



**PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET**

# **WARD F16- SURGICAL PRE- OPERATIVE ASSESSMENT**

## **WHAT IS A PRE-OPERATIVE (PRE- OP) ASSESSMENT AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?**

A Pre- Op is an assessment carried out by a nurse to find out about your general health, medications and lifestyle.

This assessment allows us to highlight any medical conditions which may need further investigation or support pre or post operatively and ensures you are fit to undergo a surgical procedure.

## **WHAT DOES A PRE-OP INVOLVE?**

- Blood Tests
- Height and Weight
- Observations including Blood Pressure & Pulse
- You will be asked questions relating to your:
  - Medication History
  - Lifestyle and Social History
  - Medical History
  - Travel/Infection History
- Consent for surgery if this has not been performed already.

Additional tests may be carried out depending on past medical history and medical conditions.

These can include but are not limited to:

- ECG (a non-invasive test that checks your heart's rhythm)
- Chest X Ray (a non-invasive test that produces images of your heart and lungs)
- Swabs, such as MRSA to check for infection
- Anaesthetic Review

If any of the above tests are required, your nurse will explain in further detail what these involve and why they are required.

## HOW LONG DOES THE APPOINTMENT TAKE?

You will be allocated a 45-minute appointment for your pre op assessment however this can often vary from person to person depending on a number of factors such as:

- The procedure you are scheduled for
- Your past medical history and whether you require further tests because of your medical history.

**We recommend that you allow up to 2 hours for the appointment**

## WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING TO THE APPOINTMENT?

- A written list of medications or a recent prescription
- Information about previous operations or medical conditions
- Any family medical history such as cancers, heart conditions and diabetes which may be relevant to your surgical procedure.

## WHAT INFORMATION WILL I RECEIVE?

- What to expect when you come into hospital
- Time and date of attendance for surgery
- Expected recovery time
- Details of the operation
- What to expect on discharge

## CAN I BRING SOMEONE WITH ME?

Yes, we encourage you to bring a family member/partner or friend to attend with you for support.

## INTERPRETER SERVICES

For those patients who do not speak English as a first language a telephone interpreter service will be used to ensure patients are well informed about their care.

It is against trust policy for family members or friends to interpret on a behalf of a patient.

## CONTACT DETAILS

**Pre-op:** 0161 291 2209



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