

Following your Gastroscopy What happens next?

Patient Information

Endoscopy - Upper Gastrointestinal (GI)



The Patient Information Leaflets page on the Trust website is available on the link:
<https://www.wwl.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets> or scan the QR code.

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Introduction

You have been given this leaflet because your recent gastroscopy (camera test) has identified an abnormal area. As it has been explained to you, biopsies (samples) of the suspicious area have been taken and will be sent to the laboratory to be examined, where they are looking for changes to cells. If you have not already had a CT scan, you will be required to have one. This gives a 3D picture of the inside of your body using x-rays. This will usually take place at either Wigan Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, or Wrightington hospital.

Please note, you **will not** be given any conclusive results at the time of your gastroscopy or CT scan.

What happens next?

We realise that waiting for test results can be a very worrying time. The waiting period might feel very long, and the future may feel very uncertain. You may find it helpful to talk with your partner, family, or a close friend.

To further support you at this uncertain time, you will be referred to the **Upper GI Specialist nursing team** who will contact you following your investigations. They are available to offer you advice, information and support relating to your complaint. They will also ask you some questions about your general health and any existing health conditions.

When the results of the tests are ready, they will be reviewed at the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) weekly meeting (which you will not need to attend). You will be informed of the results and the next steps at the earliest opportunity. This is usually a face-to-face appointment at the hospital with one of the consultant gastroenterologists.

How long will it take for results to be ready?

We aim to work as quickly as possible (usually within 2 weeks) to get the results of your investigations back to you. The Upper GI Team will closely monitor the dates and the reporting of your investigations.

If you are worried about the time, it is taking for you to receive your results, you may find it helpful to speak to a member of the Upper GI Team. They can be contacted on the following phone number 01942 773459.

What do I do whilst I am waiting for results?

Please keep the Upper GI Team updated regarding any changes to your condition, for example, finding it harder to swallow, vomiting or pain.

Outside of the Upper GI Team working hours, if you require medical advice, **speak with your GP**, or contact the **NHS 111 service** when it's less urgent than 999.

Please only attend the Emergency Department in an emergency.

Additional Support

- Cancer Research UK nurses are available for information and support on freephone **0808 800 4040**. The lines are open from 9am until 5pm, Monday to Friday.
- You can also talk things over with The Macmillan Cancer Support Specialists, telephone **0808 808 00 00**.
www.macmillan.org.uk/cancer-information-and-support/diagnosis/waiting-for-results
- The Upper GI specialist nursing team can also provide support, and are available, telephone **01942 773459**. Monday to Friday 7:30am until 4pm.

Comments, Compliments or Complaints

The Patient Relations/Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Department provides confidential on the spot advice, information and support to patients, relatives, friends, and carers.

Contact Us

Tel: 01942 822376 (Monday to Friday 9am until 4pm)

The Patient Relations/PALS Manager
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary
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WN1 2NN

Ask 3 Questions

Become more involved in decisions about your healthcare. You may be asked to make choices about your treatment. To begin with, try to make sure you get the answers to three key questions:

1. What are my options?
2. What are the positives and negatives of each option for me?
3. How do I get support to help me make a decision that is right for me?



How We Use Your Information

For details on how we collect, use, and store the information we hold about you, please see patient information leaflet, Ref. **Corp 006** How we use your information, this can be found on the Patient Information Leaflets page on the Trust website, see details on the front cover.

This leaflet is also available in audio, large print, Braille, and other languages upon request. For more information, please ask in the department/ward.

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