

Important information about the Wessex Rapid Investigation Service for Suspected Cancer

Your GP has referred you to the Wessex Rapid Investigation Service because they feel your symptoms should be investigated by a hospital specialist as soon as possible.

They are concerned your symptoms might suggest cancer but to reassure you 9 out of 10 people will not have cancer. The team will work to either diagnose or rule out cancer as a cause for your symptoms.

- Following your referral, you will receive a welcome phone call from the team within 2 working days.
- The team will access information from your GP and hospital to ensure they are aware of anything important they should know.
- You will be contacted by a clinician at an agreed time, who will talk to you about your symptoms and discuss your medical history.
- The service does not involve any face to face appointments. We will help you use a video call and can arrange for any support that you may need to access this service.
- The team will decide which tests you need to diagnose or rule out cancer. We will talk this through with you. Where possible, the tests will take place at a local hospital.
- Hospitals which we can request your tests at are: Royal Bournemouth, Dorset County, Hampshire Hospitals, Poole, Portsmouth, Southampton and St Mary's.
- The hospital will contact you directly to arrange your test appointments.
- You will go to the hospital for your tests.
- The Rapid Investigation Service team of consultants, nurses and GPs, will review your test results to see if they have found cancer.
- You will be contacted to talk about your results.
- If the team have not found cancer at this time we will communicate this with you and provide advice about possible next steps.
- The team will refer you to an appropriate specialist team if there is a possibility of cancer.

The team aims to share your results with you within 28 days of receiving your referral.

A care navigator will support you whilst you are under the care of the service as a direct point of contact and you can contact them on: 0300 123 0769 Monday to Friday 09:00 – 16:00

Use this space to write down any useful information (e.g. contact numbers and names or any questions you think of before your phone call with the team)

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