

Suspected Skin Cancer – Request for a Specialist Opinion

Why have I been referred for a specialist opinion?

Your doctor has asked for a specialist opinion about your skin condition. The specialist who considers your referral information (including a photograph) will recommend how your condition should be managed. This could either be an appointment at the hospital or further treatment by your GP.

Does this mean I have cancer?

If there are concerns about your condition, the specialist will arrange to see you. This may be within 14 days. However, the majority of patients referred under this system have a simple condition and do not have cancer.

What will happen next?

You will be contacted (probably by telephone) to let you know whether you will be seen at the hospital or if treatment by your GP is recommended. If you do need a hospital appointment, this will be for a further assessment by a specialist.

Why is it important for me to attend the appointment?

The majority of patients will have a simple condition, but an appointment is needed to decide this. The specialist will have decided how quickly you need to be seen, and the appropriate appointment will be offered.

The hospital specialist that you see will be able to answer any questions that you have about the tests or treatment that you may need.

If you are unable to attend an appointment you must let the hospital know, so that alternative arrangements can be made

If you choose to delay your appointment to go on holiday, this may affect the terms of your holiday insurance cover.

Can I bring someone with me to the appointment?

Yes, someone can come with you for support.

What should I do if I haven't heard anything about my referral?

If you have not heard about your referral within 7 days please contact your GP surgery.

Please make sure that your GP surgery has your correct contact details, including home and mobile telephone numbers