

Important information about the Wessex Rapid Investigation Service for Suspected Cancer

Your GP has referred you to the Wessex Rapid Investigation Service because they feel your symptoms should be investigated as soon as possible.

They are concerned your symptoms may suggest cancer. To reassure you, 9 out of 10 people will not have cancer. The team will work to either diagnose or rule out cancer as a cause for your symptoms.

The Rapid Investigation Service is made up of a team of consultants, nurses and GPs. You will access the service by phone or video calls. We can help you use a video call and can arrange for any support that you may need to access this service.

- Following your GP referral, you will receive a welcome phone call from the team within 2 working days.
 - You will then be contacted by a clinician at an agreed time, who will talk to you about your symptoms and discuss your medical history. They will access information from your GP and hospital as part of your care to ensure they are aware of anything important they should know.
 - The team will decide which tests you need. We will talk this through with you. Where possible, the tests will take place at a local hospital.
 - Hospitals which we can request your tests at are: Royal Bournemouth, Dorset County, Hampshire Hospitals, Poole, Portsmouth, Southampton and St Mary's.
 - You will also be asked if you need any support with communication and accessing any hospital investigations or appointments.
 - The hospital will contact you directly to arrange your test appointments by telephone or letter.
- You will go to the hospital for your tests.
 - After your tests the RIS team will review your results to see if they have found cancer.
 - You will be contacted to talk about your results.
 - If the team do not find a cancer at this time we will communicate this with you and provide advice about possible next steps.
 - If the team do find a cancer they will refer you to an appropriate specialist team immediately.

The team aims to share your results with you within 28 days of receiving your initial referral.

A care navigator will support you whilst you are under the care of the service and you can contact them on: **0300 123 0769 Monday to Friday, 09:00 – 16:00**

Use this space to write down any useful information (e.g. contact numbers and names or any questions you think of before your phone call with the team)

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