

Day case surgery

Day surgery, sometimes called day case surgery, means an operation or surgical procedure that does not need an overnight stay in hospital. You will come into hospital on the day and go home on the same day after you have recovered.

Getting ready for your surgery?

- Who is going to take you home? You need an adult over the age of 18 years old to collect you from the hospital after your surgery
- How are you getting home? This can be by car or taxi – public transport is not recommended.
- Who will help you at home? You will need to have an adult over 18 years old to stay with you for 24 hours after your operation.
- We recommend that you have paracetamol and ibuprofen, if you are able to take, ready at home. The hospital will not give you them as you can get them from a local shop or pharmacy.

Going home: What is normal?

- You may get some pain; we will give you strong pain medicine if you need it. Regular use of simple pain killers at home will help reduce this
- You may feel sick; we can give you suitable medication if you have these symptoms. This will not stop you from going home and it should disappear after 1 or 2 days.
- It is very common for some people (especially men) to have difficulty in peeing after surgery. If needed, you might have to have a tube (known as a catheter) inserted into the bladder. This should not stop you from going home and is removed after a few days.
- You may feel drowsy and light headed for 24 hours after your operation; **do not** drive, operate any heavy machinery, make any important decision or sign any legal documents.

The nurses will give you going home advice and contact numbers after your operation. For some procedures the day case ward will contact you by text the following day to see how you are.