

## Rheumatology– First Outpatient Appointment

### 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.

### Waiting Times

As a guide, referral to treatment waiting times are available on the website:

[The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust – My Planned Care NHS](#)

### Guidance for Patients

**An example of common conditions treated by the department after receiving referral from GP:**

Auto immune disease  
Connective tissue disease

### Alternative Services:

Xrays

US scans

MRI

Attendance to Planned Investigation Unit (PIU)

Physiotherapy

Occupational Therapy

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### What should I do if my health is deteriorating?

The referral from your GP will have been reviewed and triaged by the Rheumatology Team to grade your clinical priority based on the information in the referral.

If you are concerned that your condition or symptoms are deteriorating since you were referred to us, please re contact your GP. So you will be able to explain and detail the changes in your condition/symptoms since the time you were referred, and this will be passed to the clinical team will re-assess your priority.

In the case of needing emergency care or urgent review, please contact 111 or your own GP.

### Contact Us

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