

Patient Information

Referral for the serious but non-specific (vague symptoms) pathway

Why have I been referred to the Rapid Diagnostic Centre?

You have been referred because your GP feels the symptoms you are experiencing need investigating quickly. In some cases this could be a sign of cancer. You will be contacted by a hospital specialist within the next 14 days, who will look into your symptoms and find the best way to manage your care.

What will happen next?

A member of the Rapid Diagnostic Centre team will contact you by phone. The Specialist Nurse will need to ask you a few questions to help with the referral. This will usually take place within the next four working days. Following this conversation, investigations will then be arranged. The Rapid Diagnostic Centre Cancer Care Co-ordinator will be in touch to discuss these tests with you and give appointment dates and times. These tests may include CT or ultrasound scans and/or endoscopy.

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

Can I bring someone with me to my test appointments?

Due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic we ask that you attend any hospital appointment on your own and do not bring anyone else with you. If you require a relative to bring you to hospital, they may take you to the main entrance but then must wait for you in the car, or outside the hospital building on foot (maintaining a social distance of two meters at all times).

If you need a carer to bring you, please phone the Rapid Diagnostic Centre team on 07929184933 prior to your appointment.

Clinic appointments

In response to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic we have had to make changes to how the clinic appointments are held. We will be delivering results of tests and scans through a virtual telephone clinic. The Consultant and Specialist Nurse will be present during this consultation. You can also invite other family members to be part of this consultation if you wish. The Rapid Diagnostic Centre Cancer Care Co-ordinator will discuss this in more detail with you. If you are asked to attend for a face to face consultation, then please be reassured that precautions are in place to help keep you safe when you visit our hospital.

The Rapid Diagnostic Centre team includes:

- Consultants, GP's, Radiologists
- Specialist Nurses
- Cancer Care Co-ordinator

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 surgery has your correct contact details, including home and mobile telephone numbers.