

# Trauma Information

The Orthopaedic Trauma Service is a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week service.

We aim to provide the best and most efficient delivery of care specific to your injury.

Following your assessment in the Emergency Department, Trauma Assessment Unit (TAU), or outpatient clinic, you can go home but may need to return for further treatment.

At 8am every day a meeting is held where an orthopaedic consultant and trauma team review patients and their injuries to decide on the best plan of treatment. Please be aware that, after specialist review, your treatment plan may differ to the information you were initially given. If an operation is required the trauma team will contact you to confirm a date. However, if surgery is not required, you will be sent a clinic appointment by text, phone call, or post, or given alternative advice or instruction.

**If you have been informed to do so**, please have a light breakfast before 7am and then water only in preparation for **possible** surgery. We aim to ring you by lunchtime with your treatment plan, instructions and advice. Please ensure you have provided us with a current telephone number. If you have not received a call by this time please ring our Trauma Co-ordinators on **01225 821668**. If you leave a voicemail with your name and contact details we aim to respond as soon as possible.

Be advised you **CAN take your usual medications** and pain killers on the morning we call. The orthopaedic team will tell you if there are tablets they do not want you to take (eg Apixaban). Please bring all of your regular medications into hospital with you.

If your condition deteriorates or you have cause for concern, please contact our **trauma co-ordinators on 01225 821668, TAU on 01225 824388** or return to the RUH Accident and Emergency Department.

The number of people sustaining an injury and requiring admission can be very unpredictable, sometimes with high numbers of patients all needing surgery at the same time. We of course have to prioritise patients depending on the severity of their injury and risk to the individual. Whilst we aim to give as much notice as possible with a date for your surgery, if a space becomes available we may ring you on the night before surgery.

Due to the unpredictable nature of trauma your operation may be cancelled at short notice or unfortunately even on the day of surgery. If this happens we will try our best to reschedule your surgery as quickly as possible.

The Orthopaedic Trauma Service team will do our utmost to prevent any unnecessary delay for your treatment.

