

First Outpatient Appointment – Thoracic Surgery Service

Introduction

The Covid pandemic has had a significant impact on the NHS ability to provide routine elective services. We recognise that patients are waiting longer than we would all like and it is not always possible to identify when treatment will take place. This document provides you with information on how you are able to support yourself while waiting to attend the hospital. The guidance has been written by clinicians who are responsible for your care.

Thoracic Surgery is a surgical specialty that cares for a range of conditions associated with the need for an operation on you either your chest or lungs.

As a patient you will have been referred by your either your GP or our Respiratory teams to explore the surgical options for your condition.

Please read the following information in conjunction with the staying healthy guidance and also the clinical guidelines for your specific procedure/condition.

What to bring to face to face clinics

In preparation for your clinic appointment please prepare and bring with you;

- A detailed medical history
- A list of your current medications
- Your current social situation; e.g. do you live with someone, are you a carer for them, are you working and type of occupation etc.

You may be asked to come into have a blood test, an x-ray, an ECG or another form of scan.

Guidance for Patients

We aim to keep the waiting times while in Outpatients Clinic as short as possible. You are welcome to bring a friend/relative with you for your consultation. At your appointment the doctor will go through your case and any images with you and will provide you with a plan for your condition. You might be added to the surgical waiting list and you might undergo some basic preoperative investigations (blood tests, electrocardiogram, infection swabs) following the consultation.

The doctor will dictate a letter to your GP following the consultation and you will receive a copy of it in a few days. Please inform the doctor in the clinic if you do NOT want to receive copy of the medical letters.

My Planned Care Patient Information Platform

What should I do if my health is deteriorating?

If your health is deteriorating, please contact your GP who will be able to contact our surgical teams with the relevant information.

Contact Us

Secretary to Mr De La Vina; Mr Hernandez and Mr Martin-Ucar

02476 965681 or 02476 965560

Switchboard: 02476 964000