



**Do you really need A&E? Patients asked to think twice before coming to  
Russells Hall Hospital**

**PRESS RELEASE**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Our Emergency Department is extremely busy at the moment. If your condition isn't serious or life-threatening, you should use another NHS service.

If you do come to hospital with minor conditions, you could have a very long wait as our most poorly patients will be seen and treated first.

To help reduce the pressure on our emergency services, we need patients to use NHS 111, the 'Ask NHS' app, local pharmacists or their GPs rather than coming to the Emergency Department at Russells Hall Hospital.

"Our A&E is really busy at the moment, so we're asking that you support us to ensure we can treat the sickest patients as a priority. We also ask that you only come to A&E if you really need this level of care," said Siobhan Jordan, Chief Nurse.

"If patients aren't sure which service is right them, they can call NHS 111 or use the new Ask NHS app which will help direct them to the most appropriate place for their needs."

**\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\***

For more information, please call Alice Ford, Communications and Staff Engagement Officer for The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust on (01384) 244403 or [communiactions@dgh.nhs.uk](mailto:communiactions@dgh.nhs.uk)