

Information for Breast Cancer Patients under the Care of the RUH regarding Corona Virus.

16th April 2020

The following information is correct at this time.

The current climate regarding coronavirus has caused concern for many people across the world. This anxiety may feel worse if you have had breast cancer or are currently being treated for breast cancer.

Your welfare is our primary consideration and we are introducing measures to keep you as safe as possible during this time.

We will continue to answer queries over the telephone however please be mindful that there is a significant amount of activity going on within the breast unit and that we may not be able to answer your calls in as timely a manner as we have in the past. If your query is not urgent, please consider delaying your call.

Patients who have been treated in the past for breast cancer

If you have completed your treatments for breast cancer then you are at **no** increased risk if you become infected with coronavirus.

As for most people, you will not require hospital treatment.

Many of you will be on our breast cancer surveillance program and will be having yearly mammograms. At present these **are not going ahead** due to the lockdown restrictions, however we are reviewing this regularly and will aim to reinstate them as soon as possible.

Patients who are currently on a breast cancer pathway

If you are currently being treated for breast cancer, we are making plans to ensure that we continue with your treatments within a safe time frame.

Your doctors may discuss alternate treatment options with you to ensure that we treat your cancer appropriately at a time when you may become infected with coronavirus.

You may find that your surgical dates change.

Patients referred to the breast unit with suspected cancer

We are continuing to see patients referred with suspected cancer by their GP's. However, if the hospital activity changes you may be waiting slightly longer than normal.