

# How Important Are Learning Disability Nurses?

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Graeme's Story

# How Important Are Learning Disability Nurses?



- Hello my name is Graeme ...  
I have Autism and I have  
a Learning Disability



- This is my story of having  
a hip replacement at  
Rotherham Hospital

# How Important Are Learning Disability Nurses?



- I had a Learning Disability Liaison Nurse to support me in Rotherham Hospital when I was having a hip replacement

**NHS**



- The Learning Disability Liaison Nurse supported me through the whole journey of having a hip replacement. She supported me to pre-op assessments and helped me to understand what the operation was about

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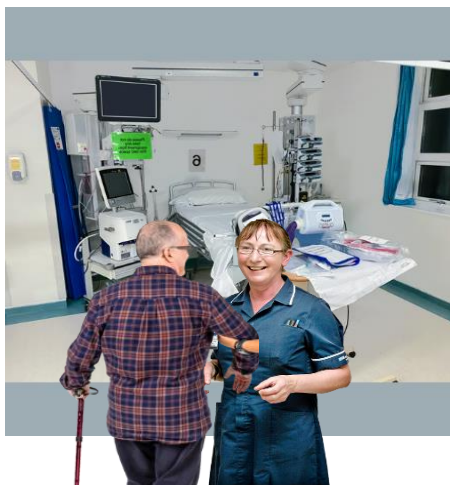
- I talked to the Learning Disability Liaison Nurse about my Autism and what I was anxious about ... for example
  - I don't like a lot of noise
  - I want to have a room on my own
  - And I also find it hard to trust new people and understand their communication

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- She was really good at reassuring me and suggested that just before my operation I would be able to have a walk through of the whole journey to having my operation
- I went to the ward and had a look round it, they showed me the room I would be staying in, I got to see the staff that would be looking after me, I was also able to see the pre-theatre room

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- Doing this gave me a lot of reassurance and lessened my anxieties massively, I felt less overwhelmed by the whole process ...

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- After I had the operation the Learning Disability Liaison Nurse came to see me to see how I was doing, she supported me in meetings with the surgeon to make sure I understood the recovery process



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- The learning Disability Nurse also liaised with my social worker to make sure I had the right care at home; so I was able to leave the hospital and recover at home

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- I think the work of a Learning Disability Liaison Nurse is so important and in my experience made the whole journey of going into the hospital so much easier

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- I felt listened to, I felt she understood my communication needs ... and it made me feel positive having my operation

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Thank you for listening to my story