

Suspected First Seizure Clinic

Neurology

What is the first seizure clinic?

The first seizure clinic is run by the Department of Neurology. You have been invited to attend because you have experienced a suspected seizure, blackout or loss of consciousness. The referral may have come from your GP or the Emergency Department at New Cross Hospital. Loss of consciousness may be caused by epilepsy but can also be due to other health problems. Staff at the clinic will try to work out why you had lost consciousness, blacked out or experienced a seizure, and advise how to stop it happening again.

Where is the clinic held?

The Department of Neurology (area B6), Heart and Lung building, New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton, or the Neurology Rehabilitation Day Unit, Level 2, Cannock Chase Hospital

What do I need to bring with me?

Diagnosing the cause of a seizure, blackout or loss of consciousness is very difficult. It is vital that staff from the clinic speak to someone who has seen the seizure or blackout. The best thing is for them to come with you. If this is not possible, please can you arrange for them to be available by telephone. If you have another seizure or blackout, please ask family or friends to video it and bring the film to the clinic for staff to view. Please bring your current medication to clinic, including anything you take that is not on prescription, such as herbal remedies. We would like you to come with someone who knows you well and can support you during the clinic.

Please bring a packed lunch, a drink, or money to purchase them (there is a café and drinks machines in the Heart and Lung building and on Level 2 at Cannock Chase Hospital).

Please wear loose fitting clothing and ensure your hair is washed and clean. This is necessary in case you need tests during your visit.

Who will I see?

The clinic is run by a Consultant Neurologist or Consultant Nurse for the Epilepsies, with the support of other members of the team such as Consultant Neurophysiologists, other Doctors and Clinical Physiologists.

How long will I be at the hospital?

Please expect to be at the hospital for 2 to 3 hours, depending what tests and consultations are needed.

The prevention of infection is a major priority in all healthcare and everyone has a part to play.

- Please decontaminate your hands frequently for 20 seconds using soap and water or alcohol gel if available
- If you have symptoms of diarrhoea and/or vomiting, cough or other respiratory symptoms, a temperature or any loss of taste or smell please do not visit the hospital or any other care facility and seek advice from 111
- Keep the environment clean and tidy
- Let's work together to keep infections out of our hospitals and care homes.

What will happen at the clinic?

You will be seen by a Consultant who will ask what happened to you. They will want to speak to someone who saw the seizure or blackout and view any seizure video you may have. Depending on the Consultant's opinion, you may then be sent for some blood tests, tests on your heart (ECG), a brainwave test (EEG) or an appointment with a heart (cardiac) specialist. These will usually happen at the clinic, but may have to be done at another time. You will then be seen by the Consultant to explain your results and discuss treatment. If medication is recommended, you will be given a prescription in clinic.

What happens next?

You may need some more tests, such as a detailed scan of your brain (MRI). If we could not make a diagnosis in clinic, arrangements will be made for you to be seen again by one of the Consultants. If treatment for epilepsy is started, your GP will be informed and asked to continue your prescription. You will be seen again by one of the Clinical Nurse Specialists in Epilepsy within 12 weeks. If it is felt you have another medical problem that caused your seizure, you will be referred to the appropriate specialist for that condition.

Getting to New Cross or Cannock Chase Hospitals

There is patient parking on both hospital sites, but at peak times it can be very busy. Please allow plenty of time to park. You will need to pay for parking. Please be aware that if you have had a suspected seizure, blackout or loss of consciousness, the law will not allow you to drive until you have been assessed.

Taxis are able to park at the entrance of the Heart & Lung building or next to the main entrance of Cannock Chase Hospital.

There are buses to Cannock from Wolverhampton and a shuttle bus links the two hospitals. Timetables can be found on-line at <https://bustimes.org/localities/new-cross-wolverhampton>. There is a bus stop outside the Heart & Lung centre. Cannock Chase Hospital is located opposite the town's main bus station, and Cannock railway station is a 10–15 minute walk.

Where can I get further information?

By phone:

01543 576283 (working hours 8.30am to 4.30pm with 24 hour answer phone – calls returned within 2 working days).

By email:

rwh-tr.epilepsy-nursing-team@nhs.net

By post:

Neurology Secretaries
Level II
Cannock Chase Hospital
Brunswick Rd,
Cannock
WS11 5XY

If you need to cancel or alter an appointment, please contact the neurology secretaries by:

Email: rwh-tr.epilepsy-nursing-team@nhs.net

Or phone: 01543 576283.

Please be aware that these contact details are intended for advice only. In an emergency please contact the Emergency Services on 999.

For urgent advice, please see your GP.

English

If you need information in another way like easy read or a different language please let us know.

If you need an interpreter or assistance please let us know.

Lithuanian

Jeigu norėtumėte, kad informacija jums būtų pateikta kitu būdu, pavyzdžiui, supaprastinta forma ar kita kalba, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Jeigu jums reikia vertėjo ar kitos pagalbos, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Polish

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać te informacje w innej postaci, na przykład w wersji łatwej do czytania lub w innym języku, prosimy powiedzieć nam o tym.

Prosimy poinformować nas również, jeżeli potrzebowaliby Państwo usługi tłumaczenia ustnego lub innej pomocy.

Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਪੜ੍ਹਨ ਵਿਚ ਆਸਾਨ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੂਜੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ, ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਦੀ ਜਾਂ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

Romanian

Dacă aveți nevoie de informații în alt format, ca de exemplu caractere ușor de citit sau altă limbă, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Dacă aveți nevoie de un interpret sau de asistență, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Traditional Chinese

如果您需要以其他方式了解信息，如易读或其他语种，请告诉我们。

如果您需要口译人员或帮助，请告诉我们。