

# Surgical Assessment Unit / Short Stay Unit (SASU)





# **Welcome to the Surgical Assessment Unit / Short Stay Unit (SASU)**

**This booklet is designed to give you a brief outline of what to expect during your stay. We want to ensure we do all we can to make your stay safe, comfortable and stress free. We welcome your feedback. You will be given a feedback for before you leave the unit.**

**The SASU provides both an emergency surgical assessment and short stay facility.**

The unit has 10 chairs and 5/6 trolleys with 2 treatment rooms and 11 beds.

## **Referral**

Your GP / accident and emergency doctor has referred you for a Surgical / Urological opinion, this does not mean that you need an operation. However it involves being assessed and discussed regarding any possible treatment you may need, will take place.

## **What happens when I arrive in SASU**

When you arrive on SASU please report to the reception desk with your GP letter. You may then be asked to sit in one of the chairs in the waiting room.

You will then have the following checked by a nurse:

- Blood pressure
- Temperature, pulse and respirations

- A sample of urine (if you are female and of child-bearing age we may need to do a pregnancy test on this sample)
- Blood test for various tests
- Name, address and date of birth will be checked

You may be asked to put on a gown.

You will be asked questions about any medical problems past and present and any treatment you are having at the present time.

You may also have a very fine tube called a cannula placed in your arm, in case we need to give you fluids or medication into your veins.

You will be seen by a surgical / urology doctor who will ask you about your health and current problem.

You may need to have other investigations ie:- Ultrasound scan, X-rays, CT scans, if so the doctor who sees you will discuss these with you. These investigations will help the doctor decide if you need to be admitted to a surgical ward or can be discharged from hospital with a follow up appointment or back to your GP

**If at any time during your stay you are in pain please make sure you let a member of nursing staff know so they can give you some painkillers and make you more comfortable.**

## **What happens next?**

You may be in the unit for several hours, and the length of time depends on the tests requested.

On arrival to SASU you are advised not to eat or drink anything until a treatment plan has been made. If this is going to take a long time you may be given intravenous fluids through the cannula in your arm. The nurse will inform you when you can eat and drink and will be able to provide you with a sandwich and drink.

If the doctor has decided that you are going to stay in hospital you will be transferred to a bed either on one of the surgical wards or you will remain on SASU. Sometimes there are delays in this process due to patient discharges taking longer than anticipated. If you have any issues please speak to the nurse in charge.

## **Discharge**

When you are discharged from SASU you will be provided with a letter for your GP and medication if required. If you have had surgery you will be given advice re: wound care and what you can and can't do. You should be given a practice nurse letter or if you are less mobile it will be arranged for a district nurse to come to see you.

## **Transport**

It is expected that you will make your own arrangements for discharge unless you have a medical condition that necessitates an ambulance.

## **Follow-up**

You may be asked to return to a speciality or hot clinic on the SASU where the surgical / urology doctors will see you again. The nurse will inform you when and what time and ensure you have the necessary advice prior to leaving the hospital.

## **Family and Friends**

Due to limited space on SASU we ask that during your assessment family / friends wait in the main entrance restaurant.

**Please be aware that at times the medical staff are called to deal with emergencies in the operating theatres so there may be a delay in your assessment. If this is the case we will do our best to keep you informed of the situation. Do not hesitate to ask a member of staff if you do not understand any aspects about your care.**

**If you have any issues regarding your care please speak to the nurse in charge who will attempt to clarify the situation or refer you to a person more qualified to deal with your complaint.**

# Visiting Times and Useful information

## SASU

**Visiting hours:** 14.30 – 16.00 then 18.00 – 20.00

**Telephone number:** 01932 723941 / 722392

**Ward Manager**

**Surgical Matron:** Dawn Gantley

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## 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](mailto:pals@asph.nhs.uk). If you remain concerned, PALS can also advise upon how to make a formal complaint.

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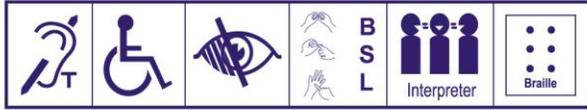
**Author:** Carole Armes

**Department:** Surgical Assessment

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**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 18001.**

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

ने जुगहुँ उरनमे दी लेउ वै उं बिरपा बरवे दिस नंघर उे डेन बरवे: 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 जरूरत 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](http://www.ashfordstpeters.nhs.uk)