

Transient Ischaemic Attack (TIA)

What to expect on the day of a TIA clinic attendance



Information for patients

Neurology



PROUD TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

SHEFFIELD TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST



We have asked you to come to the Radiology Department at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital for an MRI Brain and Carotid Doppler scan. Please report to reception at the Radiology Department on C floor.

What should I expect on the day?

- You need to be aware that you may have to spend most of the day in hospital.
- If you have an abnormal Doppler scan, you may be asked to stay longer in the Radiology Department to have a more detailed scan of your neck.
- After you have had your scans in the Radiology Department (C floor), you will go to the Neuro Assessment Unit (L floor) ward reception.
- You will be asked to wait in the waiting room.
- You will be required to have blood tests. You will also have your blood pressure checked and we will do a heart tracing called an ECG. You may have to wait if the nurse is busy with other patients.
- Please be aware that there will be patients with other conditions in the waiting room.
- There will be tea, coffee, magazines and TV facilities in the waiting room.
- Once the investigations of blood pressure, ECG and blood tests have been carried out, you will be seen by the stroke specialist doctor.

What happens if I am diagnosed with TIA?

You may be given a prescription which will require dispensing at the Boots pharmacy on C Floor.

Hospital prescriptions cannot be used at outside pharmacies and you must go to the Boots pharmacy at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital.

The hospital will provide you with up to 4 weeks supply of medicines. Further prescriptions must be obtained from your GP.

The hospital will provide your GP with your TIA clinic summary letter which will explain any of the medication changes that have been made by the clinic.

Will I need further tests?

You may receive a letter in the post to come to the Cardiology Department to have a heart monitor fitted. You will be required to go home with the fitted heart monitor and return the monitor after a few days as directed by the cardiology technician. The results from the monitor take a few days to analyse. Once the analysis is complete, a report will go to the doctor who assessed you in the TIA clinic. The doctor will then write a letter to your GP with the results of the heart monitor and advise if any action is required.

If needed, you may be offered further tests as an outpatient.

Will I need a follow up appointment?

You will receive a letter in the post to invite you to a 4 week TIA follow up clinic. There will be a nurse you can speak to if you need to ask for further information on any aspect of your care.

You may also be offered the opportunity to join a research trial. A research nurse or the doctor will tell you more about the research trial as well as give you an information leaflet. It will be entirely up to you whether or not you want to take part.

What happens if I am not diagnosed with TIA?

If you are not diagnosed with a TIA you'll be referred back to your GP to look for other causes of your symptoms.

Feedback

We want to provide the best possible service to our patients. We would appreciate it if you could spend a couple of minutes completing the feedback form available in the department.



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