



We can provide interpreters for a variety of languages, information in larger print or other formats (e.g. audio) - please call us on 01932 723553.

To use the Text Relay service, prefix all numbers with 18802.

اگر نیاز به ترجمہ دارید، لطفاً با شماره 01932 723553 تماس بگیرید۔

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਤਰਜਮੇ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ: 01932 723553

اگر آپ اس کا اردو زبان میں ترجمہ چاہتے ہیں، تو براہ کرم اس فون نمبر 01932 723553 پر رابطہ کریں

Se precisa de uma tradução por favor contacte: 01932 723553

আপনার অনুবাদের দরকার হলে এখানে যোগাযোগ করুন : 01932 723553

यदि आपको अनुवाद की ज़रूरत है तो कृपया इस नंबर पर फोन करें: 01932 723553

Jeżeli chcemy, aby te informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić 01932 723553

Ashford Hospital
London Road
Ashford, Middlesex
TW15 3AA
Tel: **01784 884488**

St. Peter's Hospital
Guildford Road
Chertsey, Surrey
KT16 0PZ.
Tel: **01932 872000**

Website: www.ashfordstpeters.nhs.uk

About the Consent Form Nursing Department

About the Consent Form

Before a doctor or other health professional examines or treats you, they need your consent. Sometimes you can simply tell them whether you agree with their suggestions. However, sometimes a written record of your decision is helpful - for example if your treatment involves sedation or general anaesthesia. You will then be asked to sign a consent form. If, later, you change your mind, you're entitled to withdraw consent - even after signing.

WHAT SHOULD I KNOW BEFORE DECIDING?

Health professionals must ensure you know enough to enable you to decide about treatment. As well as discussing the choices of treatment with you, they will write information on the consent form and offer you a copy to keep. Although they may well recommend a particular option, you are free to choose another. People's attitudes vary on things like the amount of risk or pain they are prepared to accept. This also applies to the amount of information required. If you would rather not know about certain aspects, discuss your worries with whoever is treating you.

SHOULD I ASK QUESTIONS?

Always ask anything you want to clarify. As a reminder, you can write your questions in the space indicated at the end of this leaflet. The person you ask should do his or her best to answer, but if they do not know they should find someone else who is able to discuss your concerns.

You might like to bring a friend or relative to support you and prompt questions. Please ask if you would like someone independent to speak up for you.

FURTHER INFORMATION

This information leaflet is also available to download in the following languages.

- [Download Bengali](#)
- [Download Chinese](#)
- [Download Greek](#)
- [Download Gujarati](#)
- [Download Polish](#)
- [Download Punjabi](#)
- [Download Turkish](#)
- [Download Urdu](#)
- [Download Vietnamese](#)

Should you have any queries regarding the contents of this leaflet please contact

Marty Williams, Clinical Risk Manager
Tel: **01932 722 613**

Further Information

We endeavour to provide an excellent service at all times, but should you have any concerns please, in the first instance, raise these with the Matron, Senior Nurse or Manager on duty. If they cannot resolve your concern, please contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 01932 723553 or email pals@asph.nhs.uk. If you still remain concerned please contact our Complaints Manager on 01932 722612 or email complaints@asph.nhs.uk.

Author: Marty Williams

Department: Nursing / Quality

Version: 3

Published: Nov 2009

Review: Nov 2012

appointment, you can write some down in the space for notes at the end of this leaflet.

Questions may be about the treatment itself, for example:

- What are the main treatment options?
- What are the benefits of each of the options?
- What are the risks, if any, of each option?
- What are the success rates for different options - nationally, for this unit, for you or for the surgeon?
- Why do you think an operation (if suggested) is necessary?
- What are the risks if I decide to do nothing for the time being?
- How can I expect to feel after the procedure?
- When am I likely to be able to get back to work?

Questions may also be about how the treatment might affect your future state of health or style of life, for example:

- Will I need long-term care?
- Will my mobility be affected?
- Will I still be able to drive?
- Will it affect the kind of work I do?
- Will it affect my personal/ sexual relationships?
- Will I be able to take part in my favourite sport / exercises?
- Will I be able to follow my usual diet?

So they can work in partnership with you for the best outcome, health care professionals should welcome your views and discuss any issues that arise.

IS THERE ANYTHING I SHOULD TELL PEOPLE?

If there is any procedure you do not want to undergo, you should tell the people treating you. It's also important for them to know about any illnesses or allergies which you may have or have suffered from in the past.

CAN I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT GIVING CONSENT?

The Department of Health leaflet "Consent - what you have a right to expect is a detailed guide on consent in versions for adults, children, parents, carers / relatives and people with learning disabilities". Ask for one from your clinic or hospital, order one from the NHS Response line (**08701 555 455**) or read it on the web site www.doh.gov.uk/consent

WHO IS TREATING ME?

Amongst the health professionals treating you may be a "doctor in training" - medically qualified, but now doing more specialist training.

They range from recently qualified doctors to those almost ready to be consultants who will only carry out procedures for which they have been appropriately trained. Someone more experienced will supervise - either in person accompanying a less experienced doctor in training, or available to advise.

WHAT ABOUT ANAESTHESIA?

If your treatment involves general or regional anaesthesia (where more than a small part of your body is being anaesthetised), you will be given general information about it in advance.

You will also have an opportunity to talk with the anaesthetist when he or she assesses your state of health shortly before treatment. Hospitals sometimes have pre-assessment clinics which provide patients with the chance to discuss things a few weeks earlier.

WILL SAMPLES BE TAKEN?

Some kinds of operation involve removing a part of the body (such as a gall bladder or a tooth). You would always be told about this in advance.

As part of your care, other operations may mean taking samples. These may be of blood or small sections of tissue, for example of an unexplained lump.

To ensure the best possible standards, these may be checked further by other health professionals. If additional samples are likely to be taken, again, you should be told in advance.

In the future interests of all NHS patients, sometimes samples taken during operations may also be used for teaching, research or public health monitoring. The NHS trust treating you will have a local system for checking whether you are willing for this to happen.

PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEOS

As part of your treatment some kind of photographic record may be made - for example X-rays, clinical photographs or sometimes a video. You will always be told if this is going to happen.

The photograph or recording will be kept with your personal notes and will be held in confidence as part of your medical record. This

means that it will normally be seen only by those involved in providing you with care or who need to check the quality of care you have received.

The use of photographs and recordings is also extremely important for other NHS work, such as teaching or medical research. However, without your express permission we will not use yours in a way that might allow you to be identified or recognised.

WHAT IF THINGS DON'T GO AS EXPECTED?

Amongst the 25,000 operations taking place every day, sometimes things do not go as they should.

Often the patient is the first to notice something amiss, although, if there is a problem, the doctor involved should inform you and your family. If you are worried - for example about the after effects of an operation continuing much longer than you were told to expect - tell a health professional right away. Speak to your GP, or contact your clinic - the phone number should be on your appointment card, letter or consent form copy.

WHAT ARE THE KEY THINGS TO REMEMBER?

It is your decision! It is up to you to choose whether or not to consent to what is being proposed. Ask as many questions as you like, and remember to tell the team about anything that concerns you or about any medication, allergies or past history which might affect your general health.

QUESTIONS TO ASK HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

As well as giving you information, health professionals must listen and do their best to answer your questions. Before your next