

## First Outpatient Appointment – Cardiac 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.

Cardiac Surgery is a surgical specialty that cares for a range of conditions associated with the need for an operation on your heart. We look after patients that have been referred for the consideration of the following procedures;

- Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery (CABG)
- Aortic Valve Replacement Surgery (AVR)
- Mitral Valve Surgery
- Aortic replacement
- Atrial Fibrillation Ablation

As a patient you will have been referred by your Cardiology Team to explore these 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

Information for patients regarding Cardiac Surgery can be found via the British Heart Foundation website, with the Cardiac Liaison Service at UHCW recommending;

Heart Surgery Changed My Life - [Heart surgery guide - Heart Conditions | BHF](#)

How I Live With Heart Valve Disease - [Heart valve disease | British Heart Foundation \(bhf.org.uk\)](#)

## **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**

Cardiac Liaison Service: 02476 965803