Participants familiarised themselves with the talking mats exercise by placing 'warm up cards' (pictures which had nothing to do with hospitals) under one of three headings: 'Like' (accompanied by cartoon picture of a smiley face), 'Not sure' (accompanied by cartoon picture of a neutral face) or 'Don't like' (accompanied by cartoon picture of an unhappy face).

## List of warm up cards

Television Cats
Swimming Train
Dogs Coffee
Broccoli Dentist

Participants were then asked to complete the talking mats exercise using cards relevant to hospitals. Cards were given to the participant in no set order.

## List of hospital related cards

Doctor

Nurse

**Transport** 

**Ambulance** 

Hospital food

Injection

**Tablets** 

Hospital beds

Waiting

Taking blood

**Visitors** 

Not sure

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Example of one participant's completed Talking Mats<sup>™</sup> exercise

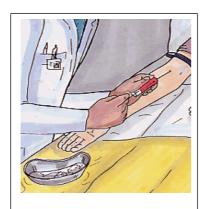
X-ray

Hospital [photograph of the appropriate hospital or simple image of a hospital]

## **Examples**



**Hospital food** 



**Taking blood** 



Nurse

Pictures taken from Going Into Hospital,  $\odot$  Sheila Hollins and Denise Redmond. See www.booksbeyondwords.co.uk



**Hospital beds** 



**Visitors** 



Waiting