Hearing about your experience of our services is very important as it means we can pass compliments on to our staff and make improvements where necessary. Tell us what you think by emailing us at: yourexperience@rothgen.nhs.uk

If you require this document in another language, large print, braille, audio or easyread format, please ask our healthcare providers*

*Note to healthcare providers: Translated / easyread healthcare information can be sourced via the Easyread websites listed at the back of this leaflet or via contacting our translation company which can be accessed through InSite.
Where is the Theatre Admissions Unit (TAU)?
The Theatre Admissions Unit is located on Level B, Junction 2. Enter the hospital by the Main Entrance and make your way to the lifts at Junction 2.

**Lift**
Take the lift to Level B, as you exit the lift the Theatre Admissions unit is on your left hand side (directly at the side of the lifts.)

**Stairs**
Take the stairs at Junction 2 to level B, as you come through the door onto level B, the Theatre Admissions Unit is located on the right hand side.

What is a Theatre Admissions Unit?
The Theatre Admissions Unit is a pre-operative area, where patients are admitted and prepared for their operation on the day of surgery. Patients are transferred to the Theatre Suite for their operation and then onto a day surgery ward or an inpatient ward following their operation. Please note that the Theatre Admissions unit is a seated area, there are no beds.

How do I contact the Theatre Admissions Unit?
Please only ring the Theatre Admissions Unit on the day you are to be admitted if you need to advise us you have to cancel your surgery. The Theatre Admissions Unit will be unable to offer you an alternative date.

**Theatre Admission Unit**
Telephone 01709 427482
Theatre Admissions Unit

Please ring the pre-operative assessment team if:

- You need advice about your admission
- You need to cancel or postpone your surgery before the day

**Pre-Admission Centre**
Telephone 01709 424585

If you are phoning to cancel or postpone your surgery, please do not contact the Theatre Admissions Unit.

For advice following your pre-operative assessment, please refer to the information given to you by your pre-operative assessment nurse for further contact numbers.

**Do I need to shave?**
There is no requirement to shave the operation site prior to surgery.

**Do I need to starve?**
It is very important that your stomach is empty of food and drink before your operation. ***If you do not follow your starving instructions your operation will be cancelled.***

**Starvation Instructions**
- **Morning Admissions.** Nothing to eat after 2am, this includes food, milk, sweets, chewing gum and fizzy drinks. You may drink water only until 6am.

- **Afternoon Admissions.** Nothing to eat after 7am, this includes food, milk, sweets, chewing gum and fizzy drinks. You may drink water only until 11am.
If you are a smoker you are advised to stop/reduce your smoking. Please do not smoke 24 hours before your operation. This will help avoid breathing problems during your anaesthetic. Please note e-cigarettes are not permitted at the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust.

If you are taking medicines, you should continue to take them as usual, unless your pre-operative assessment nurse has asked you not to. You may take your tablets with a sip of water if necessary. (If you take drugs to stop you getting blood clots (anticoagulants), or drugs for diabetes you will need specific instructions).

You should remove all nail varnish & all piercings. If you have false nails or nail wraps please remove these prior to your date for surgery. Unless you are having hand surgery (in which case remove all the nails from that hand) then the nails from the index fingers of each hand will be satisfactory.

On the day of surgery
- Have a bath or a shower before you come into hospital
- Make sure you follow your starving instructions as given in this booklet
- Do not chew gum or suck sweets
- Please do not drink any alcohol for 24 hours before your operation.

If you are unsure about how to prepare for your surgery please call your pre-operative assessment nurse, or you may risk your surgery being cancelled.
What do I bring into hospital?

- You will need a dressing gown and a pair of slippers.
- Please remove and leave all jewellery and body piercings at home. You do not need to remove your wedding ring, but it will need to be covered with tape. If you have been unable to remove your piercings please inform us on your admission. However if you are undergoing hand, arm or shoulder surgery you will be asked to remove all jewellery on that arm.
- Please bring in all your regular medications.
- Do not put on any make up and remove any nail varnish and/or false nails – before you come into hospital. Please bring hearing aids and glasses if you require them, preferably do not bring contact lenses.
- Any mobility aids that you need.
- You may wish to bring a book or magazine with you.
- Please make sure you bring in contact numbers of your relatives, carers, transport.

