

Additional Patient Information for Urgent Suspected Cancer Referrals during Coronavirus Outbreak (COVID-19)

This information sheet provides additional information about your urgent referral during the COVID-19 outbreak

COVID-19

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, a cancer specialist will decide whether you need to come to the hospital for a diagnostic test or whether you should have a telephone assessment. Hospitals are only asking patients to visit a hospital if it is essential and there may be some slight delay in receiving an appointment. If you need to come to hospital for a diagnostic test, the hospital may arrange for you to be tested for COVID-19 before attending the appointment.

If you or members of your household are self-isolating or if you develop any symptoms of coronavirus after you have been referred (notably fever, cough or changes to the sense of smell or taste) you should tell your GP. You should also contact the hospital on the number issued to you by the hospital when your appointment is confirmed. The hospital will then provide you with guidance.

At the time of referral ensure you tell your GP:

- Your current email, home address and telephone number including a mobile number if you have one, so the hospital can contact you.
- If you are unable to have a telephone assessment within the next two weeks.
- If you require a translator, so this can be arranged before your appointment
- If you have hearing difficulties or find talking on the telephone difficult

Please also tell your GP if you have not heard from the hospital within one week of referral

Any Questions?

If you have any concerns or questions about your referral to hospital, please contact your GP surgery.

Useful links for further information about cancer during the corona virus pandemic

<https://about-cancer.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/cancer-in-general/coronavirus-and-cancer>

<https://www.macmillan.org.uk/coronavirus/worried-about-cancer>