Red Nutrition and Hydration Equipment

Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham NHS
Part of University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

Red equipment provides a signal that a patient requires assistance to eat and drink

Registered Practitioner identifies that the patient requires **Red Equipment** when eating and drinking because the patient:

- Requires physical assistance to eat and drink
- Requires support and encouragement to eat and drink
- Requires adapted cutlery, non slip mats or plate guards

The reason for the Red Equipment must be documented in the care plan/MUST assessment or in the patient's notes.

Senior Sister/Charge Nurses must have a local process in place, to identify patients requiring **Red Equipment** in their ward areas.

Nursing must ensure the **Red Tray Required** box at the top of the patient's menu card has a dot inserted. This informs the ward caterers to provide **Red Trays**.

Housekeeping staff

Ensure all identified patients receive a **Red Jug**.

All staff must ensure that patients are encouraged to have a drink of appropriate consistency during every care round.

Ward caterers

Ensure all patients with the **Red Equipment Box** on the menu card, identified by a dot are provided with a Red Tray.

Nursing must ensure the individual needs of the patient are met *eg* adapted cutlery, appropriate diet consistency and assistance/ support/encouragement provided if required.

Nursing must ensure patient's trays are removed at the end of the meal and document food and fluid intake as required.

How to Obtain Red/Specialist Equipment (Red jugs, lids, beakers, blue and red trays)

All red equipment can be supplied from Catering Stores

Contact the Catering Team Leaders on extensions 12681, 12687