

Gynaecology

Introduction

Waiting times for NHS services have increased significantly since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic across the country. While many aspects of day-to-day life are returning to how they were before the pandemic, COVID-19 still impacts our local NHS services. Our hospitals are under increased pressure and there is still a very high demand for healthcare services and hospital beds across Warwickshire. Whilst we recognise that patients are waiting longer than we would all like, it is not always possible to identify when treatment will take place. However, we are taking several steps to try and improve this situation and our teams are working hard to see you as quickly as we possibly can. We are reviewing patients who have been waiting a long time as we know some people's conditions, needs and treatment wishes will change over time. All patients waiting are prioritised according to their clinical need and we are doing our utmost to ensure you get the treatment you require as soon as possible.

This document provides you with information on the type of procedures and treatment available, how you can support yourself whilst waiting to attend, who to contact should you require any further assistance.

Guidance for Patients

You may have been to see your GP and they advised that they were going to refer you to the hospital, but you haven't yet had an appointment through. Until you have received your appointment you will stay under the care of your GP.

If you no longer require your appointment please let us know as soon as possible as that will allow us time to offer an earlier appointment to another patient. If you do not have the phone number for the specialty you will be reviewed in but would like to cancel, change your appointment or speak to a staff member please call our switchboard number and they will be able to direct your call to the correct specialty.

George Eliot Hospital Switchboard – 02476 351351

Outpatient Appointments – 02476 865050 (Call Centre)

Elective Appointments – 02476 351351 (via Main switchboard)

Please note that the Outpatients Call Centre current opening times are as follows:

Monday - Friday 9am -4pm Saturday and Sunday – Closed

What should I do if my health is deteriorating?

If you have an appointment, and you feel that your symptoms are worsening, then please call our switchboard numbers. If you are yet to receive your appointment, and you feel that your symptoms are worsening, then see your GP.

For urgent health advice about physical or mental health, when it's not an emergency, please call 111 from any landline or mobile phone. You can also visit www.nhs.uk. The NHS 111 service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Life Threatening Emergencies

If you have severe bleeding, breathing difficulties or chest pains – please dial **999 immediately**.