

Day Case Unit, Horton General Hospital

# Cataract Surgery

Information for patients





## **Welcome to the Day Case Unit.**

The Day Case Unit at the Horton Hospital can be reached from the High Town Road entrance to the hospital.

If you are travelling by car, please park in the main car park and then walk to the Unit – it is signposted and easy to find. The doors open at approx 7.50am. Please do not come any earlier than this as you will not be able to gain access to the Unit.

If you need disabled access, please follow the signs to the Day Case Unit in your car. This is a drop off and collection point only. Disabled parking is situated in the main car parks.

**For patients listed for arrival in the Horton DCU at 8am – please make sure that you have had breakfast by 7am.**

**For patients listed for arrival in the Horton DCU at 12 noon – please ensure that you have eaten by 11am.**

## Before you come to hospital

Please bring any tablets that you are currently taking, and any hearing aids or walking aids etc.

You should take all your medications as normal, particularly if you are diabetic – unless you have been told otherwise by the pre-assessment nurse.

If you are on Warfarin it is not necessary to stop taking it unless you have been told otherwise. Please arrange to have an INR blood test (clotting) at your GP's surgery within the 24 hours **before** your admission date.

Please do not wear eye or face make-up or any nail varnish.

You may bring 1 adult friend or relative only to stay with you on the ward.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided after your procedure. You may bring extra food with you, e.g. a sandwich, which you can eat after your surgery if you would like to.

## What happens when you arrive?

On your arrival you will be greeted at the Day Case reception where you will be asked to take a seat. Morning patients are then transferred to an annex off E ward, which is part of the Day Case Unit. Afternoon patients are asked to wait in Day Case reception until they have seen both the nurse and the doctor. You will then be transferred to the E ward annex.

The nurse will ask you questions – some of which you may have already been asked. The doctor performing the cataract operation will also see you. You may also need to sign a consent form, if you have not already done so. The doctor will put a mark on your forehead to indicate which eye you are having surgery on. (This will wash off following the procedure with soap and water.)

**You may be on the ward for up to six hours.**

# After the operation

You may be given a small amount of sedation during the procedure. This stays in the body for at least 24 hours and may make you drowsy.

You will be sent home with an eye shield on, which must be left in place until the next day. This may cause temporary impaired vision.

For these reasons it is advisable to have a responsible adult to accompany you home by car or taxi - public transport is not advisable. Traveling home by taxi **unaccompanied** is not advisable.

We also advise you to have someone stay with you overnight if possible.

# Going home

Before you are discharged the nurses will tell you how to look after your eye, when to start your eye drops and give you advice on how to look after your eye.

A follow up appointment will be sent through the post to you for approximately 3 weeks after your cataract operation.

If you have **glaucoma** you may need to be seen at the JR in Oxford the following day. Your discharging nurse will advise you if this is necessary.

If you have any questions before your admission date, please contact one of our nurses on:

Tel: (01295) 229383

Alternatively you can contact us by e-mail:

HortonDC@orh.nhs.uk

# Let us know your views

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please telephone or e-mail us (number and address as above.) Alternatively you can write to:

Lynne Beeson  
Sister  
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If you need an interpreter or need a document in another language, large print, Braille or audio version, please call **01865 221473** or email **PALSJR@orh.nhs.uk**

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