

Charles Pumphrey Unit

This leaflet explains about Charles Pumphrey Unit. If you have any further questions, please speak to a doctor or nurse caring for you.

What is Charles Pumphrey Unit?

- A specialised seven bedded cardiology unit for overnight elective procedures.
- Operating on a single sex patient allocation every week to ensure privacy and dignity.
- A Nurse led unit and runs with a Nurse Practitioner, two nurses and admissions coordinator who will be responsible for your care.

Who can attend / receive the service?

This service is available to patients referred to our cardiology team.

Where do I need to go?

We are located on 3rd Floor, Atkinson Morley Wing. Please take a seat on the chairs provided outside and you will be attended to by the Nurse-In-Charge when the ward opens at 7.30am. We apologise should you be asked to wait until we have cleared beds from previous days' admissions.

Does it cost anything?

The service is free. You may incur travel costs coming to and from the hospital if this has not been arranged. If you are eligible for hospital transport, please inform the cardiac admissions team to make an arrangement in advance as arrangements will not be made on the day.

How do I prepare for admission?

If you are being admitted for a cardiac ablation, pacemaker or ICD and booked for pre-assessment this will be discussed with you. For all other procedures, you may have a light early breakfast prior to admission (before 7.00am). You may also contact the ward nurse practitioners for guidance.

What do I bring with me?

You may want to bring a dressing gown and pair of slippers for your comfort. We advise not to bring any valuables or to keep them to a minimum as any valuables brought in will remain your responsibility.

Please bring your medications and up to date prescription list with you. Bring any specialist medication such as insulin and inhalers if you are due to take them during your admission. Your medications will be locked away for safety reasons.

If you are taking blood thinner: Warfarin, Rivaroxaban, Apixaban, Edoxaban or Dabigatran please contact the Nurse Practitioner on the ward as soon as you are given the admission date for guidance about whether they should continue or stop to avoid cancellation.

What If I am on dialysis?

You cannot have dialysis and a procedure on the same day. Please inform our admissions team at the time of your booking so we can offer a suitable date on a non-dialysis day.

What happens on the day of my procedure?

You will be allocated a bed for the duration of your stay and will have a blood test and ECG done before procedure. A nurse practitioner or cardiology doctor will meet and discuss the risks and benefits of the procedure with you and if you are happy to proceed, you will sign the consent form.

Due to emergency admissions, we cannot advise of a specific time of your investigation / procedure or any subsequent review prior to your discharge. Please be prepared to be on the ward for most of the day.

What happens after my procedure?

Depending on the procedure, you may be connected to a heart monitor and will be advised of recovery and discharge time. If you had general anaesthetic, you will be required to stay overnight. If any new medications were started, please do not go home until these have been explained to you. You will be sent home with a discharge letter, a copy of which will be sent to your GP electronically or by post.

Will I be allowed visitors?

Relatives are not permitted to visit or stay. Please speak to the Nurse-In-Charge or Nurse Practitioner if you have any specific care needs, i.e. dementia, home carers or language concerns to discuss further.

Nursing staff are happy to provide information about your progress to your Next of Kin but are not able to give out specific details over the telephone. It is advisable to have one nominated person as a main contact who can then update other relatives or family members to avoid numerous calls to the unit.

Will I be allowed to drive or be fit to fly after the investigation or procedure?

You are not permitted to drive home on the day of your procedure or to use public transport. Please arrange for someone to collect you.

The DVLA imposes strict restrictions on driving after any cardiology investigation or procedure. For some procedures the regulation is one week.

Your nurse will discuss post procedure aftercare and a copy of an advice sheet will be provided.

Fitness to fly and travel will depend on the type of investigation and subsequent results or the treatment you are having.

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the ward on 020 8725 1170 / 1180, Monday to Friday between 7.30am to 7.30pm. For queries relating to appointments please call the Admissions Team on telephone numbers. 020 8725 4958 / 6042.

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.

