Welcome to the QVH Community Diagnostic Centre

A referral guide for GP practices



About us

The QVH Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) is located on the Queen Victoria Hospital site. Our aim is to provide quick and convenient access to a range of diagnostic services closer to home. Our service is designed to support primary care by offering a 'one stop shop' for diagnostics for local patients.

Through our innovative symptom-based pathways, we aim to reduce waiting times, support faster clinical decision making and enable timely diagnosis and management, without the need for referral into an acute hospital setting.

Our approach is quick, convenient diagnostics closer to home, with coordinated clinical pathways that support primary care and timely decision making.

What we offer

Diagnostic imaging (via ICE)

- X-ray
- Ultrasound
- CT
- MRI
- DEXA

Physiological tests (via e-RS)

- Spirometry (+/- reversibility)
- Fractional Exhaled Nitric Oxide (FeNO)

Further diagnostic support (as a part of pathways)

- Full lung function and exercise testing
- ECG, Echocardiogram, 24-hour ambulatory tape
- Sleep studies
- Tele-dermatology
- Phlebotomy
- Visual field diagnostic
- Glaucoma virtual clinic (inc. visual field and other diagnostic tests)
- Intraoral photos.

Services are arranged through the relevant referral route and, where appropriate, as part of a coordinated symptom-based pathway.

Diagnostic pathways (symptom-based)

For some symptoms, we can arrange tests as part of a pathway, which may reduce the number of appointments required and provide clinical input.

Pathway	What it includes
Breathlessness pathway	For patients with chronic, unexplained breathlessness (>8 weeks). Includes coordinated respiratory and cardiac investigations with virtual MDT review.
Insomnia pathway	For patients with suspected primary insomnia. Includes comprehensive triage and where appropriate, home diagnostic testing and consultant input.
Skin pathway (USC)	Medical photographs reviewed by a consultant.
Bone health pathway	DEXA scanning with consultant advice on management of osteopenia/osteoporosis.

Referral overview

- All referrals to the CDC must be made via the NHS e-Referral Service (e-RS), or ICE for imaging modalities.
- Referrals must be made by a medical practitioner (e.g. GP).
- Self-referrals are not accepted.

How to refer via ICE (if on-boarded)

Follow these simple steps:

1. **Step 1** – Click ICE Icon
2. **Step 2** – Select patient
3. **Step 3** – Choose:
   GP Imaging
   Pathology
4. **Step 4** – Select Test(s) required and input clinical information
5. **Step 5** – Click Continue
6. **Step 6** – Complete General Details and Accept

ICE onboarding
To on-board for ICE contact the QVH Clinical Systems Team qvh.systemshelpdesk@nhs.net

How to refer via e-RS

Follow these simple steps:

1. **Step 1** - Search for your patient in e-RS
2. **Step 2** - Select “Refer or Seek Advice”
3. **Step 3** - Search and select the appropriate QVH CDC service
   Specialty: e.g. Community Diagnostic Centre
   Clinic Type: e.g. Breathlessness (chronic/undiagnosed)
4. **Step 4** - Upload the relevant referral form
5. **Step 5** - Send for triage

Referral form
A single-page referral form is available on the QVH website or via your local template management system (e.g. Ardens). Completed forms should be uploaded and submitted via e-RS.

Where to find each pathway / service

Request or pathway	Specialty	Clinic type	Service name
ICE imaging/ Pathology requests	Request via ICE, see above	—	—
Spirometry referral	Community Diagnostic Centres	Breathlessness (chronic / undiagnosed)	QVH CDC Spirometry Test Triage
Breathlessness referral	Community Diagnostic Centres	Breathlessness (chronic / undiagnosed)	QVH CDC Breathlessness Pathway – Triage Service

Request or pathway	Specialty	Clinic type	Service name
Insomnia referral	Sleep Medicine	Insomnia	CDC Insomnia Diagnostic Pathway Triage – QVH Community Diagnostic Centre
Skin USC (Telederm) referral	2WW	2WW Skin	Urgent Suspected Cancer Skin Hospital Triage – Queen Victoria Hospital
Bone Health Pathway referral	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	To be confirmed

If you have any problems referring, please email us at qvh.cdc@nhs.net

After referral

Results are returned via GP Connect or within your clinical system (ICE).

Why refer to the QVH CDC?

We have some of the best patient feedback in the country. In the latest CQC adult inpatient survey, we were joint top in the country for patient experience.

Reasons to refer

- Faster access to diagnostics
- Improved patient experience
- High-quality, coordinated pathways
- Reduced burden on acute services.

Contact the CDC Team

Breathlessness pathway or Spirometry
📞 01342 414438
📧 qvh.cdc@nhs.net

Imaging queries
📞 01342 414249
📧 qvh.xray@nhs.net

Sleep Disorder Centre – CDC Insomnia
📞 01342 305420
📧 qvh.sleepdisordercentre@nhs.net

Further information

🌐 www.qvh.nhs.uk/community-diagnostic-centre

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