

CAN WE MAKE YOUR VISIT EASIER?

... putting people at the heart of everything we do ...

We want to make your visit to Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals easier. Some things we can provide quickly, others may take time to arrange. Whatever your need – please ask for help.

We can provide interpreters for a variety of languages, information in larger print or Braille, plus audio and other formats.

If you require a translation please call: 01932 723553

اگر نیاز به ترجمہ دارید، لطفاً با شماره 01932 723 553 تماس بگیرید۔ Farsi

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

اگر آپ اس کا اردو زبان میں ترجمہ چاہتے ہیں، تو براہ کرم اس فون نمبر 01932 723 553 پر رابطہ کریں Urdu

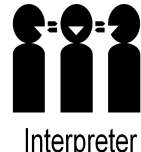
Se precisa de uma tradução por favor contacte: 01932 723553 Portuguese

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

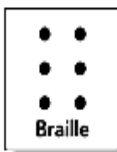
আপনার অনুবাদের দরকার হলে এখানে যোগাযোগ করুন : 01932 723553 Bengali



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Interpreter



Braille

Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals **NHS**
NHS Trust

PNEUMONIA

A GUIDE FOR PATIENTS

Medical Assessment Unit

Ashford Hospital, London Road, Ashford, Middlesex, TW15 3AA.

Telephone: 01784 884488 Fax: 01784 884017

St. Peter's Hospital, Guildford Road, Chertsey, Surrey, KT16 0PZ.

Telephone: 01932 872000 Fax: 01932 874757

Website: www.ashfordstpeters.nhs.uk

PATIENT INFORMATION

If they are unable to resolve your query satisfactorily please contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on **01932 723553** or e-mail www.pals@asph.nhs.uk.

Having done this, if you remain concerned our Complaints Manager can be contacted on **01932 722612** or e-mail www.complaints@asph.nhs.uk

INTRODUCTION – WHAT IS PNEUMONIA?

You have been diagnosed with pneumonia. This is an infection of the lungs most commonly caused by bacteria. Your pneumonia has been assessed by the hospital team and is safe to be treated at home with tablet antibiotics.

WHY HAVE YOU DEVELOPED PNEUMONIA?

Anybody can get pneumonia, including young fit adults. There are other factors that may make people more prone to it. These include:

- Long-standing respiratory conditions
- Smoking
- Alcohol and/or drug abuse
- Increasing age
- Other medical conditions such as diabetes, cancer and stroke
- AIDS

HOW SERIOUS IS IT?

Pneumonia can range from mild to life threatening. Your pneumonia has been assessed as less severe and therefore safe to treat at home.

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WHAT SYMPTOMS MIGHT YOU SUFFER?

Typically patients complain of cough (and you may produce discoloured sputum), breathlessness, lack of energy, fevers, loss of appetite, headaches, aches and pains, but often might have only 1 or 2 of these symptoms.

WHAT IS THE TREATMENT?

Antibiotics are used to kill the bacteria that usually cause the pneumonia.

You should drink plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration.

Paracetamol or Ibuprofen can be taken to help control fever and pain.

If you are a smoker then you should try to stop.

WHEN WILL YOU RECOVER?

Antibiotics usually work well and you should expect the symptoms to settle over a few days. It may take several weeks for your energy levels to recover and you may feel exhausted performing tasks that you can normally easily achieve. You should expect to make a complete recovery without long term effects.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE NOT IMPROVING?

If the symptoms are not settling you should see your GP. If the symptoms are getting worse, then you should return to the Accident and Emergency department.

IS THERE ANY FOLLOW-UP?

You will receive an appointment for the chest clinic in 4 to 6 weeks time. At this appointment you will have a follow-up chest x-ray to make sure that the pneumonia has cleared from your lung.

FURTHER INFORMATION

After reading this leaflet, if you have any queries please contact the Medical Assessment Unit at St. Peter's Hospital, telephone **01932 722936**.

Additional details about the two hospitals, including information regarding the Department caring for you can be found by logging on to our website www.ashfordstpeters.nhs.uk or the National NHS website www.nhs.uk which includes an A to Z guide to health.

Our staff endeavour to provide an excellent service but we do recognise that there are times when you may have concerns. In the first instance please raise these with the Senior Nurse or Manager in charge when you are at the hospital.