

Patient information factsheet

Urgent respiratory clinic

We've written this factsheet as a guide to the urgent respiratory clinic. It is important that you read all of the information on this sheet and that you attend all of the appointments that you are given.

If you have any questions or worries, please ask a member of our team.

Urgent referral

Your GP has referred you to the respiratory team for a CT scan (a medical imaging test that produces detailed pictures of your lungs). These will be on a Tuesday morning. You may also have some pulmonary function tests (breathing tests).

You may have a clinic appointment with a doctor from the respiratory team to give you your results on the same day, in the afternoon. This will depend on the results of the CT scan.

Being referred to this clinic does not necessarily mean that you have a serious illness, but the symptoms and history you have reported to your GP are suspicious enough for them to urgently refer you to this clinic.

Your appointments

A member of our team at Southampton General Hospital will telephone you within two weeks of your GP referring you to our service.

The purpose of the call will be to confirm your contact details and book tests. We will then send you an invitation letter by post (or email if this is more convenient) to confirm your appointment dates and times.

What will happen next?

One of our clinical nurse specialists will telephone you on the Monday morning before your appointment on the Tuesday.

The purpose of this call is to make sure that you have received your appointment for your CT scan and pulmonary function tests, to answer any questions you may have, and to undertake a short pre-clinic health questionnaire. This should take no longer than 15 minutes.

If you are not going to be in on this day or if you have another number you would prefer to be called on, please call us on: **023 8120 8660** so that we can let the clinical nurse specialist know.

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What should I do after I have had my tests?

You will need to be available for an outpatient appointment in the afternoon (if this is required). The purpose of this appointment is to give you the results of your CT scan and explain what the next steps are. If you need to have any further tests, we will explain these at this appointment.

Depending on the results of the CT scan, we may call you (if you have a mobile phone) after 1.30pm when we have reviewed your CT scan. We may ask you to come into hospital at short notice. Please make sure we have a contact number and keep your mobile phone switched on during the day. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we advise you not to stay at the hospital after the CT scan.

Useful information

If you need transport to your appointments, please contact your GP to arrange this for you. All children visiting the department must be supervised by a responsible adult at all times. Members of staff are unable to look after children for you.

University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage to personal property. Please leave any valuables at home.

Please see our website www.uhs.nhs.uk for further information about the tests you will have details about parking, facilities, and other information.

For a translation of this document, or a version in another format such as easy read, large print, Braille or audio, please telephone **023 8120 4688**.

For help preparing for your visit, arranging an interpreter or accessing the hospital, please visit www.uhs.nhs.uk/additionalneeds