

Information for patients attending the Pre Operative Assessment Clinic

Information for patients



Pre Operative Assessment

Before you come in for your operation you need to come to hospital for a pre operative assessment.

Why is pre operative assessment necessary?

- To make sure you are fit for your operation and for the anaesthetic
- To make sure you are given as much information as you need about what will happen before, during and after the operation
- To give you a chance to ask any questions about your operation and your care whilst you are in hospital

What happens during pre operative assessment?

Please go to Outpatients Blue Area Reception on Level 2 to let us know you have arrived. You will then be seen by one of our pre operative assessment nurses. She will ask you a number of questions about your health and any previous admissions to hospital.

You may need to have some tests while you are here. If this applies to you, the nurse will tell you about the test and why you need it. Some of the tests that you might have are:

Urine test

You will be asked to produce a sample of urine when you arrive. Please do not go to the toilet before you have booked in.

Blood tests

The nurse will explain the reasons for any blood tests that are necessary.

An ECG

This test tells us about the rhythm and electrical activity of your heart.

A chest X-ray

Shows us how well your lungs are working and whether there is any enlargement of your heart.

Swabs

We may take swabs from any part of your body that may carry infection, such as wounds, nose, etc.

Other tests specifically related to your surgery, such as scans, may also be necessary. If this is the case the nurse will explain the tests to you.

How long will pre operative assessment take?

Your appointment will take between 1 - 3 hours, depending on the particular tests that you need to have. An average appointment takes about one hour.

Please bring with you:

- a note of home, work and mobile phone numbers for you and your next of kin or another person who can be contacted regarding your condition.
- all medicines you are taking, or a doctor's repeat prescription list. It is important that we have the name, strength, dosage and frequency of all your medicines.
- any herbal medicines you also take.
- a list of any previous admissions to hospital. We need to know the reasons for admission, the year, and the name of the hospital.
- a note of any questions you wish to ask.
- We also need to know of any allergies you may have – such as allergies to food, latex, medicines.

Please note that if you fail to attend for your pre operative assessment, your surgery may be cancelled.

If you are unable to attend this appointment for ANY reason, please telephone our office on:

(01865) 857635

We will give you another date and time.

You may also telephone the above number if you have any queries or concerns about your appointment at the pre operative assessment clinic

Pre Operative Assessment Clinic

John Radcliffe Hospital

Headington

Oxford

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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**

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