

## Local anaesthetic Information

Your minor operation will be carried out using a local anaesthetic.

Local anaesthesia involves injections which numb a small part of your body. It is used for a variety of minor surgical procedures. It allows quick, effective and painless surgery whilst you are still awake. You will be asked to keep quite still while the injections are given. You may notice a warm tingly feeling as the anaesthetic begins to take effect.

### Confirming your appointment

Please telephone three days before your operation to confirm your appointment.

Tel: 01342 414300 or 414141

It is essential that you arrive on time at the hospital for your appointment. If you need to change an appointment please let us know as soon as possible and a new date will be discussed and agreed with you. We will make every effort to avoid changing your appointment, but we regret that occasionally this happens due to unavoidable circumstances.

### Getting to hospital

It is not essential for adults to be accompanied to and from the hospital, but you may prefer this and feel happier if someone is available to take you home.

If you plan to drive after having a procedure performed under local anaesthetic, you must contact your insurance company to check that you are covered by your insurance.

### Smoking

Smoking and smoky atmospheres may affect your healing process. Please avoid smoking or smoky atmospheres before your appointment and until your wound has healed.

Please note that the hospital has a no smoking policy, which means that smoking is not permitted on the premises, in doorways or in the hospital grounds.

### On the day of surgery

We advise you to have a normal breakfast or lunch and to continue to drink normally before coming to the hospital.

If you are taking medicines, you should continue to take them as usual, unless you have been asked not to by a doctor and you have this in writing preferably. Please bring your prescription or medicines with you and show them to the doctor.

Please make use of the toilet facilities before your operation so that you will feel more comfortable throughout your procedure.

### **How will I feel after surgery?**

We recommend that you take a painkiller before the numbness of the local anaesthetic wears off, as you may experience some discomfort then. Take any mild painkiller that you would normally take for a headache. Always read and follow the instructions, warnings and dosage on the bottle or packet.

If you have been prescribed painkillers follow the instructions, warnings and dosage given to you by the medical staff.

If you are prescribed antibiotics, you must complete the course.

### **Care of your wound after surgery**

If you have had stitches (sutures), these are usually dissolvable and will disappear naturally. Your wound may need to be checked at a follow-up appointment. Further information may be given to you about this.

If you are concerned or worried about your stitches, contact the Maxillofacial Unit for advice.

If a sample of skin is removed from your face, you may need an appointment about six days after the procedure to have your stitches removed, either at this hospital or by the practice nurse at your GP surgery.

### **Further questions**

It is important that you understand what this procedure involves and have talked through any concerns with your doctor beforehand.

If you have any questions or worries either before treatment or afterwards, please ask a member of the medical or nursing staff or telephone

### **Switchboard**

**Tel: 01342 414000**

and ask for the maxillofacial secretary of the named consultant. For urgent enquiries out of hours, please ask for the maxillofacial doctor on duty.

**Please ask if you would like this leaflet in larger print or an alternative format.**