

Patient Information

Rapid Access Clinic

Respiratory Medicine

Welcome to St Woolos Hospital

You have an appointment with one of our Respiratory Doctors at our rapid access chest clinic. This is because your doctor has concerns about your symptoms and/or an unusual finding on your chest x-ray.

Please know that at this stage we are not sure if there is anything for you to worry about. We want to find out if there is a problem as quickly as possible for you.

The clinic is held in Chest Clinic Outpatients Department at St Woolos Hospital, Stow Hill Newport.

This leaflet tells you about your chest clinic appointment and about some of the tests that you may need to have.

If you need a test, it will either be at this time or at another appointment which will be arranged for you.

Although you may have had a recent x-ray via your GP, it may be necessary to have another chest x-ray done on this visit.

Blood tests may be performed at or after this appointment also.

☐ **Spirometry (Lung Function Test)**

This test involves blowing hard into a machine to test your lung function and is performed in clinic.

☐ **CT Scan (CAT Scan)**

This is a painless test performed at the X-ray Department at the Royal Gwent Hospital, which is similar to an x-ray that gives us information in more detail. You will need to lie on a table, which slowly passes through the scanning machine. You may have this test before you come to clinic.

☐ **Bronchoscopy**

This is a test where the doctor can look inside your lung. You will have sedation and local anaesthetic. The doctor passes a small telescope into your windpipe (trachea). The doctor may take a sample of tissue (biopsy) for testing. This is performed at the Royal Gwent or Nevill Hall Hospital. You do not normally need to stay overnight.

☐ **Lung Biopsy**

We may need to take a tissue sample from your lung for diagnosis. A doctor does this by passing a small needle through your chest wall under local anaesthetic. This happens as you are having an x-ray. You are admitted to the Royal Gwent for this and may need to stay in overnight.

Test Results

Normally the results of all of your investigations will be available within a few weeks, following which we shall arrange to see you again in the appropriate clinic.

We look forward to meeting you at your appointment. We need to have your full medical background and details of treatment that you currently receive, any medication that you are taking and any known allergies.

We will try not to keep you waiting on the day of your appointment but delays can sometimes happen.

At your appointment you may want to have another person with you. This can be a relative or a friend, who can help you to remember the information given to you by the doctor.

During your appointment we will give you time to ask us any questions about what is happening to you.

Finally, if at any time you feel you have not had enough information, or we are not meeting your needs, please let us know.

At this hospital we often have medical and nursing students observing clinics. The Doctor will ask your permission for them to be present at this appointment. If you do not want students there please let us know.

Medical research takes place within this hospital. Any research that is suitable for you to take part in will be discussed at your clinic appointments.

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

Please use the space below to write down any questions you may have for us.

Contact Information

Dr I Williamson

Respiratory Medicine Consultant

Tel. No:- 01633 - 238196 (Secretary)

Dr A Ionescu & Dr Edwards

Respiratory Medicine Consultants

Tel. No:- 01633 – 656011 (Secretary)

Helen Howison, Samantha Williams & Rebecca Weston-Thomas

Clinical Nurse Specialist's

Tel. No:- 01633 – 656149

Clinic staff – Sister Clare Acreman

01633 238186

Caroline Dalton

Lung Clinic Co-ordinator

(For clinic and test appointments)

Tel. No:- 01633 – 656227

**"This document is available in Welsh /
Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg".**