

Further sources of information

NHS Choices: www.nhs.uk/conditions

Our website: www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk

Patient Experience Team (PET)

PET is available to help with any of your compliments, concerns or complaints, and will ensure a prompt and efficient service.

King's Mill Hospital: 01623 672222

Newark Hospital: 01636 685692

Email: sfh-tr.PET@nhs.net

If you would like this information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call the Patient Experience Team on 01623 672222 or email sfh-tr.PET@nhs.net.

This document is intended for information purposes only and should not replace advice that your relevant health professional would give you. External websites may be referred to in specific cases. Any external websites are provided for your information and convenience. We cannot accept responsibility for the information found on them.

If you require a full list of references (if relevant) for this leaflet, please email sfh-tr.patientinformation@nhs.net or telephone 01623 622515, extension 6927.

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INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

Teledermatology



Healthier Communities,
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What is Teledermatology?

The teledermatology service is where a qualified professional clinical photographer, based in the Clinical Illustration department, will take a series of digital photographs of your skin lesion. The department is located on Level 1 at King's Mill Hospital. Please follow the instructions on the next page.

These photographs will be sent to a dermatologist for remote assessment to see if you need to come into hospital for further treatment. **You will not have a face-to-face consultation with a doctor at this appointment.**

Only lesions that are documented on your referral are able to be photographed during your appointment. If you are concerned about any other lesions or skin problems, please seek advice from your GP.

How long will it take and what will happen?

The photographer will use a set of professional cameras, including one that has a dermatoscope (a hand-held visual aid device used to examine and diagnose skin lesions and diseases) attached to it, which photographs directly on the skin. This is not an invasive procedure.

Please note you may be asked to remove jewellery or make up where necessary. Depending on the location of your lesion, you may also be asked to remove articles of clothing to gain a better view of the area of interest. If you are required to remove clothing to show a sensitive area of your body, you may request a chaperone. The whole process will take no longer than 25 minutes.

Do I need to give permission for photography?

Prior to proceeding with clinical photography, the clinical photographer will ask you to give verbal consent to confirm you are happy to continue with your photographs being taken. We will not take any photographs without your permission.

How will I find out the result of this photographic procedure?

You will receive a letter in three weeks, or a telephone call asking you to attend a face-to-face consultation. If you have not heard from the Dermatology team, please call the teledermatology coordinator on 01623 622515, extension 6662.

In cases where an outcome cannot be determined you may be:

- Booked for a biopsy (skin sample) or the removal of the skin lesion.
- Booked for a priority face-to-face clinical appointment with a dermatologist in hospital.

If the outcome states there is no indication of anything to be worried about, you may be offered:

- Reassurance and a routine follow up appointment in Dermatology - this may require photographs to be repeated.
- Reassurance by clinical letter with no follow up appointment required and you will be discharged.

If you require non-urgent treatment, the Dermatology team may contact your GP to ask him/her to arrange treatment for you.

Does an urgent follow up appointment or surgery mean I have cancer?

You could be asked to come back urgently for a number of reasons. Urgent appointments will generally be seen within a few weeks, so there should not be a long wait.

Directions to Clinical Illustration (Level 1)

1. From the main entrance walk straight ahead passing Costa Coffee on your left. **2.** Continue straight ahead passing the Faith Centre on your right. **3.** Turn first right through the double doors. **4.** Towards the end of the corridor, you will find a set of lifts, enter and go up to level 1. **5.** Exit the lifts and walk straight down the corridor. **6.** At the end of the corridor turn right. **7.** Walk to the end of this corridor then turn left. **8.** You will now see the signs for Clinical Illustration.