

## Your visit to the Breast Unit

You have been referred to the Breast Unit by your GP because of a problem in and around the area of your breast.

There are a number of members of the breast team who you may meet during your appointment, including consultant breast surgeons, nurse practitioners, trust grade doctors and doctors in training.

We may have medical students and doctors in training, together with other paramedical trainees in the clinic. Some of these members of staff may be in training for forthcoming examinations or as part of their local or national training programme.

If you do not wish to be seen in the presence of a medical student, or other person in the clinic who is on a training programme, please let the nursing staff know.

This leaflet is intended to give you information about the various clinics and what might be expected at your visit with us.

### What will happen at your visit

Your doctor has referred you to us on either a 2 week wait appointment to rule out cancer, or a symptomatic 2 week wait breast appointment.

We will take a history from you and examine you, and if we can feel a lump in your breast then we may need to do a needle test on your lump to sample some cells from it. The cells are then sent to be looked at under the microscope. If the lump is a cyst we can drain the fluid via the needle and the lump may disappear. If appropriate we will arrange for you to have mammograms if you are over 40, or ultrasound if you are under 40, and if you have a lump you may get both.

When you have your mammogram and or ultrasound if a lump is seen you may have a core biopsy test done on the lump. This uses a bigger needle to sample some tissue from the lump and is done under local anaesthetic so the area is numb but you are awake.

On our Wednesday morning clinic we have access to same day mammograms and ultrasounds with our breast radiologists in the Radiology Department for a limited number of patients. Please note that not all patients on a Wednesday clinic will get scans on the same day as it will be done on the basis of clinical need only. If your appointment is on a Wednesday morning, please allow to be with us for potentially the whole morning in case you have tests on the same day.

If you have a biopsy taken, then we will need to see you the following week for your biopsy results.

## Contact us

If you have any problems regarding your care or treatment at this hospital, please *Talk to us*. Your feedback will help us to improve and develop our service. Please speak to a member of staff in the clinic or on the ward, or if you would rather talk to a senior member of staff, ask to speak to the ward/departmental manager or matron.

Or speak to our Patient Relations Team who can offer you 'on the spot' support and advice as well as practical information at a time when you are feeling confused and anxious. Patient Relations can be contacted on: 0118 322 8338 or ask a member of staff, the receptionists or the switchboard to contact them.

## Consultant Surgeons

Mr HN Umeh	Consultant Breast Surgeon
Mr B Smith	Consultant Oncoplastic and Reconstructive Breast Surgeon
Miss N Dunne	Consultant Oncoplastic and Reconstructive Breast Surgeon

## Trust Grade Breast Surgeons

Mrs S Connolly  
Dr E Hyett

## Advanced Surgical Nurse Practitioners

Carol Lister  
Vanessa Burridge  
Nicky Woodrow

Our clinical teams can be contacted via Clinical Administration Team 3 (CAT 3) on 0118 322 1883, then press the option for 'breast'.

## More information

If you have any questions about the procedure or this information, please speak to your doctor or nurse.

For more information about the Trust visit our website [www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk](http://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk)

This document can be made available in other languages and formats upon request.

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