

General Surgery- Vascular

Introduction

The Covid pandemic has had a significant impact on the NHS ability to provide routine elective services. We recognise that patients are waiting longer than we would all like and it is not always possible to identify when treatment will take place. This document provides you with information on how you are able to support yourself /stay healthy while waiting to attend the hospital.

The guidance has been written by clinicians who are responsible for your care

Guidance for Patients

Leg Amputation

What can I do to help make the operation a success?

- If you are a smoker, you must make a sincere and determined effort to stop as continued smoking will damage the circulation in your other leg. Smoking is a major cause of amputation as it damages your blood vessels. Continuing to smoke can delay healing of your wound and increases your risk of further surgery.
- It is important that you do not put on weight as this will make mobilising with a wheelchair or artificial leg more difficult. Eat plenty of fresh fruit or vegetables.
- If you are diabetic, you should control your blood pressure as this is extremely important for your overall rehabilitation and future health.
- If you are taking any medicines that thin the blood (such as warfarin) then you may need to stop them temporarily before the procedure. You will be given full information on any changes that you need to make to your medicines at the pre-operative assessment.
- You should eat a health balanced diet and try to reduce any excess weight. It is important to reduce the level of cholesterol in your blood.

What should I do if my health is deteriorating?

If your health should deteriorate or your condition changes whilst waiting for surgery, then please contact our main switchboard on 01604 634700 and ask for the relevant department or Consultant that has planned your care or is managing your care.

Contact Us

Main switchboard 01604 634700