



Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA): Screening Emergency Admissions

During your stay at The Great Western Hospital, you will be screened for MRSA. This will be swabs from your nose and perineum/groin and any other wounds.

This will show if you are colonised (carrying) with MRSA.

Around 30% of the population are colonised (carriers) with *Staphylococcus aureus*; of which 2% of these are thought to be MRSA positive. This poses no harm; it is only when invasive procedures are carried out that it could pose a risk.

This screening process is in place to ensure that you, as a patient receive the care and safe practice you are entitled to and to protect you and other patients who may be unwell. It will not compromise or delay your care.

It takes two to three days to get the result from the laboratory.

If you have a positive result:

1. Your electronic record will be marked to inform staff of the results.
2. The ward staff will provide further explanation, may take further swabs and give you an MRSA patient information leaflet to read. Please ask for one if it is not given to you.
3. You will be started on treatment to suppress the MRSA whilst you are in hospital. This will include an antibiotic ointment applied to the nose and a daily wash with an antiseptic soap.
4. You may be nursed in a side room to help reduce the risk of infection to you and other patients on the ward.
5. If you are discharged before the result is back you and your General Practitioner (GP) will be informed of the positive result by letter from the Infection Prevention and Control Team. On most occasions it will not be necessary to start treatment at home.

If your result is negative no further action will be taken.



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You will be routinely screened again if or when you visit certain departments within the Great Western Hospital Trust for tests or treatment.

You can find more information about MRSA in the following ways:

Ask Trust staff for the MRSA Patient Information Leaflet

NHS UK

<http://www.nhs.uk>

MRSA Action

<http://mrsaactionuk.net>

Tel: 01337 841098

From 1st January 2019 smoking will not be permitted on any NHS site in England. Smoking will not be permitted within any of our buildings or anywhere outside on our sites. Smoking facilities will not be provided. Please be considerate of others when vaping in hospital grounds.

This information sheet is available to order in other languages and formats. If you would like a copy, please contact us on 01793 604031 or email gwh.pals@nhs.net

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