

Important information about the Wessex Rapid Diagnostic Service

Your GP has referred you to the Wessex Rapid Diagnostic Service (RDS) because they feel your symptoms should be investigated by a hospital specialist as soon as possible. This is so the cause can be diagnosed quickly. They are concerned your symptoms could suggest cancer but to reassure you 9 out of 10 people will not have cancer, and your symptoms may be caused by a number of common conditions.

To provide you with support at this worrying time, the RDS aims to get you a diagnosis and if you need it, to begin treatment, as quickly as possible.

- Once you have seen your GP, you will have an introductory phone call from the RDS team within 2 working days. They will go through your medical history and you can ask questions and get any support you need.
- The RDS team then decides which tests they think you need and you'll have a second phone call to discuss these. Where possible, the tests will take place at the hospital of your choice.
- The hospital will contact you directly to arrange your test appointments.
- The RDS will confirm with you that you have received your test appointments and answer any questions.
- You will then go to the hospital for your tests.
- The RDS will contact you with your test results and to discuss and explain the next steps.

- This could be to refer you to an appropriate specialist team for further investigation or treatment if there is a possibility of cancer or another condition. If you do not need to be seen by a specialist, you will be referred back to your GP.
- **You should get your results within 28 days of your referral.**

Use this space to write down any useful information (eg contact numbers and names or any questions you think of before your phone call with the RDS team)

Hospital Appt

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Contact numbers/names

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Questions

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For a translation of this document or to request information in an accessible format, please email WessexRDS.admin@nhs.net