

The Horton General Hospital

Welcome to the Day Case Unit



How to find the Day Case Unit

The Day Case Unit at the Horton General Hospital can be reached from the Hightown Road entrance to the hospital.

If you are travelling by car please park in the car park and walk to the Unit. The Day Case Unit is signposted and easy to find. If you need disabled access then please follow the signs to the Day Case Unit in your car. This is a drop off and collection point only. Disabled parking is situated within the main car parks.

Children are not encouraged to accompany you for your day case admission.

Accompanying this leaflet is a letter that tells you what time you need to report to reception. Please do not arrive before 07.50am as you will not be able to gain access to the department.

Before your operation

Please bring any medication that you are currently taking.

When you arrive please go to the Day Case Unit reception. You will be taken through to the ward where you will meet the nurse who is looking after you. (Please note that some of the Day Case Unit beds are on E ward and you may be cared for there by the DCU nursing team.)

Your nurse will ask you questions about your medical history, some of which you may have already been asked and may be asked again.

The surgeon will visit you to explain the procedure and then ask you to sign a consent form (if you have not already done so). If you have any questions or concerns, this is the time to ask.

If you are having a general anaesthetic the anaesthetist will also assess you and explain the anaesthetic. Please make sure that you follow the fasting instructions in the accompanying letter. Your surgery may be cancelled if you do not follow these instructions.

The time of your surgery depends on where you are placed on the

operating list and can be subject to change. You need to be here at the time stated in your admission letter so that the doctors can see you before the list starts.

We will ask you to change into a theatre gown which fastens at the back. You should then put on your own dressing gown and slippers for the short walk to the operating theatre.

After your operation

After your operation you will be brought back to the Day Case Unit or E ward annex. You will normally be able to drink sips of water straightaway. We will let you sleep for a short time and then start to wake you up by offering you something warm to drink and also something to eat.

The surgeon may come and talk to you about the operation.

Your nurse will discharge you once she is happy that you are well enough to go home. This means she will check that:

- you are able to pass urine
- you are able to walk to the bathroom
- you are able to eat and drink
- you are not vomiting
- your wounds are dry and satisfactory
- your pain is at an acceptable level.

Please make sure that you have a responsible adult to escort you home and to care for you for the next 48 hours. Your discharge time depends on how you are after your procedure. There is no set time for discharge so somebody will need to be available all day to take you home. When we know what time you need to be collected, we will contact them and let them know.

We will give you written and verbal advice about what to expect and how to look after yourself after a general anaesthetic. We will also tell you how to look after yourself after the particular procedure you have had.

Pain relief at home

We suggest that you buy some paracetamol and ibuprofen before you come into hospital to help with pain relief after you get home.

Questions or concerns

Emergency contact numbers will be given to you before your discharge. These telephone numbers are in case of an emergency and will be specific to the type of surgery you are having. For any other advice, please contact one of the nurses on:

Day Case Unit:

Tel: **(01295) 229383**

8am - 5pm

Alternatively you may e-mail: horton.daycase@orh.nhs.uk

or write to the Ward Manager at:

Horton Day Case Unit
Horton General Hospital
Banbury OX16 9AL

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**