

Where is the service being provided?

The Dermatology, ENT and Gynaecology services are provided at:

Newton Hospital
Bradlegh Road
Newton- Le-Willows
WA12 8RB

Whiston Hospital, Warrington Road, Prescott,
Merseyside, L35 5DR Telephone: 0151 426 1600

St Helens Hospital, Marshall Cross Road,
St Helens, Merseyside, WA9 3DA Telephone:
01744 26633

 /sthknhs  @sthk.nhs
www.sthk.nhs.uk

Patient Initiated Follow-Up (Newton Hospital)

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on request.

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Na żądanie ta ulotka może zostać
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Author: Associate Directorate Manager
Department: Newton OPD
Document Number: STHK1705
Version: 001
Review Date: 31 / 07 / 2024

What is Patient Initiated Follow-up?

Patient Initiated Follow-Up (PIFU) is a process which allows patients to arrange their own follow up appointments for their condition as and when they need them, rather than booking routine follow up appointments at regular intervals.

Traditionally, it is standard practice for patients who are being seen in an outpatient clinic to be followed up at regular intervals.

Many clinicians report that they will sometimes make appointments “just in case” and ask the patient to cancel should they not need it.

Whilst some patients find these regular visits reassuring and helpful, others find them stressful and unhelpful, unless there is something specific they need to discuss with their clinician.

There is also good evidence that, for the majority of patients, regular follow up is of little benefit and they may not even need it.

Why have I been put on a patient initiated follow-up?

Your clinician will have explained to you that you do not need a routine follow up appointment to be seen in clinic and the reason for this is because of the nature of, or improvement in your condition.

Your clinician has decided that it is safe to give you the opportunity to contact the clinic to be seen again should you feel it necessary due to a change or flare up in your condition at any point within the agreed time scale from your last clinic appointment.

In many cases this will be a 6 month window but may be longer and this will have been agreed during your last consultation.

If after the agreed time period, you have not initiated a follow-up because you have not needed to be seen again, we will discharge you from the service back to the care of your GP.

Your GP can re-refer you back into the service in the future if the need arises.

How can I initiate a follow-up appointment?

You now have a time limited window (usually 6 months but this may be longer) in which to arrange an appointment if you feel you need to see the doctor again – this is usually if your condition worsens or you have a flare up.

If you need to make an appointment, you can do so by contacting the relevant department on the telephone numbers below and one of the team will be happy to help you.

Dermatology - 0151 290 4635

ENT - 0151 290 4631

Gynaecology - 0151 290 4641

A suitable appointment will be made for you to be seen in clinic at Newton Hospital where your care will continue as required.