

Day of surgery admission (DOSA) unit and integrated procedures unit (IPU)

For patients attending for procedures under general anaesthetic

We hope you will be comfortable during your visit to the unit and that this leaflet will help you plan your stay. Our aim is to provide the best possible care and to ensure that your stay with us runs smoothly. The staff are here to help and if you need any help please ask.

You will be admitted to the day of surgery admission (DOSA) unit on ward 1 and return to the integrated procedures unit (IPU) (department 2) after your general anaesthetic procedure.

Opening hours:

DOSA unit (department 33) - Monday to Friday 7:00am - 3:00pm

Integrated procedures unit (department 2) - Monday to Friday 7:30am - 7:30pm

Contact (before your procedure):

0161 446 2157 DOSA unit or IPU or via switchboard on 0161 446 3000 and ask for the DOSA unit.

We aim to provide a restful environment for patients before and during recovery from surgery. We ask that escorts do not stay on the DOSA unit. We regret that children are not allowed on the unit.

Facilities

A Marks and Spencer café and WH Smith are located in the main entrance area for family members and visitors. Open Monday to Friday 7:00am - 9:00pm and Saturday and Sunday 8:00am - 5:00pm. You will also find toilets in the main entrance area. The dining room on the main corridor is open Monday to Friday from 7:15am - 7:00pm.

Valuables

We advise patients not to bring valuables when coming to the unit. We cannot accept responsibility for any lost or stolen items. However, we do provide patients with lockers for their personal items.

Smoking

The Christie has a no-smoking policy. Patients and their relatives must not smoke anywhere in the hospital or the grounds during their with us. Your co-operation is much appreciated. For your general health and recovery it is advisable to stop smoking before your surgery. We can help you do this. For further information on smoking cessation please contact the complementary therapy team on 0161 918 7175.



Meals

Refreshments are available during the day. We will provide you with a sandwich or toast after your procedure. Please contact us on **0161 446 7292** if you have any special dietary requirements. Some people may not be able to drink or eat certain foods just after the procedure.

Pre-assessment

Before coming into hospital for surgery, some patients are asked to see a nurse. The nurse will assess your general medical condition and arrange any blood test or other investigations that are necessary. During the appointment the nurse will give you verbal and written information about your operation, preparation needed before surgery and answer any questions you may have.

The day of your operation

When you arrive at the DOSA unit, please report to the receptionist. A member of the nursing staff will welcome and admit you to the unit. This involves checking your name and personal details and asking some general questions about your health. Your blood pressure and pulse will be checked. You will also be asked to give the name and contact details of the person who is collecting you after surgery. The surgeon and anaesthetist will visit you and answer any questions that you have. The staff will ask you to sign a consent form if this has not already been signed in clinic.

When you are getting ready for surgery, you will need to remove any jewellery including body piercings, makeup and nail varnish and change into a hospital gown. However, it is possible to keep your wedding ring on, which we can tape for you. We will escort you to surgical theatre which is located on the ground floor. You will be asleep during the procedure.

After your operation

You will wake up in a recovery room where a recovery practitioner will stay with you and monitor your blood pressure and pulse. The nurse will also make sure that any pain and nausea you might experience is well-controlled. When you are awake and comfortable a nurse will collect you and take you back to the IPU unit on a trolley. On the unit, your pulse and blood pressure will be monitored regularly. We will offer you something to eat and drink. The nurses will assist you when you get off the trolley for the first time. You can expect to stay for at least two hours after returning to the ward; however everyone is different and so recovery times may vary. Once you have passed urine you will be allowed home. Occasionally, patients may have to stay overnight if their recovery is slower than planned.

Going home

The unit has nurse-led discharge. When you are ready to go home, the nurses will complete all the necessary paperwork and arrange for you to be collected. Before leaving the ward, you will be given verbal and written information about pain relief, recovery from surgery and who to call if you have a problem after discharge. If the surgeon has requested a follow-up appointment, it will be either given to you before discharge or sent to you in the post.

At home

Please make sure that you have a responsible adult with you for the first 24 hours after discharge. Please do not attempt to drive a car, ride a bike, drink alcohol, operate machinery, climb ladders and do not sign any legally binding documents.

Carer's responsibility

The carer has a responsibility to provide a comfortable and safe environment. This will include collecting the patient from the IPU unit and escorting the patient home by car or taxi only. The carer should be with the patient for 24 hours after surgery as the patient should be allowed to rest for this time.

Contacts (after your procedure):

Following discharge from the IPU, if you feel you need advice or reassurance, or have any questions related to your surgery, please contact the IPU or the surgical oncology ward and a member of staff will be able to help you and offer advice. Their numbers are:

Surgical oncology ward - **0161 446 3860** or **0161 446 3862**

Surgical day case unit - **0161 918 7310** or **0161 918 7292**

If you feel unwell or feel that you may need to be re-admitted following your surgery, then please contact us via The Christie Hotline (below). The Hotline staff will discuss your problems with the registrar on call and decide whether you need to come back to The Christie to be reassessed by the doctor.

The Christie Hotline - **0161 446 3658**

If you need information in a different format, such as easy read, large print, BSL, braille, email, SMS text or other communication support, please tell your ward or clinic nurse.

The Christie is committed to producing high quality, evidence based information for patients. Our patient information adheres to the principles and quality statements of the Information Standard. If you would like to have details about the sources used please contact **patient.information@christie.nhs.uk**

For information and advice visit the cancer information centres at Withington, Oldham or Salford. Opening times can vary, please check before making a special journey.



Contact The Christie Hotline for
urgent support and specialist advice
The Christie Hotline: 0161 446 3658
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week