



**Welcome to the Ambulatory Care Unit at Watford General Hospital**  
**Contact Number 01923 436 772**

**Why are you here?**

The Ambulatory Care Unit is located in AAU level 1. You have been referred to the unit from either A&E or your GP. We aim to see, treat and discharge patients within the same day. A number of medical conditions are seen and dealt with here. These include the investigation, diagnosis and treatment of:

- Cellulitis (infection of the skin)
- DVT (deep vein thrombosis) blood clot in the arm
- Pulmonary Embolism (blood clot in the lung)
- Pneumonia (chest infection)
- Bronchiectasis (lung disease)
- Headaches
- Syncope (fainting episodes)
- First Seizure (also known as a fit)
- Atrial Fibrillation (abnormal heart beat)
- GI Bleed (bleeding from the stomach)
- Anaemia (low iron levels in the blood)
- Non-Ketotic Hyperglycaemia (high levels of sugar in the blood)

Day case procedures also occur which include Liver Biopsy, Lung Biopsy and Abdominal Paracentesis (removal of fluid from the abdomen).

**What to expect?**

You will be seen initially by a nurse or health care assistant. An initial assessment is completed which includes blood tests, swabs for MRSA, a set of basic observations, e.g. blood pressure and sometimes an ECG (a tracing of your heart).

Whilst waiting for your results, you will be seen by one of the doctors (either Senior House Officer/ Registrar) and reviewed by a Consultant.

You will be given a patient identification wrist label on arrival which must be worn throughout your time within the unit. Your GP will be informed of any diagnosis and/or treatment you have received after you have been discharged.

## How long will you be here?

Whilst we do our best to see everyone in a timely manner and deal with your problem all in one day, there are occasions where you may be admitted or have to return to the hospital for further review and/or further scans. As a rough guide, you should expect to be here for between 3 and 5 hours. Tea and coffee is available for patients on request. Visitors may also have a tea or coffee for which there is a charge of 40p per cup.

## Concessionary parking is available. Please ask at reception for a form.

The Trust is committed to promoting an environment that values diversity. All staff are responsible for ensuring that all patients and their carers are treated equally and fairly and not discriminated against on the grounds of race, sex, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation or any other unjustifiable reason.

If you need this questionnaire in another language, large print, Braille or audioversion, please call **01923 217 187** or email [pals@whht.nhs.uk](mailto:pals@whht.nhs.uk).

TextRelay: (for Deaf & hard of hearing people only): please prefix number with '18001'.



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