

## Reasons for Your Surgery being Delayed

There may be an occasion(s) when your surgery may need to be delayed.

This leaflet is designed to help you understand why this may happen.

**Please note** - before any surgery it is important that you are free from infection before planned surgery to help prevent complications in your recovery.

You will require to have a COVID-19 swab taken 48 hours before your admission to hospital. Your surgery will be cancelled if you test Positive for COVID-19.

Other reasons for why your surgery may be postponed:

- Recent illness
- Cold, flu symptoms or chest infection
- Coughing up green or brown spit
- Sore throat
- High temperature
- Recent diarrhoea and vomiting bug that is not completely cleared within 48 hours



If you have suffered from any of the above symptoms please contact:

**Preoperative Assessment Unit** for advice - **Tel: 01387 241366**

A nurse will advise you if your surgery needs to be delayed.

### **Any other illness or conditions**

Occasionally you or the healthcare team identify a health issue that may affect your recovery.

This may mean that it will be necessary to investigate or treat this to ensure that you are as well as possible for your planned operation.

Unfortunately this may mean that you will become unavailable for surgery until the healthcare team are happy that your health issue will not compromise your recovery.

### **Personal**

You may have dates that you are unavailable for surgery. This may be due to holidays, work/family commitments.

If you have discussed this with the pre-assessment nurse it will be recorded in your records.

### **When you receive your date for surgery**

If you cannot attend on the date scheduled, please contact the **Patient Access Team** as soon as possible - **Tel: 01387 241754**

You will not lose your position on the waiting list, although it may take slightly longer for you to be seen due to being unavailable.

An early cancellation means that the date can be offered to someone else.

### **Hospital**

There are occasions when the emergency demand placed on the hospital may increase without warning.

This may produce a situation where the bed booked for your arranged admission may not be available.

Please be assured that every effort will be made to communicate directly with you should such a situation arise.

This information is also available on request in other formats by phoning 01387 241366.