

Having a blood test in hospital

If you are not well, the doctor may ask you to go for a blood test.

This can be done at your doctor's surgery or at the hospital.



You and your carer will need to make an appointment for this blood test.

You can book an appointment online – scan the QR code below.



Or you or your carer can telephone to make an appointment.



Having a blood test – Easy Read

Once you arrive at the place to have your blood test and tell them you have arrived, it is a good idea to take your coat off and to roll up your sleeves.

After a short wait, the person doing the blood test will call your name and will ask you to go to a room and sit in a chair.

They will wear a name badge and will tell you their name.



hello my name is...

KATIE

They will put a tight strap around your arm. It will feel strange but should not hurt.

They will also ask you to squeeze your hand. This is so that they can see your veins (where the blood runs through).



They can put some cold spray on your arm if you are worried it will hurt. The spray will numb your arm so you won't feel the needle. Please ask if you need this.



Having a blood test – Easy Read

The person doing the blood test will then put a needle in your arm. It will feel like a sharp scratch. It sometimes helps to look away from the needle so you can't see. Try to keep your arm very still.



The blood will run into a small tube, which will be sent away to find out what is wrong with you.



The blood test only lasts a few seconds so you won't hurt for very long.

Afterwards, the person doing the blood test will take off the strap and will put a small dressing and some tape on your arm.

The bleeding will stop very quickly.



Having a blood test – Easy Read

You can then put your coat back on and leave the hospital or GP surgery.

Your doctor (GP) will tell you if you need treatment and what this will be.



If you or your carer needs help while you are in the hospital, ask one of the nurses to either call the Learning Disability Liaison Nurses on ext 8159 or on mobile number 07879 425 803 or 07500 559177.



More information for people with learning disabilities and their carers can be found on the Trust website at:
www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk



Also available in this series:

- Getting help in hospital
- Going into hospital
- Going to the Acute Medical Unit (AMU)
- Going to the Emergency Department (A&E)



Having a blood test – Easy Read

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Having a general anaesthetic• Having a scan• Having an X-ray• Washing your hands• What happens in pre-operative assessment• Having an EEG | |
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Easy Read booklet number 2. Images courtesy of the PhotoSymbols and RBFT.
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