



Information for Patients

Fast-track Surgery

As you are aware, we have found something wrong with your pancreas and/or bile duct. We know that the sooner a patient is treated at a specialist unit for jaundice and have any required surgery, the quicker they recover. You are being admitted to the Specialist Pancreatic Unit at Ward 8, Manchester Royal Infirmary (MRI). The team are aware of you and your particular condition, and once you are there, they will discuss your treatment plan with you.

What is fast-track surgery?

Fast track surgery is a relatively new concept in Pancreatic Surgery. It avoids you having other procedures which may temporarily relieve your jaundice and go straight for surgery. You may need a number of tests before we know if you are suitable for fast-track surgery - we will give you more information about this in due course. However, if you are suitable for fast-track surgery, we will plan for you to have surgery quickly – within a few days of your admission.

What are the benefits of fast-track surgery?

The benefit of having fast-track surgery means that you will not need to have interventions such as drains or stents inserted (these are used to relieve your jaundice temporarily). You would be operated on within a few days of your admission to MRI, which can help to reduce anxieties in patients and families.

How do I prepare?

Whilst you are waiting for a bed to become available at MRI, try to keep as active as possible, keep yourself hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids such as water. You may be asked to start taking nutritional drinks (to help you put weight on), pancreatic replacement therapy (medication to help break down your food), and Vitamin K (which will help make sure your blood clots properly).

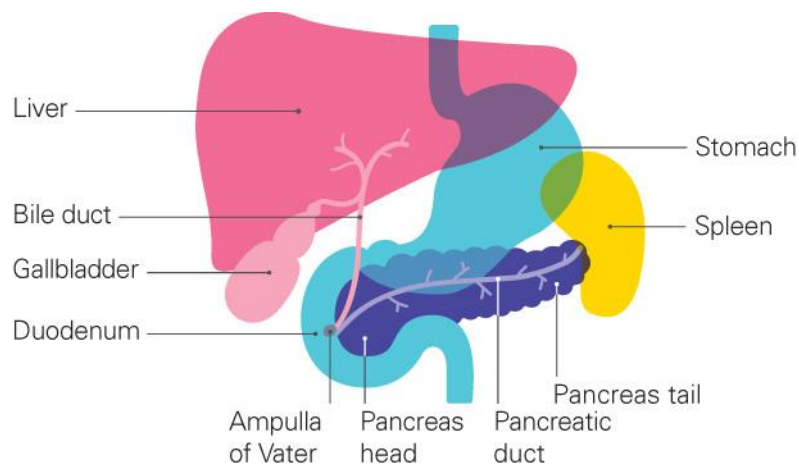
We know that this will be a very stressful time for you and your family and you may feel very overwhelmed by how quickly things are happening. We understand this and want to make the situation as easy as possible. You will see the Jaundice Specialist Nurse following your admission to MRI, who will help get you ready for potential surgery. They

will also be able to explain your treatment and answer any questions you have. You will also be introduced to a Pancreatic Specialist Nurse who will talk to you about any further treatment or care you may need.

What will happen after the surgery?

You will remain an in-patient at the MRI following your surgery and will be discharged home once you have recovered (this is expected to be about 10-14 days). Your initial follow-up will continue with the team at the MRI.

The pancreas and surrounding organs:



Useful contacts:

Jaundice Specialist Nurse: (0161) 701 0477 Monday – Friday, 8.00 am-5.00 pm

Ward 8, Manchester Royal Infirmary: (0161) 701 3551/3552