

Information about your referral following a Vacuum Assisted Excision Procedure

South West London Breast Screening

This leaflet explains more about what will happen after having a Vacuum Assisted Excision procedure.

Thank you for attending the breast assessment clinic. As discussed with you we will now arrange a follow up Vacuum Assisted Excision (VACE) Procedure to take further tissue from this area.

Why was I recalled to assessment?

You were recalled to the assessment clinic because of some concern about an area of tissue in the of your left / right breast.

You had:

Breast x-rays (mammograms) Breast examination

Ultrasound scan Needle biopsy

The biopsy showed:

.....

.....

.....

.....

We will inform your GP practice of this result.

When will I have my VACE?

Your VACE will be arranged within two to three weeks depending on bruising.

When will I receive the results of my VACE?

The results appointment will be within two weeks of the VACE.

Who will give me the results of my VACE?

We will also refer you to see a specialist breast surgeon at St George's University Hospital to get the results of this VACE. You do not need to see your GP for this referral to take place.

Who will refer me to the Breast Surgeon?

The doctor / specialist practitioner you met to today will refer you to the breast surgeon, his / her name is:

.....
The doctor / specialist practitioner who you met at the assessment clinic was:

.....

Who will my breast surgical team be?

Consultant Breast Surgeons:

Miss S. Tang (maternity leave) / Mr Banerjee Wednesday morning clinic

Ms. N. Betambeau Thursday morning clinic

Breast Care Nurses:

Tracy Hall Jane Thomson Tel. 020 8725 4745

What can I expect at my first surgical appointment?

This appointment is usually held on a Wednesday or Thursday morning. You may be in the clinic for up to three hours. Your x-rays, scans and biopsy results will have been discussed in a multidisciplinary team meeting prior to your appointment, in order to discuss the most appropriate plan for you.

The VACE result will be discussed with you at your appointment. If further surgery is required this will also be discussed with you.

Often further surgery is not necessary but a yearly screening mammogram may be recommended for a period of five years. This will be arranged for you.

Can I bring a friend or relative?

Please feel free to bring a friend or relative with you if you wish.

Are there any alternatives?

If further surgery is recommended you may prefer to have this carried out at a breast unit in a hospital closer to your home and this can be arranged for you.

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns before your appointment, please contact the breast care nurses by telephoning **020 8725 2726**.

The breast care nurse you met today was.....

Useful sources of information

Other useful websites for information

www.breastcancercare.org.uk

www.macmillan.org.uk

www.cancerresearchuk.org

For more information leaflets on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, please visit www.stgeorges.nhs.uk

Additional services

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS can offer you on-the-spot advice and information when you have comments or concerns about our services or the care you have received. You can visit the PALS office between 9.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday in the main corridor between Grosvenor and Lanesborough wings (near the lift foyer).

Tel: 020 8725 2453 **Email:** pals@stgeorges.nhs.uk

NHS Choices

NHS Choices provides online information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you make decisions about your health.

Web: www.nhs.uk

NHS 111

You can call 111 when you need medical help fast but it's not a 999 emergency. NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are free from landlines and mobile phones.

Tel: 111

AccessAble

You can download accessibility guides for all of our services by searching 'St George's Hospital' on the AccessAble website (www.accessable.co.uk). The guides are designed to ensure everyone – including those with accessibility needs – can access our hospital and community sites with confidence.

