

Fracture Clinic

This leaflet explains more about the fracture clinic. If you have any further questions, please speak to a doctor or nurse caring for you.

What is the fracture clinic?

This clinic is for patients who have had an injury which needs to be looked at by a doctor known as an orthopaedic specialist.

The clinic can get very busy so please leave at least three hours for your appointment. We will try to treat you before then and if there is a delay we will try to let you know what time you will probably be seen. Ask a member of staff if you are not sure.

Some patients may arrive after you but be seen before you as more than one clinic will be taking place at the same time.

If you need X-rays or additional tests, this may mean your visit takes longer.

If you need your plaster cast changed or replaced, our technicians will do this for you in the plastering room next to the clinic.

If you need an operation, your orthopaedic clinician will discuss this with you. You may be admitted straight into the hospital or you may need to come back on a planned date. You may also need to answer some questions or to have some blood tests or other tests.

Please be patient, we know waiting is difficult but rest assured we try to see all patients as quickly as possible and do our best for everyone.

Who can receive the service?

Patients of any age with an acute orthopaedic problem can be referred to the fracture clinic. Patients cannot self-refer.

If you came to the Emergency Department with your injury you will be given a clinic appointment if you need one before you are discharged.

All other referrals are made through the Trauma and Orthopaedics Department.

You do not need to book the appointment yourself - if you need to be seen in the clinic you will be given the date and time for your appointment.

Where do I need to go?

The fracture clinic is in the Outpatients Department, ground floor, St James' wing, St George's Hospital. The clinic runs every weekday morning and afternoon (excluding bank holidays).

Patient transport is available if you are eligible.

We won't be able to tell you if you will need to attend the clinic more than once until after your first appointment.

What do I need to bring with me?

Bring your appointment letter with you if you have one.

Please also bring details of any relevant investigations or treatments you have had elsewhere and a list of any regular medications you take. If any of your medications, such as diabetic medication, will be due to be taken during the time you are at the clinic, please bring it with you and remember to take it.

Wear clothes to your appointment that will allow you to be examined if needed.

If English is not your first language, it may help to bring a relative or friend to aid your understanding.

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns about the fracture clinic, please discuss them with your surgeon or nurse practitioner at your clinic appointment or contact the fracture clinic on 020 8672 1255 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

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 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.

