

Haematology Service – 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 NHS [My Planned Care Website](#).

Guidance for Patients

The commonest reasons for referral to the service are the finding of abnormalities on the blood count or symptoms experienced by the patient that the referring doctor thinks may be caused by a disease of blood, bone marrow or sometimes the lymph nodes. Other reasons may be due to thrombosis problems or advice about blood thinning.

All patients attending the clinic (in person or virtually) will be seen by a consultant or senior specialty doctor on their first appointment.

Often additional investigations are required to help to make a diagnosis. These may include additional blood tests, and some patients will also need X-rays, scans and/or a bone marrow test. If these tests are requested the patient will be reviewed with the results. Many patients can then be discharged from the Haematology Department, but some will need further investigation and treatment in a clinic specific for the type of illness which has been diagnosed.

What should I do if my health is deteriorating?

The referral from your GP will have been reviewed and triaged by the 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 contact the department. You will be asked the detail the changes in your condition/symptoms since seeing your GP at 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

01902 307 999