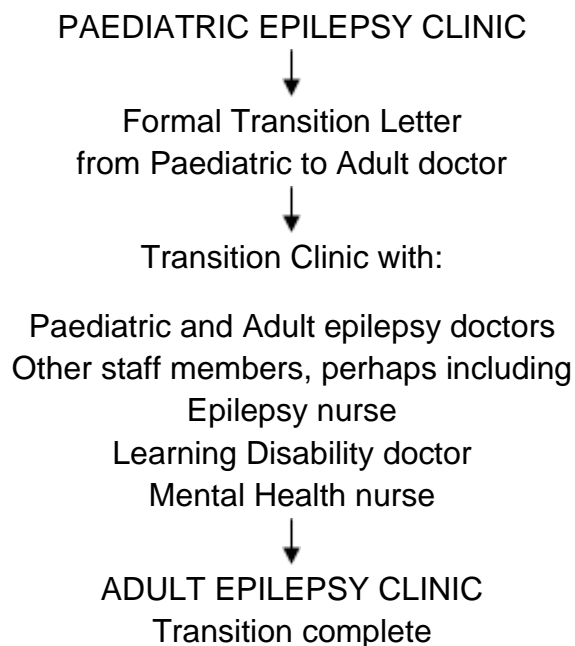


# Transition from Paediatric Epilepsy services to Adult Epilepsy Neurology services

**This leaflet gives information for young people and their families about the transition to Adult Epilepsy Neurology services. If you have any further questions, please speak to a doctor or nurse caring for you.**

## Introduction

Transitioning from paediatric to adult services can be a stressful and scary time for a young person and their family. This leaflet is designed to provide some information about that process and the practicalities surrounding the transition.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Why does the young person need to transition?**

When a young person reaches the age of 18, they are legally recognised as an adult. Paediatricians manage children up to this age but once a young person is an adult, the adult specialist doctors take over. The transition process is started between the ages of 14-16 years. We aim for young people with epilepsy and no learning disability to transition by the age of 16 years and by the age of 18 years if they have a learning disability.

### **Who are the specialists taking over the care of the young person?**

The medical team will be the adult neurology doctors specialising in epilepsy. Several years of training and experience are required for doctors working in this area. Sometimes a consultant psychiatrist specialising in Learning Disability and a specialist mental health nurse also attend the epilepsy transition clinic.

### **Will the new team know my child's background?**

We make every effort to make communication as smooth as possible. A formal referral letter is sent by the paediatric team to the adult team prior to the transition clinic. The electronic and / or paper notes are usually available to both teams but often the parents / guardian and the young person themselves are the most valuable sources of information.

### **Is this transition process the same for all specialities like gastroenterology or respiratory?**

No. This transition process is only for epilepsy. Any other medical teams involved in the young person's care will have a separate but similar transition process.

### **What happens in the case of an emergency?**

Once seen and discussed at the transition clinic, the young person should either contact their GP or attend Adult Accident and Emergency (A&E). Prior to this, the young person should attend Paediatric A&E as usual.

### **What happens on admission to hospital?**

Any admissions to hospital after transition will be to an adult ward.

## Practical information

### **Name of "new" adult clinic once transition is complete**

Epilepsy clinic

### **Location of "new" adult clinic**

Neurology Outpatients, Ground Floor, Atkinson Morley Wing, St George's Hospital.

## Adult neurology (epilepsy) team members

Professor Hannah Cock - Consultant Neurologist

Dr Marco Mula - Consultant Neurologist

Dr Elizabeth Galizia - Consultant Neurologist

Ms Marie Synnott-Wells - Clinical Nurse Specialist

Ms Amal Abdow - Clinical Nurse Specialist

## Contact us

Secretaries' email: [adult.epilepsy@stgeorges.nhs.uk](mailto:adult.epilepsy@stgeorges.nhs.uk)

Epilepsy nurse contact number: 020 8725 4110.

email: [Adult.epilepsynurse@stgeorges.nhs.uk](mailto:Adult.epilepsynurse@stgeorges.nhs.uk)



For more information leaflets on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, please visit [www.stgeorges.nhs.uk](http://www.stgeorges.nhs.uk)

## Additional services

### Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS can offer you advice and information when you have comments or concerns about our services or care. You can contact the PALS team on the advisory telephone line Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 2pm to 5pm.

A Walk-in service is available:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday between 10am and 4pm

Friday between 10am and 2pm.

Please contact PALS in advance to check if there are any changes to opening times.

The Walk-in and Advisory telephone services are closed on Wednesdays.

PALS is based within the hospital in the ground floor main corridor between Grosvenor and Lanesborough Wing.

**Tel:** 020 8725 2453 **Email:** [pals@stgeorges.nhs.uk](mailto: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](http://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](http://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.



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