

Patient information

Surgical Ambulatory Emergency Care Unit

Contact details: If you have any queries, please contact the unit. We are open Monday to Friday from 8.00am to 8.00pm. Tel: 01284 713985

What is the Surgical Ambulatory Emergency Care (SAEC) Unit?

The SAEC unit aims to provide rapid assessment, diagnosis and treatment for surgical patients who don't need inpatient care. The conditions assessed in the unit include abscesses, abdominal pain not requiring admission, gallstone disease, painful hernia, anorectal conditions, kidney stones etc.

The SAEC unit is located within the Acute Assessment Unit (AAU) at West Suffolk Hospital (map overleaf).

Privacy and dignity

There may be male and female patients in the same seated area. However you will be examined in a private assessment room and you will not be asked to get into a gown or be examined without your privacy and dignity being maintained.

What can I expect?

- On arrival, please report to the ward reception desk.
- You will be assessed by a clinical member of the SAEC team.
- You may have a range of investigations and treatments.

- You may be asked to return at a later date for results of your tests or to discuss your plan of care.
- You may be required to provide a urine sample which can be essential to your treatment plan. We would be grateful if you could provide a sample at your earliest convenience and inform a member of staff.
- **Do not have anything to eat or drink until you have seen a doctor.**
- If you require hospital admission, a ward bed will be organised however this may take some time.



It may be necessary for you to wait in the SAEC unit for results of any investigations.

We aim to complete these processes as quickly as possible however this may take a few hours. During this time we ask for your patience and will endeavour to keep you up to date.

Visitors and relatives

As the SAEC unit is a busy area please only have one relative or carer with you. Any children must be under supervision at all times.

Going home

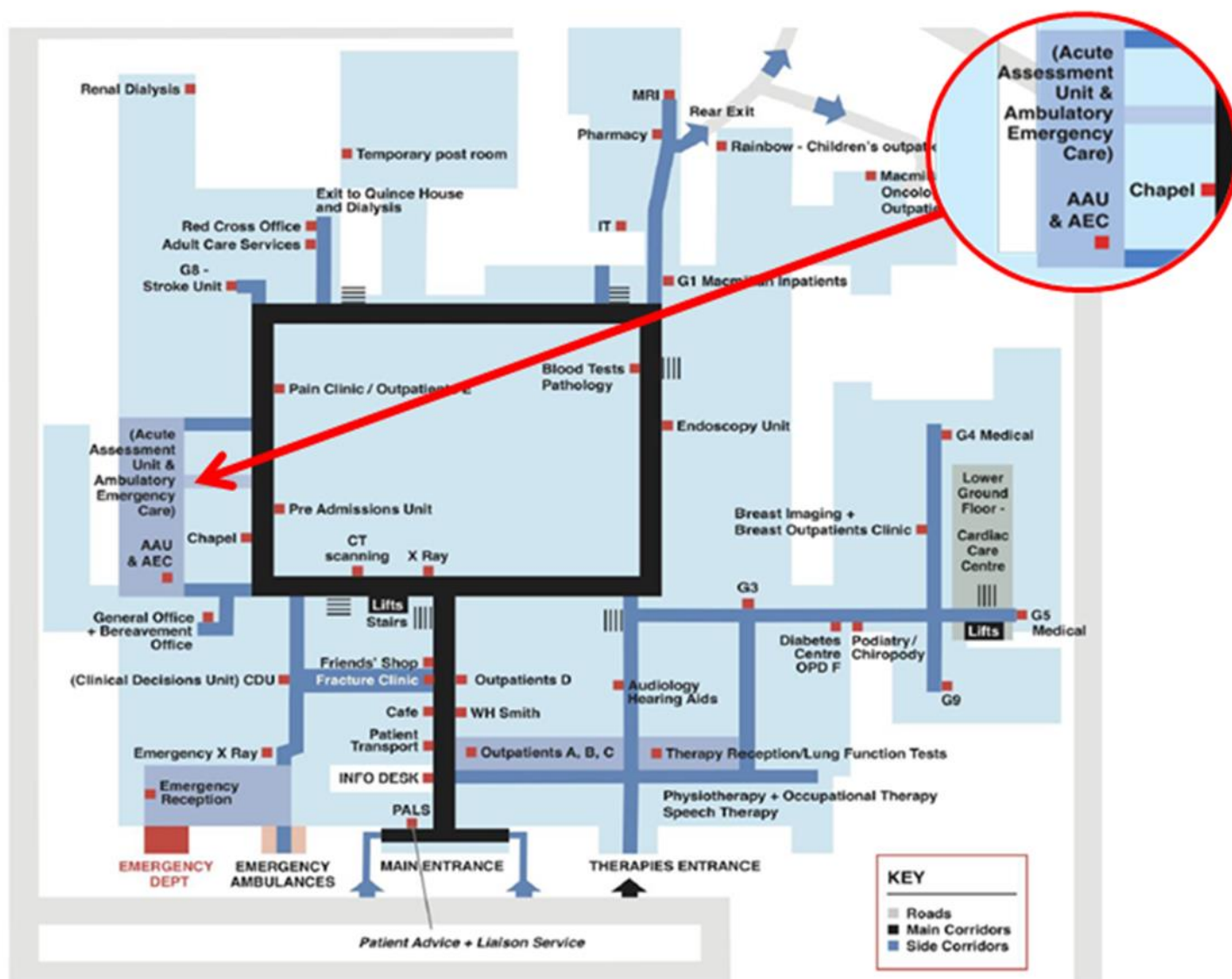
After the assessment, if the doctor feels you are well enough to go home, you will be given a letter explaining the results of your assessment. A copy of this will be sent electronically to your GP. If required, you will be given necessary medications on a prescription.

Please ensure you have made arrangements for your transport home and inform the nurses on arrival if this is not in place.

Important

If you feel your condition has become worse and you are unable to manage your symptoms at home, please contact your GP, return to A&E or dial 111 (dial 999 if emergency). You can also ring the unit on the number provided during opening hours.

Map



West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust is actively involved in clinical research. Your doctor, clinical team or the Research and Development Department may contact you regarding specific clinical research studies that you might be interested in participating in. If you do not wish to be contacted for these purposes, please email info.gov@wsh.nsh.uk. This will in no way affect the care or treatment you receive.

If you would like any information regarding access to the West Suffolk Hospital and its facilities please visit the website for AccessAble (the new name for DisabledGo) <https://www.accessable.co.uk/organisations/west-suffolk-nhs-foundation-trust>



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