

Information for Patients

Day Surgery Services

This leaflet is intended to answer some of your questions about your visit and surgery within the Day Surgery Services at Manchester Royal Eye Hospital. If you have further questions after reading this please speak to a member of the nursing staff on your admission or contact the department on the numbers provided at the end of this leaflet.

Q. Can someone come into the Day Case Unit with me?

A. We welcome relatives and carers to wait with you in the unit until your surgery and discharge. However, because of space limitations we ask that only one person stays with you in the main area, other relatives/carers are welcome to wait in the waiting room.

Q. Why does someone who arrived after me go into theatre before me?

A. There can be several theatres running at any one time. You will have a place on a 'theatre list' and the nurse admitting you will let you know about this list. The list order will depend on the type of surgery being performed. Some patients have clinically more urgent problems and these patients can take priority. If you have any questions please speak with a nurse in the department.

Q. My appointment letter stated to arrive by a certain time yet I am still waiting. Why?

A. Patients are requested to arrive at a certain time so they can be admitted and seen by the operating surgeon and/or anaesthetist. The list order can sometimes be changed by the surgeon for medical reasons which could delay your theatre time. We try and ensure this does not happen but sometimes a patient's circumstances might require this change. We aim to keep you informed of any changes during your stay with us.

Q. How long am I going to be here?

A. Whatever time you attend you should expect to be here for half a day because theatre times can vary. However, your stay will also depend on the procedure you are having done. We like you to stay with us a minimum of 30 minutes after your procedure to ensure you are well and have received your discharge information. However, this can vary depending on whether you have had a local or general anaesthetic including any sedation. The nurse who admits you will advise you on this.

Q. I have been asked to attend urgently, what will happen?

A. If you have been asked to attend for an urgent procedure then you will be added to an emergency theatre list. Because this is an emergency list it can be unpredictable and we cannot always be specific on the time you will go to theatre. We aim to discuss this with your surgeon when you are admitted, who can usually provide an indication of your anticipated theatre time. The nurse that admits you will provide any information about your stay.

Q. What about my valuables when I go into theatre?

A. We always advise that valuables are not brought into hospital as we are not responsible for what you keep with you; however, we do have limited storage space, some of which can be locked. The unit does have a safe so if you require any items locking away whilst you are in theatre please speak with the nurse who will arrange this for you.

Q. What if I am in pain following my procedure?

A. When you are admitted the nurse will assess you for pain and discomfort. During your stay and upon your return to the unit following your operation you will continue to be assessed for any pain or discomfort. We are able to provide pain relief if you need it and you will find information about pain and how we can help by your chair.

Q. What if I need eye drops/ointment or medication to take home?

A. When you are discharged following your operation you will be provided with any medications and information about the care of your eye at home. We are able to dispense most medications from the unit but occasionally they might be required from the pharmacy department. This can sometimes delay your discharge but we aim to keep you informed if this is the case.

Q. When can I go back to work and when can I drive?

A. Driving and going back to work will depend on the operation you have had. We do not advise driving yourself after any operation as the surgery could affect your vision and could invalidate your motor insurance. We advise you speak with your surgeon and a nurse on the unit should you require guidance about this.

Should you require any further information please contact a member of staff on (0161) 276 5442 Monday – Friday 7.30am – 7.30pm excluding public holidays.