Where possible please ask your relatives, friend or carer to bring your toiletries, nightwear and a change of clothing when they visit you if you are an inpatient.

We are unable to take responsibility for the safety of your belongings. We ask that you do not bring any valuables or large amounts of money with you and that leave your mobile phone at home.
Can someone come with me?
Your relative or friend is welcome to accompany you to the Theatre Admissions Unit; however once you are admitted they will be asked leave. If you are being treated as a day case, the Day Surgery staff will contact your transport once you are ready to be discharged home. If your operation requires a stay in hospital, then your friends and relatives will be able to visit you on the ward at visiting times.

Please note that Day Surgery is unable to offer visiting times.

What will happen on the day of my operation?
Once you arrive at the Theatre Admissions Unit, please report to the reception desk where you will be welcomed to the unit, your details will be checked and you will be admitted to the unit.

You will be asked to change into a theatre gown and to put on your dressing gown and slippers.

The Nurse will record your blood pressure, pulse and temperature. It may be necessary to take some further blood samples or send you for different tests.

The Surgeon will discuss your operation with you and complete the consent form. It may also be necessary to mark your skin with a marker pen to identify the operation site.
If you are having a General Anaesthetic you will also see the Anaesthetist who will check your general health with you and assess that you are fit to have an anaesthetic. Please refer to the ‘You and your anaesthetic’ leaflet.

**Where will I have my operation?**
You will have your operation in our Theatre Suite. This is based around the corner from the Theatre Admissions Unit, which is a short walk away.

You will be escorted to the Theatre Suite by one of the Theatre Reception or Theatre Admissions staff. This will be by walking or wheelchair depending on your mobility.

Please note that a number of operating suites are running at the same time and you will not be taken to Theatre in order of arrival to the unit.

**Where will I go after my operation?**
The plan for where you will receive your post-operative care will be discussed with you with at your pre-operative assessment. Your care will be planned as either a:

**Day Case Patient**
You will be transferred to the Day Surgery Centre following your operation.

**In-Patient**
You will be transferred to an appropriate ward depending on what surgery you are having done. The planned ward will be discussed with you by our pre-operative assessment and booking team.
Please note that depending on bed pressures the ward you are transferred to may change at short notice.

**How does my property get from Theatre Admissions Unit to the Ward or Day Surgery?**
On admission to the unit your property will be labelled with your name and hospital number. The Theatre Admissions staff will transfer your property to the ward to where you will be cared for after your operation once you have gone to Theatre.

**Please be advised to bring with you the minimal belongings and leave all valuables at home.**

**Can my relatives call to see how I am?**
When you agree your admission date you will be given a planned discharge ward.

We ask that you pass this information onto your relatives to contact the ward to enquire about how you are following your operation. If your relatives wish to contact the Theatre Admissions Unit to find out if you have gone to Theatre they are welcome to do so.

**Single sex accommodation**
The Theatre Admissions Unit is segregated into separate male and female waiting areas.

**Upon discharge from hospital you will be asked to participate in ‘Friends and Family’ feedback.**
How to contact us
Theatre Admission Unit
Telephone 01709 427482

Pre-Admission Centre
Telephone 01709 424585

Switchboard
Telephone 01709 820000

Useful contact numbers
If it’s not an emergency, please consider using a Pharmacy or call NHS 111 before going to A&E.

NHS 111 Service
Telephone 111

Health Info
Telephone 01709 427190

Stop Smoking Service
Telephone 01709 422444

A&E
Telephone 01709 424455

For GP out of hours, contact your surgery

Useful websites
www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk
www.nhs.uk
www.gov.uk
www.patient.co.uk

Easyread websites
www.easyhealth.org.uk
www.friendlyresources.org.uk
www.easy-read-online.co.uk

We value your comments
If you have any comments or concerns about the services we have provided please let us know, or alternatively you can contact the Patient Experience Team.

Patient Experience Team
The Oldfield Centre
The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust
Rotherham Hospital
Moorgate Road
Rotherham
S60 2UD

Telephone: 01709 424461
Monday to Friday
9.00am until 4.00pm
Email: yourexperience@rothgen.nhs.uk
How to find us

Hospital site plan

Rotherham main routes