

Notes

Acute Services Division



Information for Patients

General Surgery Hot Clinic

Review Date December 2018

Ward 20, Surgical Assessment Unit
Corsebar Road
Paisley
PA2 9PN
Tel: 0141 314 9589



mi • 294195

Dear Patient,

We have offered you an appointment to attend the General Surgery Hot Clinic on

Date..... at

Time.....

The General Surgery Hot Clinic is located in the Surgical Assessment Unit (SAU) which is in Ward 20 at the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

What to bring?

We may have to admit you to the hospital, depending on the outcome of your consultation and investigation. We would therefore advise you to bring a small overnight bag with you. This should contain recently washed dressing gown, pyjamas and slippers. Please also bring all current medications in their original containers.

Surgical Assessment Unit

Welcome to the Surgical Assessment Unit (SAU). Your GP or Accident and Emergency may have referred you to the Unit for further investigations and, or treatment by the surgical team.

Please note that at this stage you have not actually been admitted to hospital. The purpose of this unit is to provide investigations to help to make a diagnosis and to decide if you need surgery.

We may have given you an appointment

time, and we will try to do our best to see you at that time. However, we would ask

you to be patient, as this is a busy clinic.

Please be prepared to stay for the

majority of the morning. You may wish

to bring a book or magazine with you.

You may need a radiology appointment

(X-ray, CT Scan or Ultrasound Scan) in the

morning so please **do not eat or drink**

anything from midnight.

What happens at the SAU?

On arrival to SAU a member of our nursing team will meet you and take you to an area where nursing staff can begin your initial assessment. This may involve taking blood samples (if they have not been taken in Accident and Emergency) and possibly a urine sample.

We do our best to carry out investigations as quickly as possible but we cannot obtain blood results until the labs have processed them, which takes at least an hour, nor can we access scan results until

a radiologist has seen them.

After the nursing staff have assessed you, a surgical doctor will see you and arrange x-rays if necessary. If you need an ultrasound we will try to arrange it for the

same day. However, this is not always possible for a number of reasons and you may have to return for this at a later date, or even be admitted to hospital if the surgical team feels this is necessary.

Relatives and Carers

Space within the unit is very limited and you may be here for some time. We would ask that any family or friends

accompanying you speak to the nursing

staff and then leave the unit. We will be

able to give them an estimate of when to

either call back in person or phone for an

up-date.

What happens next?

Once the results of your tests are available it may be possible to give you a diagnosis and plan for discharge home. In some cases, you may have to see the on-call surgeon before a decision is made. Where this is necessary could we once again ask you to be patient, as a lot of the surgeon's time is spent operating on emergency cases. We do not wish to keep you any longer than is absolutely necessary, but as you will appreciate, seriously ill patients will always be a priority.

Further Information

If you or your family have any questions or concerns, please speak to the nurse in charge.

The unit is open

Monday to Friday 8.30am - 10:00pm

Telephone Number: **0141 314 9589**