

Anticoagulation service

The local anticoagulation service is changing. This means that you can now access this service from your GP practice.

The same treatment and high standards of patient safety and quality of care that you used to receive from the hospital will now be provided at your local GP practice. The new anticoagulation service will provide finger prick blood tests, make decisions about your treatment, prescribe your anticoagulant medication and provide you with important patient education information. In most cases this will all be available to you at one appointment.

What will this new service involve?

This service will not involve having blood taken from your arm. Instead a blood sample will be collected by having a finger prick blood test (a drop of blood from the finger) and instead of having to wait for your yellow book to be sent to you in the post, your results can be given to you immediately.

This improved anticoagulation service will usually take less than five minutes. It will reduce waiting times for blood taking, reduce any pain or patient anxiety relating to having blood taken and ultimately provide a better, more convenient service.

Next steps

You will be contacted by your GP practice.

Staff at your GP Practice will support you with any changes.

Your records will transfer to your GP and an appointment will be arranged for you.

You should continue to present your yellow book so that this can be updated.

Important

If you notice any bleeding or bruising please discuss this with your GP practice. You may need to have a test sooner than planned.

Please go to A&E if you are unable to stop any bleeding, you suffer a major trauma, a blow to the head or a heavy or prolonged nose bleed etc.

Remember to carry your alert card.

If you are going on holiday please ensure you tell the GP practice.

If you have started new antibiotics tablets and need to have an extra test, please make an appointment with your GP practice within five days.

Your treatment and care will continue to be provided at your GP practice. Please do not attend the hospital or visit the service at Asda for the purpose of anticoagulation treatment as the records about your on-going anticoagulation treatment will move to your GP practice.