



Tallaght
University
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Ospidéal
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An Academic Partner of Trinity College Dublin

Patient Clothing Bags

Information for patients,
relatives and staff on the
use of patient clothing bags

PATIENT
INFORMATION
BOOKLET

During your stay in the hospital

If any of the clothes you have are soiled or if you have an infection then we place your clothes in a special orange bag (alginate). This makes it safe to bring the clothes home. The bag is made of a special material which means the person washing it can put it straight into the washing machine. This means they avoid handling any soiled items.



How do you use the clothes bag?

Staff will place the patients clothing / laundry in the clothing bag. They will close the bag and seal it with a pink/orange soluble tie.

To carry the bag home you can the clothing sack in a carrier bag with handles to make it easier to carry.

When you get home take the bag with the clothes in it out of the carrier bag and put them straight into the washing machine with detergent. Do not include any other laundry in this wash.

The bag is suitable for washing items in hot or cold cycles'. During the first cycle clothes are released from the bag as the seam and tie dissolve within 30 seconds of the wash cycle starting

As the seam dissolves the clothes come out of the bag and are washed as normal

Once this wash cycle is over remove the bag and put it in your bin – it cannot be reused

You must then wash the clothes again with detergent at the hottest possible temperature recommended for these items

After the second wash cycle the clothes are clean and safe to handle.