



MESOTHELIOMA UK

Supporting People With This Asbestos Cancer

Your Hospital Follow up Appointments and Covid-19



In light of the current Covid-19 “Shielding” policy, most follow up appointments have been moved to telephone calls rather than face to face. The following is a checklist of things that will likely be discussed during a telephone follow up appointment.

This has been prepared for those people living with Mesothelioma but could be easily adapted for other cancers.

Preparation

Your appointment letter will possibly give a time but it is likely the call will come anytime during the clinics morning or afternoon session, please bear this in mind and keep an ear on your phone.

If you would like a family member to listen in to the consultation check your phone has a loudspeaker facility and practice using it. If you need the call on your mobile phone please tell the doctor or nurse to ring back on the alternative number as soon as the consultation begins.

Have pen and paper to hand to make notes.



The doctor or nurse contacting you may not have met you, they will be grateful for any information you can provide.



Information the Doctor or Nurse may ask you for :

- Hospital or NHS number
- Diagnosis
- Diagnosis Date

- **Treatment you have had to date**
 - Surgical procedure and date?
 - Radiotherapy – number of treatments and date?
 - Drugs or clinical trial?
 - Date treatment finished
 - How many cycles did you have?
 - What was the mesothelioma response to the treatment?
 - How did you cope with the treatment?

- **Date of your last CT scan and which hospital you had it at**

- **Current medication and, in particular, any changes to your medication recently**

- **Your current symptoms**
 - Pain (Score 1-10)
 - Shortness of Breath
 - Cough
 - Energy/activity levels

Appetite
Current Weight and any recent weight loss
Sweating

- **If you have had surgical procedure**
how is your wound? Are there any lumps or bumps?
- **If you have a chest drain**
how is the drainage? what colour is it?
how many times per week & how many mls each time?
Is the drain site looking clean?
- **Write a list of any questions or concerns**
- **Ensure you are aware of the next steps at the end of the call.**
When is your next CT scan and/or appointment?
- **Clarify who you should call in between appointments if you are concerned.**

CT Scan Appointment Guidelines

Routine disease surveillance scans are continuing as previously. It is possible you may need to have your scan on a different machine and possibly in a different hospital, **check your appointment letter carefully to clarify.**

Please **attend alone if possible** and arrive just in time. Some centres are asking you to wait in your car and calling you by phone just in time for your appointment.

Leave promptly and please **observe hand hygiene** guidelines.

If you are considering not attending, please discuss deferring your appointment with your key worker.

If you have questions or concerns at any time please contact
Mesothelioma UK on **0800 169 2409**