

Pain-relief after your surgery

You are due to attend the University Hospital South Manchester (UHSM) for a day-case surgery procedure. It is expected that after your surgery, you will experience some pain and discomfort for which you may need to take pain killers (analgesics).

At UHSM we do not normally supply the painkillers (analgesics) listed below to patients attending for day-case procedures. This is because these medicines can be bought from local pharmacies at a lower cost. This will mean that those of you who normally pay a prescription charge will not have to pay this charge. It will also benefit you for not having to wait for medication to be supplied and you will be able to get discharged sooner.

We therefore recommend that you buy painkillers from a local pharmacy **before** attending the hospital for surgery. The pharmacist working in the local pharmacy will be able to advise on which painkillers are appropriate for you by asking you questions about any medical conditions you have and other medicines that you might be taking. Possible painkillers include;

- Paracetamol 500mg tablets
- Ibuprofen 400mg tablets
- Co-codamol 8mg/500mg tablets (contains paracetamol – do not take additional paracetamol)

Please read the patient information leaflet contained within the packet and follow the instructions on the outside of the packet.

If, after your surgery, the doctor looking after you decides that you need any additional medicines, such as antibiotics, these will be supplied by the hospital before you are discharged. You will be required to pay a prescription charge for the additional medicines unless you are exempt.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact UHSM Medicines Helpline on 0161 291 3331 (Monday- Friday 9am -5pm).

