



Information for Patients: About your Cancer Exclusion Clinic Appointment

This leaflet explains what to expect on the day of your appointment at the Cancer Exclusion Clinic. We hope it will answer some of your questions. By explaining what happens in our clinic we hope you will feel less worried about coming.

Why have I been referred?

You have been referred to our Cancer Exclusion Clinic to be seen by a specialist. Your doctor wants you to have some tests to find out the cause of your recent symptoms. Most women we see do not have a serious diagnosis but sometimes the symptoms you have been having are caused by cancer of the female reproductive system. You have been referred on a 'two week wait' appointment to rule this out as quickly as possible.

What to expect on the day

You will be seen by either a doctor or a specialist nurse (or both). You may be seen by a male or female member of staff. As we are a teaching hospital there may be student doctors or nurses present. If you would prefer not to have a student there. Please inform a member of staff.

Depending on your symptoms you may have a number of investigations performed during your appointment. These may be:

A transvaginal ultrasound scan

This is an internal scan that is used to have a closer look at the female reproductive system, particularly your womb (uterus) and ovaries. It involves having a small probe gently inserted into the vagina using lubricating gel. This may feel a little uncomfortable but should not be painful.

A blood test

You may have bloods taken on the day of your appointment.

A pelvic examination

You may have had this examination performed by your GP. A doctor will use their hands to feel your abdomen and pelvis. They will also use their fingers (gloved and with some lubricating gel) to examine your vagina or back passage. This may feel a little uncomfortable but should not be painful. Please let the doctor know if you do feel any pain. A female member of staff will join your doctor to chaperone this examination.

Why to expect on the day

A speculum examination

This examination uses a plastic or metal speculum to check the neck of the womb (cervix). The speculum is inserted gently into the vagina with some lubricating gel. You may have had this done before during a smear test. It may be a little uncomfortable but should not be painful. A female member of staff will join your doctor to chaperone this examination.

A biopsy

If your scan shows a thickened lining of the womb, a lump, or changes to the skin of your vulva is noted, a biopsy may be taken. This will allow the lab to have a closer look. A sample from the lining of the womb may be painful, like heavy period cramps, but should only last for 5- 10 seconds. A sample of the vulva is done with the skin numbed.

What to bring with you on the day

- Please bring an up to date list of all of your medications
- Feel free to bring a friend or family member with you for support
- You may wish to bring a pad as some of the investigations or procedures performed may lead to spotting

If you need to attend an ultrasound scan before your appointment this will be indicated in the appointment letter you have received. You will be informed of your scan time when your appointment is booked.

If you are given an ultrasound appointment it is very important that you attend. Your clinic's doctor will need the results to make a diagnosis.

Please arrive with an empty bladder and you will be having an internal (transvaginal) scan. Please inform staff if you are allergic to latex.

The ultrasound department is found on the ground floor at the back of Saint Mary's Hospital. Please inform the scan department reception desk when you arrive.

The reception desk for your clinic appointment is also on the ground floor, on the right-hand side as you enter the atrium. Please inform the reception staff when you have arrived.





Can I still attend my appointment if I am on my period?

Yes, as we are aiming to see you as quickly as possible it is fine for you to attend your appointment it is fine for you to attend if you are on your period.

How to get here

By train: If you arrive at Piccadilly or Victoria train stations, get the tram or walk to Piccadilly Gardens and use the buses below. From Oxford Road train station you can also use any of the buses below.

By bus: From Piccadilly Gardens any of the following buses will take you to the Hospitals: 11, 14, 15, 16, 16A, 41, 42, 42A, 43, 44, 45, 46/47, 48, 50, 111, 130, 150, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 147, 157, 191, 197, 223. There is also the Oxford Road Link 147 bus service which runs every ten minutes throughout the day, Monday- Friday, 7.15am- 6.50pm.

By road: The Hospitals are next to the University of Manchester so you can follow signs to the Universities also. The postcode is M13 9WL.

Parking: Please note the nearest car park is on the corner of Hathersage Road and Upper Brook Street. There are drop-off areas and blue badge holder parking closer to the hospital via the Hathersage Road entrance.

Do you need an interpreter?

Please note, if English is not your first language, the hospital does not allow relatives or friends to act as an interpreter during your appointment. If you require an interpreter please phone us on the number below to arrange one. We offer a telephone interpretation service or an interpreter can attend your appointment with you on the day.

If you need to change or cancel your appointment

As we are aiming to see you as quickly as possible, please make every effort to attend the appointment date and time you have been given. Changing an appointment will usually mean a later appointment date, delaying your care.

If you do need to change or cancel your appointment, please contact us as soon as possible on the numbers below.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact 0161 701 4455, Option 2, then
Option 3