to stand on both sides of the shower seat
Remove sling	NA	Space considered just adequate for assistant to stand on both sides of the shower seat
Use shower	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Space considered just adequate for assistant to stand on both sides of the shower seat
Use towel	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Space considered just adequate for assistant to stand on both sides of the shower seat
Attach sling	NA	Space considered just adequate for assistant to stand on both sides of the shower seat
Transfer to wheelchair/hoist	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Space considered just adequate for assistant to stand on both sides of the shower seat
Manoever patient out of room	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient

6. Assisted transfer onto toilet

	Without hoist	With hoist
Open entry door	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Manoeuvre patient into room with wheelchair/hoist	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Manoeuvre to a position to access shower	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Set shower flow and temperature	Very easy	Very easy
Transfer/lower patient to seat	Very easy. Space considered sufficient for assistant to stand on both sides of the shower seat	Very easy. Space considered sufficient for assistant to stand on both sides of the shower seat
Remove sling	NA	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Use shower	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Use towel	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Attach sling	NA	Space considered sufficient
Transfer to wheelchair/hoist	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient
Manoeuvre patient out of room	Very easy. Space considered sufficient	Very easy. Space considered sufficient

Essential items required by participants and missing in trial set up

1. Shelf adjacent to wash basin for hygiene items
2. Shelf adjacent to shower for hygiene items
3. Towel and rail next to shower
4. Towel and rail next to wash basin
5. Shower handset
6. Wipes dispenser
7. Container for disposal of wipes
8. Rubber gloves container
9. Mirror above wash basin
10. Toilet seat
11. Hooks for clothes
12. Shower curtains

Recommendations

1. Provision of above items
2. Provision of second rail around second installation shower seat
3. Provision of handle on second (LH) door
4. Larger handle for toilet flush
5. Alter native toilet paper dispenser and relocation
6. More height adjustment for shower head
7. Provision on vertical rail below shower head rail
8. Provision of paper towel bin with single spring operated lid (or open bin)
9. Provision of more suitable control for wash basin and shower (as described)
10. Provision of non slip flooring to avoid wheelchair movement when floor is wet and wheels are locked
11. Investigate are for drainage under shower
12. Provision of shallower wash basin
13. Provision of adjustable wash basin
14. Provision of sideways adjustable shower seat for rectangular room