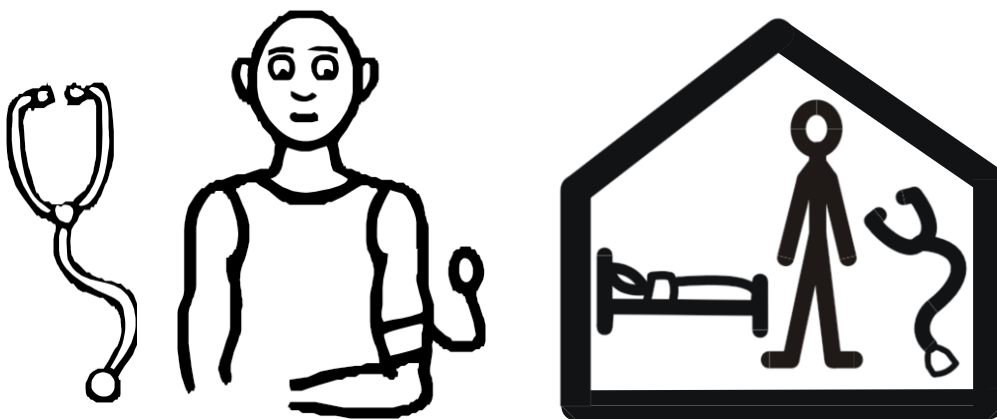
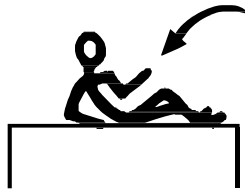


# Going to hospital for a pre-operative assessment





If you are going into hospital for an **operation** you might have to go in before for some checks.

You will be asked to stay at home for 3 days before your operation. This is called isolation. If you are worried about this, please talk to your nurse.

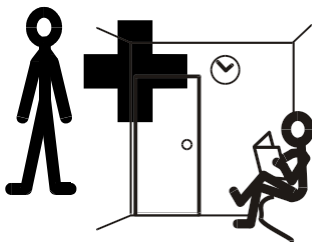
You may also be asked to have a COVID test 3 days before your operation. The nurse will tell you more about this.



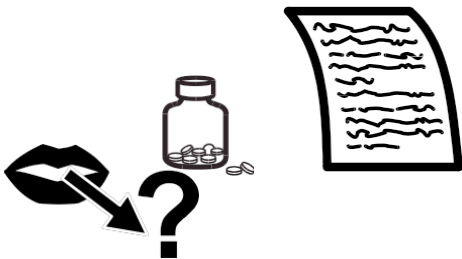
This is to make sure you are well enough to have your operation.



When you arrive at the place for your test the person on reception will check your name and address.



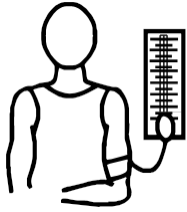
They will ask you to sit and wait for the nurse.



The nurse will call you into a room. You will be asked questions about your health.



If you take any medicines or tablets you must bring them with you to the appointment. Or you can bring a prescription from your doctor (GP).



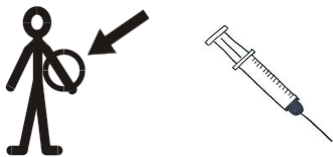
The nurse will check your blood pressure. This is done by putting a band on your arm which gets tighter and then loose.



The nurse will weigh you.



The nurse will check how tall you are.



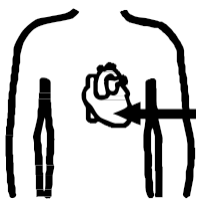
The nurse will ask you to have a **blood test**.

This means that you will have to give some of your blood.



You might be asked to wee into a small pot.

This is called a **urine sample**.

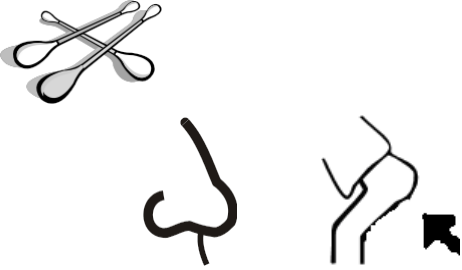

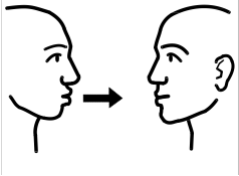

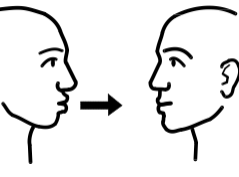
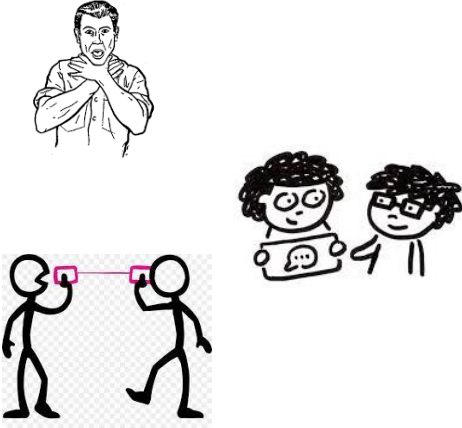


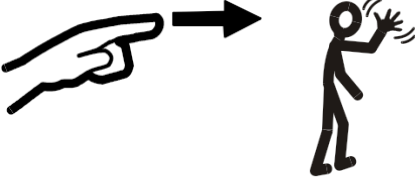
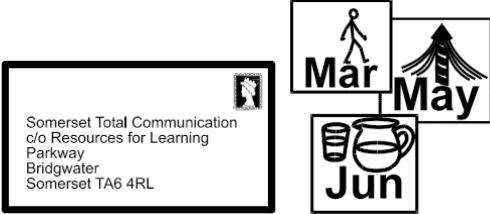
You might have a test that is called an **ECG**. This shows how your heart is working.

This test does not hurt.



Everyone who goes for an operation has to be tested to see if they have germs on their skin.

	<p>The nurse will use a thing like a long cotton wool bud to wipe inside your nose.</p> <p>And near to your bottom.</p>
	<p>It only takes a few seconds.</p> <p>It might tickle.</p> <p>It will not hurt.</p>
	<p>When the tests are finished a doctor <b>might</b> come to talk to you about the general anaesthetic.</p>
	<p>Anaesthetic is the <b>medicine</b> you will be given to make you <b>go to sleep</b> before the operation.</p>
	<p>The doctor will ask you some more questions and you can ask questions about the operation.</p>
	<p>If you have <b>any other needs you want the hospital to know about</b>, you need to tell them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Like problems with choking</li> <li>• Needing help to communicate</li> <li>• Challenging behaviour</li> <li>• Needing 1 to 1 support</li> <li>• About any things you might find difficult in hospital.</li> </ul>

	<p>When the nurse and doctor have all the information they need you can leave.</p>
 <p>Somerset Total Communication c/o Resources for Learning Parkway Bridgwater Somerset TA6 4RL</p>	<p>If your checks are okay, the operation will happen.</p> <p>You will be told the date for the operation.</p>

### Further sources of information

NHS Choices: [www.nhs.uk/conditions](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions)

Our website: [www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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 for this leaflet please email: [sfh-tr.patientinformation@nhs.net](mailto:sfh-tr.patientinformation@nhs.net) or telephone 01623 622515, extension 6927.

To be completed by the Communications office  
Leaflet code: PIL202508-05ER-GHPOA  
Created: January 2018 / Revised: August 2025 /  
Review Date: August 2027