

Some information about your referral

Dear Patient

Following your recent visit/phone call, we have arranged for you to be referred for tests or to see a hospital specialist team.

This referral is to investigate your symptoms and find out what is wrong and if it could be cancer. Most patients referred in this way are **NOT** found to have cancer. This type of referral is called an Urgent Suspected Cancer or Fast Track Referral.

Such referrals used to be known as “2 week waits”. This doesn’t mean that reassurance or diagnosis takes longer now. Our aim is to rule out or diagnose cancer within 28 days for most of our patients. This means some clinics will arrange an appointment or test within a few days, for other clinics it may be 3 to 4 weeks, but several tests may be done on that day and the results available quickly.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR APPOINTMENT

It is really important that you attend any hospital appointments or are available for tests or phone calls. Please inform the hospital as soon as possible if you can’t get to an appointment or you need any assistance with attending.

- Your appointments with the hospital may be with a specialist Doctor or Nurse and may be
 - face to face
 - by phone or video call
 - a test (e.g. scan or camera)
- The hospital team will usually contact you within one week of the referral to advise what will happen next. Please note they cannot always give you a definite date straight away.
- Sometimes, your GP practice may have booked a hospital appointment and given you the details or they may give you information for you to book an appointment. If this is unclear please ask.

If you have not had contact from the hospital within one week, please contact them if you have been given their telephone number. If not, please call the surgery on (0151) 256 9800 to speak with one of us.

You can usually take someone with you to an appointment if you wish to, but if the patients’ waiting room is full they may be asked to wait nearby.

You can find further information here:

<https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/cancer-symptoms/what-is-an-urgent-referral>

It is normal to worry when you are referred urgently. Our priority is to ensure you are assessed as quickly as possible. Please call your GP practice to speak with one of us if you have concerns or need any help regarding your referral.

Kind Regards

Ellergreen Medical Centre