

Patient Information

Referral for the serious non-specific (vague symptoms) pathway

This leaflet explains why you have been referred to the Rapid Diagnostic Centre and what will happen next.

Why have I been referred to the Rapid Diagnostic Centre?

You have been referred because the symptoms you are experiencing need investigating quickly. In some cases this could be a sign of cancer. You will be contacted by a hospital specialist within the next 14 days, who will look into your symptoms and find the best way to manage your care.

What will happen next?

A member of the Rapid Diagnostic Centre team will contact you by phone. The Specialist Nurse will need to ask you a few questions to help with the referral. This will usually take place within the next week. Following these conversation investigations will then be arranged. The Rapid Diagnostic Centre Patient Navigator will be in touch to discuss these tests with you and give appointment dates and times. These tests may include CT or ultrasound scans and or endoscopy.

If you are unable to attend an appointment you must let the hospital know, so that alternative arrangements can be made.

Can I bring someone with me to my test appointments?

Due to some COVID restrictions in certain clinical areas, we may ask that you attend any hospital appointment alone; this will be discussed and made clear with you prior to you attending. If you need to have a carer present during your hospital visit, please discuss this with the Rapid Diagnostic Centre team. In these cases exceptions will be made.

Clinic appointments

The Consultant and Specialist Nurse will be present during this consultation. The Rapid Diagnostic Centre Patient Navigator will discuss this in more detail with you.

The Rapid Diagnostic Centre team includes:

- Consultants, GP's, Radiologists
- Specialist Nurses
- Patient Navigator

What should I do if I haven't heard anything about my referral?

If you have not heard about your referral within 7 days please contact your GP surgery.

Please make sure that your surgery has your correct contact details, including home and mobile telephone numbers.