

Rapid Access Chest pain Clinic – Ashford and St Peters Hospitals

What is the Chest Pain Clinic

Your GP (sometimes A&E or other hospital clinic) has referred you for investigation of your chest pains. To save you waiting for a routine cardiology clinic appointment, then further waiting for an exercise test and then a follow-up appointment, you will be seen, diagnosed and treated all on the same visit (where appropriate). This will take place within 2 weeks of your GP referral.

How will this benefit me?

A shorter wait will lead to faster diagnosis and quicker treatment, helping your condition in the long run. If there is nothing serious wrong, you will be reassured sooner.

You can agree an appointment directly on the telephone with the booking secretary at a time that suits you (must be within 2 weeks of our receiving the referral). This will allow you to arrange work / home commitments.

How do I arrange an appointment?

Your GP will fax the referral straight to the booking centre. They will contact you between 3 – 48hrs by telephone to arrange your appointment. Please be prepared to attend within 2 weeks.

Please ensure that your GP has both a home and mobile number.

If you have not been contacted within 48 hrs please notify your GP or phone the appointment centre on **01784 884351**. The clinic area is 01784 884500.

You may be seen at either Ashford Hospital or St Peter's Hospital – the most suitable location being offered to you.

Please fill your appointment details into the box below when you have agreed the date and time:

My Appointment is:

Location:

Date:

Time:

They will take the history of your problem and assess your risk factors for developing coronary heart disease. Next you will be examined and, if appropriate, be exercised on the treadmill.

Initially this will be on the flat, then going uphill in stages and become increasingly difficult.

If you feel that you cannot walk like this then please let your GP know.

After the exercise test, the result will be explained to you and any treatment started. You may be referred on for further tests, or may be discharged back to your GP, who may be asked to start you on a new medication.

Please bring comfortable walking shoes to the test.

Plan on being at the outpatients for a maximum of 2 hours. Please note that car parking charges apply at both hospital sites.

Questions?

If you have any questions regarding the test, do ask your GP when you are referred, the booking secretary or the doctor when you arrive – all of whom will be able to put your mind at rest.