



ROYAL ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL

Departments of Emergency Medicine

Pneumothorax Discharge Advice Leaflet

You have been diagnosed as suffering from a “Pneumothorax”. This means that there is a small amount of air trapped between the surface of your lung and your chest wall.

Standard treatment of such a pneumothorax involves removing the air with a needle and syringe. In some cases where there is only a small amount of air, no treatment other than a period of observation followed by a repeat chest x-ray is all that is required.

You are now fit for discharge.

Please note the following points:

- If you develop increasing breathlessness then return immediately to the Emergency Department
- Avoid air travel until a week after a repeat Chest x-ray has shown that your lung has fully re-expanded
- Diving (SCUBA) should be permanently avoided
- STOP SMOKING. Smoking increases chance of another pneumothorax
- You will be followed up by the Respiratory Department
- .You will be contacted by phone with your appointment
- If you have not been contacted in a few days time, the please phone
- Respiratory Secretary on 0141 314 7444, or
- Emergency Dept secretary on 0141 314 6601