Your injury has been assessed by the Plastic Surgery team and there are a number of possible options for your further treatment.

Your Doctor / Nurse will tell you what is needed.

On the next pages you will find further details of where to go, when to return, and a map showing the key locations within the John Radcliffe Hospital site. SSIP (Specialist Surgery Inpatient Ward), Litchfield Day Surgery Unit and Plastic Surgery Trauma Clinic are all in the West Wing. The Hand Clinic is held in the Trauma Unit.

All patients with hand injuries

1. **Hand elevation:**
   - Keep your hand elevated at all times during the day.
   - If sitting, take your arm out of the sling and rest it on 2 pillows on the arm of the chair with your elbow comfortably straight, keeping it above your heart.
   - At night, you do not need to wear the sling. Rest your arm on 2 pillows beside you.
   - Please make sure you wear the sling for essential walking about.

2. **Pain killers:**
   - If you have been given painkillers to take, please take them regularly as recommended on the instructions.

3. **Antibiotics:**
   - If you have been given a course of antibiotics, please take these regularly and complete the course.
Seeking help/advice

Monday-Friday, 7am - 3pm
Please call Plastic Trauma Clinic
Tel: 01865 234746

Monday-Friday after 3pm and Saturday & Sunday
Please Call Specialist Surgery Inpatient Ward
Tel: 01865 231233
Possible Outcomes *(Your doctor or nurse will tick as applicable)*

1. **PLASTIC TRAUMA CLINIC REVIEW**

   You have been asked to attend the Plastic Trauma Clinic where your injury will be further assessed by a member of the Plastic Surgery team. This is usually to decide on further treatment – in many cases surgery is needed.

   Please do not have anything to eat or drink after midnight on the night before you are coming to clinic, unless otherwise advised by the Doctor. You may take antibiotics/painkillers in the morning with a sip of water.

   **Monday - Friday and Weekends:** Please report to SSIP reception (Level 0 in the West Wing Building) where you will be booked in and then seen in the Plastic Trauma Clinic (please see map).

   Date ........................................................................................................................................

   Time ........................................................................................................................................

2. **HAND CLINIC REVIEW**

   You have been asked to attend the Hand Clinic where your hand injury will be further assessed by a member of the Hand Surgery team. This is usually to decide on further treatment or to assess the progress of patients who are unlikely to need surgery. It is held on Friday afternoons in the Trauma Centre (see map).

   Date ........................................................................................................................................

   Time ........................................................................................................................................
3. FURTHER DISCUSSION

We need to discuss the further treatment of your hand injury at a meeting which is held daily at 8am. We will phone you with our recommended treatment plan soon after the meeting. If you have not heard from us by 12 noon, please phone the hospital switchboard (01865 741166) and ask them to ‘bleep’ the on-call Plastic Surgery SHO on 6300.

4. SURGERY

You need an operation for your hand injury, which your doctor will have discussed with you. We are not usually able to perform the surgery immediately so you will be asked to go home and return for the operation.

Please return at the time given below. Unfortunately we are not able to give specific appointments for operations as we operate within an emergency service. Whilst we aim to perform your operation during a given morning or afternoon, we apologise if your treatment is delayed due to an emergency.

**Local anaesthetic**

Your operation will be performed while you are awake, after injections of local anaesthetic to make the area numb. You may eat and drink as normal and can usually go home soon after the surgery is over. You will not be able to drive yourself home, so please bring someone with you who can drive you home.

Please return to:  Specialist Surgery Inpatient (SSIP)
Litchfield Day Case Unit

Date ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Time ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
**General anaesthetic □**

Your operation will be performed with you asleep. Whilst you may be able to go home on the same day, patients often need to stay overnight, so please come with a bag prepared. If you are able to go home on the same day, you will not be able to drive yourself, so please arrange for someone to drive you home.

Please return to: Specialist Surgery Inpatient (SSIP) □
Litchfield Day Case Unit □

Date ........................................................................................................................................................................

Time ........................................................................................................................................................................

Please do not have anything to eat or drink after midnight the night before your surgery.

You may take antibiotics/ painkillers in the morning with a sip of water.

**How to contact us**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Contact Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Radcliffe Hospital switchboard</td>
<td>01865 741166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSIP Ward</td>
<td>01865 231233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litchfield Day Surgery Unit</td>
<td>01865 231310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic Surgery Trauma Clinic</td>
<td>01865 234746</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If you need an interpreter or need a document in another language, large print, Braille or audio version, please call 01865 221473 or email PALSJR@orh.nhs.uk