

How to contact us

Contact Centre

Telephone 01709 427676

Switchboard

Telephone 01709 820000

You can get more information about
Choose and Book from the
following website:

The Rotherham Foundation Trust:

www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk/book

NHS Connecting For Health

Choose and Book:

www.chooseandbook.nhs.uk

The Rotherham **NHS**

NHS Foundation Trust

Rotherham Hospital

Moorgate Road
Oakwood
Rotherham
S60 2UD

Telephone 01709 820000

www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk

General Surgery

Your referral to Breast Services

patient information



Sustainable Forests / Low chlorine

Rotherham **Hospital** *Your health, your choice, our passion*



Your referral to Breast Services

Why have I been referred to hospital to be seen within two weeks?

Your General Practitioner (GP) has asked for you to have a hospital appointment with Breast Services. You should expect to be offered an appointment date within two weeks of your referral being received by the hospital. Depending on your symptoms, this appointment may be to attend an outpatient clinic, or for a test, or a combination of the two. This appointment system was introduced so that a hospital doctor would see any patient with breast symptoms to enable any serious conditions to be diagnosed quickly.

Does this mean I have a serious condition?

The majority of patients referred to Breast Services do not have a serious condition, but evidence shows us that serious conditions can occasionally start developing without clear signs or symptoms. Evidence also shows that, in such situations, patients' health is improved by quick diagnosis and treatment. Therefore, the best way to ensure that all patients have the best possible care, is for all patients to be seen within two weeks.

So why has my GP referred me to be seen within two weeks?

GPs diagnose and treat many illnesses themselves. However, on occasion they need to arrange for you to see a specialist hospital doctor. This could be for a number of reasons, such as:

- Your symptoms need further investigation.
- The treatment already prescribed has not been effective.
- The tests your GP arranged have shown some results which we would like to look at further.
- To exclude the possibility of a serious condition so you can be reassured at the earliest possible date.
- So that a serious condition can be diagnosed (in the minority of patients) as soon as possible. This means we can start treatment quickly which will improve your health.

What symptoms might need an urgent referral?

Symptoms such as:

- A lump that does not go away
- Nipple symptoms
- Breast swelling
- Breast pain
- Persistent unexplained symptoms

Will I need any tests?

You may require further tests; these may take place either before or during your first appointment at the hospital. This will help the hospital doctor to understand the cause of your symptoms.

What do I need to do now?

- Make sure that your GP has your correct address and telephone number, including mobile number if possible.
- You should be able to arrange this appointment via Choose and Book, either with your GP or from your own home.
- If this has not been possible the hospital will try to contact you by telephone to arrange an appointment. If they are not able to make telephone contact, an appointment letter will be sent in the post.
- It is important that you contact your GP surgery if you have not been contacted by the hospital within one week of the appointment with your GP.
- Let the hospital know immediately if you are unable to attend your appointment so the appointment can be offered to someone else. It is important that you arrange an alternative date and time when cancelling this appointment.
- At your first appointment, based on the information from your GP and the hospital doctor, you will be given more information about what will happen next.
- Please feel free to bring someone with you to this appointment – do not feel that you have to be alone.

Your referral to Breast Services

Contact details

Choose and Book is a new service that allows you to choose your hospital or clinic and book an appointment with a specialist. To book your appointment at Rotherham Hospital, phone New Appointments on 01709 424495. You will need to have your unique booking reference number and password to hand.

It is important to remember that even though you are getting an appointment quickly, this does not necessarily mean you have a serious condition.

Useful contact numbers

NHS Direct

Telephone 0845 4647

Patient Services

Telephone 01709 424461

Health Info

Telephone 01709 427190

Stop Smoking Service

Telephone 01709 422444

For GP out of hours,

contact your surgery

Useful websites

www.nhs.uk

www.direct.gov.uk

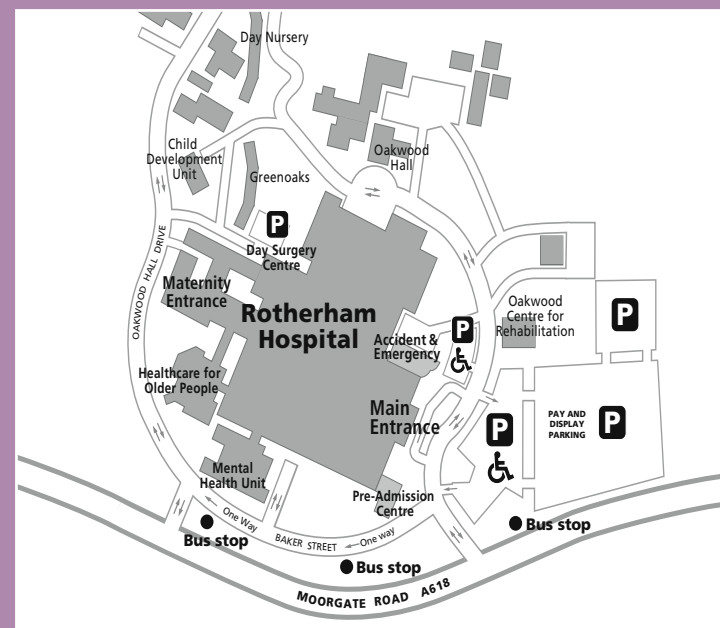
www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk

If you require this document in another language, large print, braille or audio version, please contact Patient Information on 01709 424281.

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How to find us

Hospital *site plan*



Rotherham *main routes*

