Inpatient Admissions

Patient Information

Where do I attend on the day of surgery?

Your admission letter will inform you what your treatment plan will be and where to attend. The main theatre reception is a pre-operative waiting area where patients are admitted on the day of surgery.

Where is the Main Theatres Reception?

The main theatres complex is accessed by the hospital corridor leading from the visitor car park (follow the sign to all wards and departments). The main theatres reception is at the end of this corridor on the right hand side. If you are being dropped off at the Main Entrance, turn right immediately on entering the building and follow the corridor to the end.

Before you arrive

We ask that you contact us between midday and 6pm the day before your surgery to confirm your admission time. You will also be given instructions about when you should stop eating and drinking (if applicable).

Main Theatres Reception: Tel: 01342 414522

What happens once I arrive?

The nursing staff will take you through to a consulting room were you will be seen by your surgeon and/or anaesthetist.

The nurse attending you will explain the process of the day. The nurse will ensure that all the admission paperwork is correct and that the pre-operative checklist is fully completed and signed off before you leave the area.

Some tests will be carried out, including taking your temperature, pulse rate, respiration, blood pressure and oxygen saturation.

When you are required to change into your theatre gown all male and female patients will be separated into another waiting area.

Once you are ready for theatre, you will be taken to the theatre/ anaesthetic bay where you will then be helped on to your bed.

If you have any anxieties about where you will be recovering after surgery we will be happy to take you to the ward and introduce you to the staff that will be caring for you.

What should I bring with me?

We advise you to bring only one small hold-all or suitcase with a reasonable amount of clothes, toiletries and reading material. Please do not bring a large suitcase; bring just what you need for the day and, if necessary, ask a relative or friend to bring the rest of your belongings to the ward when they visit you.

Please bring all your medications with you.

What will happen to my property?

Your property will be stored in the appropriate locked facilities and then transferred by the nursing staff to the relevant ward you will be staying on. We advise you not to bring any unnecessary valuables with you on the day. Any money you may need could be brought to you by your relative or friend when they first visit you.

We will ensure that your own medication and any valuables you do bring are recorded in the patient property book.

Will my friend/relative be allowed to stay with me in main theatre reception?

Unfortunately we are not able to accommodate any other people in this area except patients and patient’s carers. Visitors will be asked to leave once you have been admitted.

They will be able to come back and visit you later, when you are settled on to a ward. Usual ward visiting times are 2-5pm and 6-8pm.

May I eat and drink?

You will be given a specific time as to when you need to stop eating and drinking when we speak to you on the day before your admission.

Normally, you need to stop eating food, including sweets and chewing gum and stop drinking tea or coffee with milk at least six hours before your operation. This is likely to mean you will have already begun fasting before your admission.

You need to stop drinking water and clear fluids (i.e. black tea/coffee) at least two hours before your scheduled operation.

The nursing staff try their best to give you accurate fasting times but sometimes, due to circumstances beyond our control, your position in the operating list may be changed and you may be delayed.

Can I use my mobile phone?

You may use your phone but as other people will be in the area we ask you respect their privacy and only use them if absolutely necessary. Using the device for audio purpose is fine as long as you have ear phones.

Contact Us

Finally, if you have any queries before your admission, please do not hesitate to contact us where we will be happy to answer your queries.

Please ask if you

would like this leaflet

in larger print or an

alternative format.

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