

What happens after Preoperative Assessment?

- We hope you will know more about your forthcoming admission and have had your questions answered.
- Once any test results are back and are satisfactory we will inform your surgeons booking coordinator that you are fit for surgery.
- There is no set time between preoperative assessment and surgery, this is dependent upon your surgeons waiting list
- Your booking coordinator will contact you in due course when they can schedule a date for your operation
- If there is any delay to this process such as further tests needed, we will keep you and your GP informed of what is needed and the reasons for this.

Further information is available on the BHT website

www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk

For urgent queries please contact the phone number on your letter.

How can I help reduce healthcare associated infections?

Infection control is important to the well-being of our patients and for that reason we have infection control procedures in place. Keeping your hands clean is an effective way of preventing the spread of infections. We ask that you, and anyone visiting you, use the hand sanitiser available at the entrance to every ward before coming in to or after leaving the ward. In some situations hands may need to be washed at the sink using soap and water rather than using the hand sanitiser. Staff will let you know if this is the case.

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Information for patients attending Preoperative Assessment Clinics

Patient information leaflet

If you require a translation or an alternative format of this leaflet please call PALS (Patient Liaison and Advice Service) on 01296 316042

Safe & compassionate care,

every time

Why is Preoperative Assessment Clinic necessary?

- To make sure you are fit for your operation.
- To identify any problems at an early stage and allow time to address these before the operation.
- To make sure any long term chronic medical conditions such as Asthma or Diabetes are well controlled.
- To give you a chance to ask any questions about your procedure.
- To help you plan for your hospital stay and Recovery.

Location of Preoperative Assessment Clinics

Please see our website for details, Clinics take place every day and are currently held at Stoke Mandeville and Wycombe Hospital.

How long will Preoperative Assessment take?

Your appointment can take between 1–3 hours depending upon the particular tests you need, whether you need to see an anaesthetist or if you are attending an education class. The average appointment duration is one hour.

What happens during Preoperative Assessment?

- You will initially be asked to fill in a health questionnaire after your surgical consultation.
- The health questionnaire will be reviewed by a trained nurse who will decide whether the full assessment is completed the same day or whether you will need to return for a longer appointment at a later date.
- You will be asked for a list of any tablets and medications you take, including herbal remedies. Please bring your latest prescription from your GP, or the tablets themselves in the original packets.
- We will check your blood pressure, pulse, weight, height, and take skin swabs to test for MRSA infections
- If applicable you will have an ECG (heart tracing) and a urine test. For this reason please try not to go to the toilet before you book into the clinic.
- Finally you may be sent for blood tests at the end of your appointment.

What to bring with you ?

- It would be helpful if you brought with you glasses and/or hearing aid if worn.
- Any medication that they you are regularly taking. This can either be in the original packaging or a repeat prescription.
- A note of your allergies.
- It is often helpful to write down questions you wish to ask in advance, and bring this with you, so you do not forget to ask these.

Why it is important to nominate a next of kin?

We ask all adult patients to provide full name and contact details for a nominated 'next of kin' formally prior to their procedure. Up to date contact details are essential.

We aim to make your stay in the department as short as possible however please understand it may take longer and be prepared by bringing drink / snack / something to occupy your time.