Orthopaedic assessment before surgery

Patient information guide
You have been asked to attend the department for a pre-operative assessment, which will be performed by a trained member of the nursing staff and multi disciplinary team. This is estimated to take up to four hours.

**Medicines**

Bring all of your current medicines in original containers when you come for your appointment (and in original packaging if possible).

Prior to attending pre assessment please complete the enclosed forms:

- Registration form.
- Oxford score (this is questionnaire that will assess the pain you have been experiencing in your joint).
- Occupational therapy pre admission questionnaire.
- Measurement form.

The pre-operative assessment includes the following investigations:

- Height and weight measurement.
- A urine specimen will be requested at pre assessment.
- Recording of your blood pressure and temperature.
- Blood tests – these may vary depending on your medication, medical history and/or surgery to be performed. Please bring in any medication that you are currently taking.
- ECG (heart tracing) - this will be performed if you are 45 years of age or more and/or indicated by your medical history.
- X-ray of the affected joint – only if no recent x-ray is available.
- Chest x-ray – according to medical history.
- MRSA screening – all patients for joint surgery will be screened at pre assessment.
- Medical questionnaire – this will involve documenting detailed information about your medical history, social circumstances (in order that any arrangements required can be made in advance) and any special needs that you may have.
Other members of the multi disciplinary team who will see you are:

- Ward doctor – for physical examination.
- Occupational therapy – to discuss any equipment or assistance you may require post discharge using information provided from Questionnaire and Measurement Form.
- Physiotherapy – will provide a group session of what is required prior to and after your surgery. Group sessions will take place at 11am, 12.30pm, 3pm and 4.30pm.
- Bone bank (hip joint patients only) – regarding whether you would like to donate your bone to help other patients. Please refer to bone donation information booklet.

An Orthopaedic Consultant will see you in order that the surgical procedure to be performed may be discussed with you and informed consent for the procedure given.

The aim of this is to provide you with any relevant information you may require and to allow you to discuss any other issues you may have regarding your surgery, your stay in hospital and/or your return to work.

You may also require to be seen by a member of the Anaesthetic Department to discuss any anaesthetic requirements.

As a result of this full assessment there may be additional tests required prior to your hospital admission. We will aim to complete these tests on the day of your assessment, however this may lengthen the duration of your visit to the department or you may be asked to return for further tests.

We will endeavour to deal with any issues / questions you may have during your assessment to ensure your surgery and your stay in the hospital is uneventful and as pleasurable an experience as possible.

Thank you for your patience and time.
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