

Two Week Rule Referral Pathway to rule out cancer

Cancer Services Team



Patient information leaflet

This leaflet will explain what the Two Week Rule referral is and questions you may wish to ask your specialist.

Remember: A referral does not mean you have cancer. Your doctor/dentist wants you to be seen by a specialist at the earliest opportunity to accurately diagnose your condition. If cancer is confirmed, the earlier you start treatment the more effective it is likely to be.

Why have I received this leaflet?

Your doctor/dentist has requested you are seen by a specialist or have a test within the next two weeks.

It is important you make yourself available and attend this appointment. The sooner you see the specialist, the better your chances for timely diagnosis and effective treatment

What is a Two Week Rule referral?

- This referral ensures that anyone with symptoms or test results that may be suspicious of cancer is able to see a specialist within two weeks or have more specialist tests if required.
- The aim is to diagnose your condition, and if cancer is confirmed, to commence appropriate treatment as soon as possible. This will give you the best chance for effective treatment.

In order to do this, you may need a series of tests in a short space of time. Please ensure you can make yourself available for these tests. It is also important to follow any instructions you are given, to ensure the test can be performed and give an accurate result

What should I ask the specialist?

Sometimes it's difficult to know what to ask your specialist.

Here are a few ideas:

- If my symptoms get worse, who should I contact?
- What tests will I need to have?

- How long will I have to wait for the test and the result?
- What will the tests involve?
- How will I find out the results?
- If I have questions after the appointment, who should I ask?

Handy hints:

- If you have a follow-up appointment, try to bring a family member or friend with you
- Bring a pen and paper to make notes
- Call the hospital if you have been waiting for your results for longer than expected
- Don't be afraid to ask questions.

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If you need to change your appointment please call RSCH Outpatients on:

Telephone: 01483 571122 ext 2141

Please be prepared to accept a telephone call from an unknown number.

Like most hospitals, the Royal Surrey needs to make a charge for car parking. There is a free 20 minute pick-up/drop-off point at the front of the hospital. Visitors/patients now have three payment options:

1. Check in / check out (pay by card)
2. Pay and display (pay by cash or card)
3. Pay by mobile app (using the Waytowork app)

Contact details

- If you have any questions about this referral to the hospital please contact your GP.
- If you have any questions about your care at RSCH, please contact your Consultants Medical Secretary.
- If you need to change your appointment please call RSCH Outpatients:

Telephone: 01483 571122 **ext** 2141

Please be prepared to accept a telephone call from an unknown number.

PALS and Advocacy contact details

Contact details of independent advocacy services can be provided by our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) who are located on the right hand side as you enter the main reception area. PALS are also your first point of contact for health related issues, questions or concerns surrounding RSCH patient services.

Telephone: 01483 402757

Email: rsc-tr.pals@nhs.net

Opening hours: 9.00am–3.00pm, Monday to Friday

If you would like information documents in large print, on tape or in another language or form please contact PALS.

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