



Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust

Suspected **CAN**cer (SCAN) Pathway.

Why you are being referred onto the SCAN pathway, and what this will involve.

Your general practitioner (GP) has referred you for an urgent hospital appointment to investigate your non-specific, yet concerning, symptoms. These symptoms may be a sign of a number of conditions, including cancer.

Does this mean I have cancer?

No. The majority of patients referred on the SCAN pathway do not have cancer; however, cancer is a possibility that needs to be ruled out. **Only 1 in 10 people referred along this pathway are diagnosed with cancer.**

So why has my GP referred me?

GPs diagnose and treat many illnesses themselves. However, the causes of some vague symptoms, such as weight loss or tiredness, can still be unclear after your GP has assessed you. These are called 'non-specific' symptoms, as they affect the whole person, but do not relate to a specific diagnosis.

Your GP wants you assessed on the SCAN pathway so you get quick and efficient access to a full group of tests to help make a quicker diagnosis and, if required, treatment.

What happens now?

- Make sure that your GP has your correct address and telephone number, including mobile number if possible.
- The SCAN Navigator will telephone you to discuss your symptoms and, if appropriate, arrange an appointment. This call may show on your phone as '*caller unknown*' or '*number withheld*'.
- **It is important you make yourself available and attend this appointment, which will be within 2 weeks of speaking with**

your GP. Be prepared to cancel other arrangements to be able to accept your appointment.

- If having a CT scan, your appointment will be at the **X-ray Department (Radiology) at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading**; you will meet the SCAN Navigator who will be your link person through these appointments.
- You will have a CT scan of your chest, abdomen and pelvis (if appropriate).

Overview:

<i>When you see your GP</i>	<u>Your GP will:</u>
	Make a referral to the RBFT SCAN pathway.
	Give you this information leaflet.
	Arrange for you to have some blood tests and other relevant investigations.
<i>Your first appointment at the hospital</i>	<u>You will:</u>
	Be contacted by the SCAN Navigator (within 2 weeks of referral from you GP).
	Be given the opportunity to ask any questions.
	Have a CT scan of your chest, abdomen and pelvis (if appropriate).
	Be asked to complete a questionnaire.
<i>Next steps</i>	<u>The next appointment will be one of the following:</u>
	Further tests if required to make a diagnosis, <i>or</i>
	A specialist clinic appointment with a consultant or one of the SCAN team, <i>or</i>
	An appointment with your GP.

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Your safety and that of NHS staff is very important.

To minimise your risks while ensuring you have the necessary investigations, clinic appointments may be via telephone, a face-to-face 'video' consultation or a hospital attendance.

If you have any Coronavirus symptoms (high temperature, new continuous cough, loss or change to sense of smell or taste), or you need to self-isolate because a family member is unwell, please contact the telephone number below.

Do not go to the hospital or your appointment without speaking to them first.

Contact details:

If you have any further questions please contact the SCAN Navigator.

Phone: 0118 322 7928 Email: rbb-tr.scannavigator@nhs.net

(Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 7.30am-6pm)

Handy hints

- Parking at Royal Berkshire Hospital is in high demand, so please allow additional time before your appointment if arriving by car.
- For further information visit: www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/how-to-find-us/royal-berkshire-hospital.htm.

It is important to remember that even though you are getting an urgent referral, it does not necessarily mean you have cancer.

If you require this document in another language or would prefer it in large print, please call: 0118 322 8338 / 0118 982 2875.