

## First Outpatient Appointment – Respiratory Medicine Service

### 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 while waiting to attend the hospital. The guidance has been written by clinicians who are responsible for your care.

Respiratory Medicine is a medical speciality that cares for a wide range of conditions affecting the lungs and the ability to breath.

We look after patients with Asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), Alpha 1, Long COVID, Interstitial Lung Disease (ILD), Non-Invasive Ventilation (NIV), Sleep studies, Neutralising Monoclonal Antibodies (NMABS), lung cancer, and Complex Airway Disease (CADC)

The Respiratory Medicine Service is predominantly outpatient based. Clinics are held either at University Hospital Coventry or at Rugby St Cross.

### What to bring to face to face clinics

Please bring a current list of your regular medication to all appointments. You may be asked to come in to have a blood test, an X-ray or another form of a scan.

We offer specialist advice to inpatients as well as GP's. However, we do not provide an out of hour's service.

Please read the following information in conjunction with the staying healthy guidance and also the clinical guidelines for your specific procedure/condition.

### Guidance for Patients

Long term respiratory conditions can be treated in a multitude of ways. Medication, physiotherapy and patient education plays a great role in managing long term respiratory conditions.

While waiting for treatment, there are a number of things a Patient can do.

1. Managing your asthma well

<https://www.asthma.org.uk/advice/manage-your-asthma/>

2. Living with Asthma

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/asthma/living-with/>

Living with COPD

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chronic-obstructive-pulmonary-disease-copd/living-with/>

# **My Planned Care Patient Information Platform**

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

If your health is deteriorating, you need to be seen by your GP for review and further assessment and management.

## **Contact Us**

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