

Department of surgery

Welcome to the department of plastic surgery (department 4)

Date for surgery

Your doctor in clinic has told you that you are going to have an operation under the care of the plastic surgery department at The Christie.

You may have already been given a date for your surgery. If not, we will send you a letter with a date for surgery in the near future.

Pre-admission clinic

Once you have had your date for surgery, you may also have an appointment sent to you to attend a pre-admission clinic. This clinic is run by a nurse and/or a doctor who will take a medical and surgical history from you.

At this appointment you may have some routine investigations carried out such as blood tests, a heart trace, swabs of your nose, throat and groin and photos taken in preparation for your planned surgery. The doctor in clinic will decide if any further investigations and referrals are needed once your past medical history has been taken.

You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions about your surgery and hospital admission.

If you are unsure of any of your past medical or surgical history that is unrelated to your present condition, you can ask your GP for a summary of your medical history before your appointment. Please also ensure you bring a list of any medication you are taking and the dose.

Appointments usually last for about 1 hour 30 minutes. However, this may be longer if you have any special requirements.

Your hospital admission

You will normally be admitted to a ward on the day of surgery. On occasion, you may be admitted on the day before surgery for further preparation to take place.

A member of the team will also see you on a daily basis throughout your stay at The Christie. After surgery, the doctor will decide when you are ready to go home. You will then be given instructions by the ward nursing staff about your follow-up care.



Discharge

Some patients may be given appointments to return to The Christie for follow-up at a nurse-led clinic shortly after you have been discharged. This is so we can check your wounds. We may also refer you to a district or practice nurse in your community for a wound check.

Some patients do not need to attend The Christie nurse-led clinic for a wound check and are able to go to their local practice nurse or district nurse. This decision can be made by the plastic surgery team on the ward and information will be given to you on your discharge.

We will send you an appointment by letter in the post to see your consultant in an outpatient clinic. This is usually organised by the consultant's secretary.

Please be aware that each patient's journey of care can vary depending on their specific surgery and treatment needs.

Contacts

After your operation, if you are concerned that your surgical wound site or surrounding area is red, inflamed, increasing in pain, swelling or has an odour, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the team. If this is out-of-hours, please contact your GP, district nurse/practice nurse, walk-in centre or The Christie Hotline which is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on **0161 446 3658**.

If you have any questions or queries before or following your surgery please do not hesitate to contact us.

Plastic surgery nursing team:

Skin clinical nurse specialists

Caroline Owens - **0161 918 7587**

Sarah Fulton - **0161 918 7587**

Emma Mitchell - **0161 918 7587**

Breast reconstruction clinical nurse specialists

Wendy Winn - **0161 918 2196**

Jill Dickinson - **0161 918 2196**

Sarcoma clinical nurse specialists

Wendy Winn - **0161 918 2196**

Jill Dickinson - **0161 918 2196**

Secretaries:

Mr Lambe - **0161 918 7455**

Mr Oudit - **0161 446 3375**

Mr Kosutic - **0161 918 7054**

Mr Mowatt - **0161 446 3368**

The Christie switchboard - **0161 446 3000**

Integrated procedures unit - **0161 918 7292**

Surgical oncology ward - **0161 446 3860/2**

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 **the-christie.patient.information@nhs.net**

For information and advice visit the cancer information centres at Withington, Oldham, Salford or Macclesfield. 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