



Having a Pre-Operative Check at the Great Western Hospital



This is an easy read leaflet to help you get ready for your check up at the hospital.



If you are going into hospital for an operation, you will have to go in before for some checks.



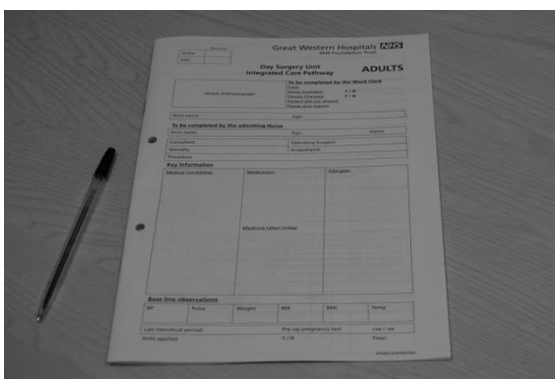
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Or you may get a phone call. This is to make sure you are well enough to have your operation.



When you arrive at the department for your tests, the person on reception will check your name and address.



They will ask you to fill in a tick chart about your health. We will be happy to help you with this.



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The waiting area can be busy at times.

If you let us know that you may be uncomfortable with this we will do our best to find a quiet area for you to wait.



The nurse will call you into a room. You will be asked questions about your health.

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If you take any medicines or tablets, you must bring a prescription from your doctor (GP).

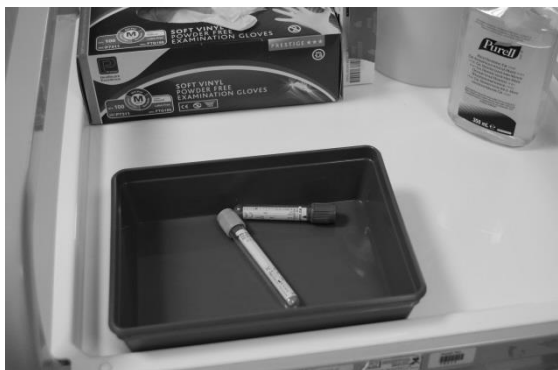


The nurse will check your blood pressure. This is done by putting a band on your arm which gets tighter and then loosens.



The nurse will weigh you and check how tall you are.

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The nurse may ask you to have a blood test. This means you will have to give some of your blood.



The nurse will tie a strap around your arm, which will help find your vein where the blood is.



The nurse will put a needle into your arm. It might hurt a little, like a scratch.



Cotton wool will be pressed firmly on your arm the blood has been taken.



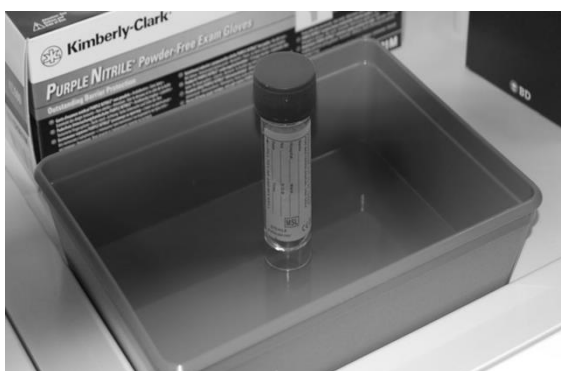
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We will ask you if you are allergic to plasters. Then a plaster is put on, which you can take off when you get home. Don't worry if there is a bruise, it will go away.



Your blood will be put in small tubes, which will be sent away to be tested.



You may be asked to wee into a small pot. This is called a urine sample.

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You may have a test called an ECG. This shows how your heart is working. The nurse will put stickers on your wrists, chest, and legs and attach leads. This test does not hurt or take very long.



Everyone who comes for an operation has to be tested to see if they have little bugs called MRSA.

The nurse will use a thing like a long cotton wool bud to wipe inside your nose and maybe your groin or any open wounds.

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It only takes a few seconds. It might tickle. It will not hurt.



When the tests are finished, you may see and talk to a special doctor called an anaesthetist. The anaesthetist will talk to you about the general anaesthetic.



Anaesthetic is the medicine you will be given to make you go to sleep before the operation.



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When the nurse and doctor have all the information they need, you can leave.



If your checks are ok, the operation will happen in the future and you will get the appointment through the post.



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You can also be given a booklet called “My Health in Hospital”.

A photograph of a booklet titled 'My Health in Hospital'. The booklet contains sections for personal information (name, address, date of birth, etc.), a Mental Capacity Act 2005 section, and instructions for hospital staff. It also includes a section for patients to write down their questions.

You can fill this in to tell us how you would like us to care for you whilst in hospital. You can tell us about your likes and dislikes and your interests.

Please bring this with you on the day of your operation.

Write your questions down here

TO DO LIST

A form with five checkboxes and corresponding lines for writing down tasks or questions.

If you have any questions you would like to ask the nurse or doctor please don't hesitate to ask. You can write them down before your appointment.



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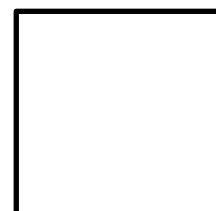
You may also want to think about what it is **you want to tell the nurse or doctor about how you are feeling.**

You can write this down, with your questions, here so you don't forget.

Your check list



Bring your appointment letter with you to your appointment.





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Bring the prescriptions for any medications you are taking.

☐

Ask a friend, family member or carer to come with you if you would like.

☐

TO DO LIST

<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	

Bring your list of questions you want to ask the doctor.

☐

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Contacting the hospital



If you have any questions about your appointment, **please phone the hospital on 01793 646010.**



If you have **any worries or concerns** about your appointment, you can also contact the **Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS).**



PALS listen to patients' concerns and will be happy to help you. You can **phone PALS on 01793 604031.**

The **hospital also has a website** where you can find information about the hospital.

The website address is www.gwh.nhs.uk



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From all the team here,
**we look forward to
meeting you soon.**



**Here is where you can
find us:**

Cherwell Unit, Ground floor
Brunel Treatment Centre
Great Western Hospital
Marlborough Road
Swindon

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

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