

Day Case Unit, Horton General Hospital

Information and advice for local anaesthetic admissions



What this leaflet is about

This leaflet explains about local anaesthetic and its use in surgery.

It will also explain about your admission to the Horton General Hospital for this type of procedure.

Local anaesthetic is a numbing injection for an area which needs surgery. It means that minor procedures can be carried out with no pain. Very occasionally a local anaesthetic gel is also used.

What is local anaesthetic?

Local anaesthetic works by blocking the way nerves carry pain signals to the brain. It is usually injected into the tissue around the operation site, using a fine needle. The doctors and nurses will explain everything to you both before and as this is being done.

Admission

- Please report to the appropriate ward at the **time / location stated on your admission letter**. Please do not arrive too early.
- You can usually eat and drink normally prior to your admission to hospital unless you have been told otherwise.
- Please bring with you any medication you are currently taking.
- Please have a bath or shower before your admission time.
- Please remove any makeup and nail varnish. Please also remove any jewellery. You can still wear your wedding ring unless you are having surgery on this arm.
- Acrylic nails can usually be left in place, but please remove the nail varnish from two fingers.

- Do not bring any valuables / money with you, as the hospital does not have anywhere secure to keep these and can't accept any responsibility for their safety.
- Your operation time will depend on where you are placed on the list. The list order can sometimes be changed and may be altered on the day of surgery. We need you here at the time stated so that the doctors can see you before the list starts.
This may mean that you have to wait for your allocated slot in theatre.
- Please bring with you a dressing gown and slippers. You will need to change into a hospital gown before the short walk to the operating theatres.
- It is advisable to buy some paracetamol and ibuprofen from any chemist or supermarket. This will be helpful after the procedure when the local anaesthetic wears off.

Discharge

- There is no set time for discharge – this will depend on how you are following your procedure. Please be assured that we will not keep you any longer than needed.
- It is advisable to have someone to take you home. Please make sure that they will be available to collect you from the ward at any time.
- Special instructions will be given to you prior to discharge about work, driving, dressings and pain control. If you have any other questions please feel free to ask them.

If you are unwell before your appointment

If you have a cold or are otherwise unwell and wish to cancel your operation, please tell the waiting list office on:

- 01295 229 395 for general surgery
- 01295 229 831 for colorectal
- 01295 229 394 for gynaecology
- 01295 229 831 for oral surgery
- OR Day Case Unit on 01295 229 767 (07.30AM - 5.00PM)

Queries

The staff on the Day Case Unit are happy to discuss any queries or problems that you may have. Please ring on the telephone number above if you would like to discuss concerns relating to your admission.

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@ouh.nhs.uk**

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