

The Single Queue Diagnostic (SQD) Pathway

Further tests for
a possible serious
illness and what
this means for you



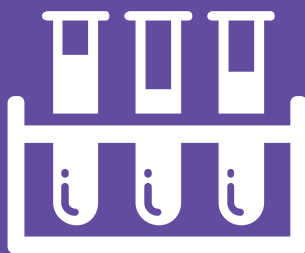
You need more tests

Your doctor has requested that you have some more tests to find out what is causing your symptoms.

Your tests will be organised using “single queue diagnostics”. This means that you can choose where in Greater Manchester you have your tests – you can have the first appointment that’s available, even if it’s not at your usual hospital.

You can still choose to have your tests close to home at a nearby hospital, it’s up to you

This leaflet shows all the different steps in the process. **You might not need all of the tests shown here,** and you’ll be told which ones you’ll need by the doctors and nurses looking after you





First appointment

An appointment with the doctor to plan which tests you need. You can have a choice of the earliest appointments across Greater Manchester to speed up your journey.



PET-CT Scan

If you need a PET-CT scan you can choose the earliest available appointment in Greater Manchester.

What is a PET-CT scan?

A PET scan is a whole-body scan that looks for 'hot-spots' in the body that could be something serious. It helps doctors understand more about what is going on inside your body and what other tests might be needed.

It is only one test and on its own does not tell your doctors everything. It's one piece of the jigsaw in finding out what is going on and how best to treat it.



You can find out more here:
www.nhs.uk/conditions/pet-scan



Biopsy

If you need a biopsy, you can choose the earliest available appointment in Greater Manchester. The type of biopsy you will have will depend upon the symptoms you have, and the part of the body affected. The local clinical team will provide you with a leaflet which will tell you more about the biopsy you will have.

What is a biopsy?

A biopsy is a medical procedure that involves taking a small sample of body tissue so it can be examined under a microscope.

A sample can be taken from almost anywhere on or in your body, including skin, organs, and other structures.

The term biopsy is often used to refer to both the act of taking the sample and the tissue sample itself.



You can find out more here:
www.nhs.uk/conditions/biopsy



Other tests

You may need some other tests, for example an echocardiogram or other scans. These tests will normally be done at your local hospital. Your doctors will explain what is needed at your first appointment.



Multi-disciplinary team meeting

The multi-disciplinary team meeting is when your team of doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals meet to discuss your results. If you need treatment, they will make a plan. You do not need to go to this meeting.



You can find out more about what happens at an MDT meeting here: youtu.be/9BFRMLRFZvc



What happens next?

Your results will usually be sent to your doctors at your local hospital, who will talk to you about them, and any treatment you may need.

Sometimes, the doctors at the hospital where you've had your tests will do this, but it will be explained to you at your first appointment. You can ask questions at any of your appointments if there's something you're not sure about.

Do you have any questions?

Talk to the doctors or nurses at your first appointment if you're worried about how you'd get to an appointment at a different hospital – they might be able to help with transport.

You can also ask them any other questions, such as questions about other medication you may be taking, or if someone can attend the appointment with you.

Watch a video which explains the Single Queue Diagnostics pathway.



This information can be made available in alternative formats, such as easy read or large print, and may be available in alternative languages, upon request.

Please contact the team by email on: gmcancer.comms@nhs.net,
or writing to
The Greater Manchester Cancer Alliance,
c/o The Christie NHS Trust, Wilmslow Road, Manchester M20 4BX.

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