Urgent “two-week referral”

Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

For your GP to complete

My name: ……

My NHS number: ……

I saw my GP on: ……

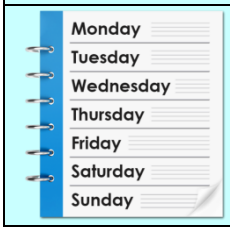
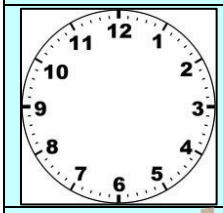
I should be seen in hospital before: ……

The speciality I am being referred to is: ……

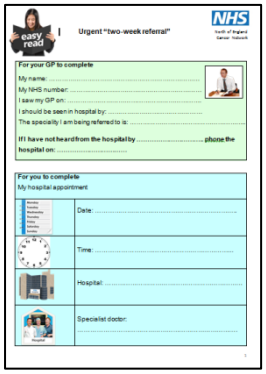
If I have not heard from the hospital by …….... phone the hospital on: 0191 203 1245

For you to complete

My hospital appointment

	Date: ……..
	Time: …….....
	Hospital: ……
	Specialist doctor: ……

This leaflet



This leaflet uses easy words and pictures to help you get the information you need.

You might want someone to support you to look at the leaflet so you can talk about it.

This leaflet is written to help you understand more.
If you have questions you can speak to your GP.

Remember

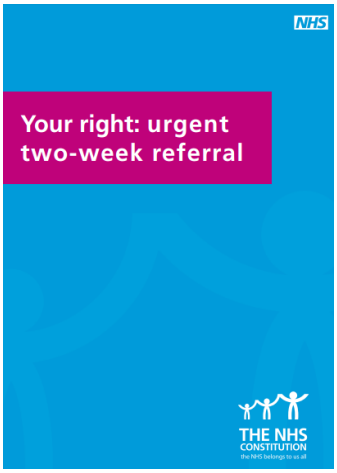
An urgent referral does not necessarily mean you have cancer

What does it mean to be urgently referred?

An urgent two-week referral means :

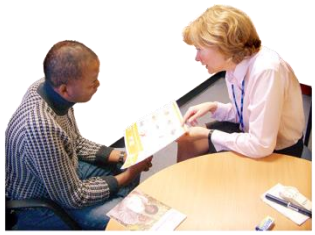
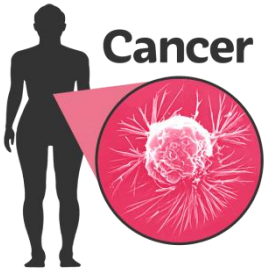
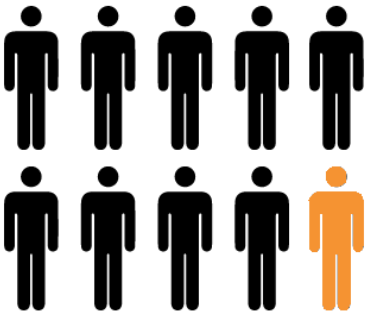
Your GP has made an urgent referral for you. You will be offered an appointment with a hospital specialist within 2 weeks.

If it is not possible for your GP to make an appointment in 2 weeks, the NHS must do everything they can to find you another appointment.
You will need to ask them to do this.



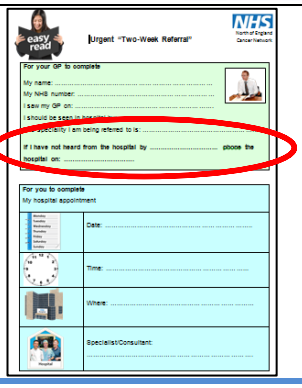
More information can be found in the leaflet “Your right: urgent two-week referral” which your GP can give you.

Why am I being urgently referred for tests?

	Your doctor feels you have symptoms and should be seen by a specialist doctor as soon as possible.
	It is important you are seen within 2 weeks so your symptoms can be diagnosed and treated quickly and effectively.
	Your symptoms may be caused by cancer.
	Not everyone referred will have cancer. 9 in 10 of people referred in this way are not diagnosed with cancer.
	The symptoms you have may be caused by a number of common conditions.

How do I make my appointment?

Someone from the hospital will call you with an appointment.



If you do not get an appointment <u>in 5 working days</u> after seeing your GP phone the hospital on 0191 203 1245.

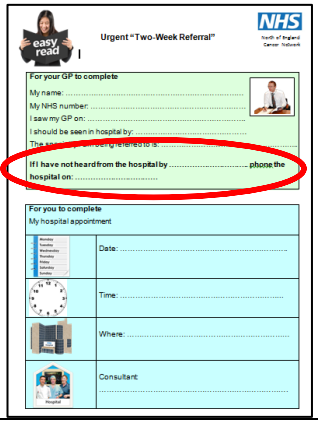
How do I get to hospital?

If you cannot use public transport, drive or arrange your own transport you may be able to use the ambulance service.

If you require ambulance transport, speak to the receptionist at your doctor's surgery as soon as possible.

If I cannot make the appointment I am offered?

Your GP thinks your symptoms need to be looked at as soon as possible.
It is important you try to go to the appointment.



If you cannot make the appointment.

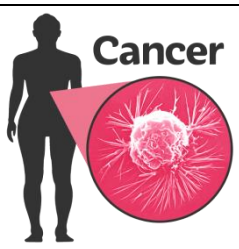
Phone the hospital as soon as possible
on: 0191 203 1245.

<u>This is very important.</u>

If you cancel or miss your appointment, the hospital will do their best to make sure you are seen as soon as possible.
Phone the hospital as soon as possible
on: 0191 203 1245.
This is very important.

You will no longer be covered by your right to be seen by a specialist doctor within 2 weeks.

What will happen at my appointment?

	Details on what will happen at your appointment, and any tests, will normally be sent with your appointment letter. If you have any questions about your appointment contact your GP.
	You may find it useful to write down any questions you want to ask the specialist doctor at your appointment.
	The specialist doctor will give you a lot of information. You can bring a friend or relative with you to the appointment, if you want to.
	To help the specialist doctor understand your symptoms you may need some tests.
	The tests may happen at different times. You may be required to have these tests: • before you see your specialist doctor • during the appointment with your specialist doctor • after the appointment with your specialist doctor
	You will be given the results of your tests by the specialist doctor. Some test results are available the same day. Some test results will take a few days.
	If a cancer is found the specialist doctor will explain what will happen next.

Word Bank

Cancer	The body is made up of lots of tiny pieces called cells. Sometimes the cells go wrong. These cells can affect other cells forming a tumour. Some tumours are called ‘malignant’. Malignant tumour can spread to different parts of the body. This is a cancer.
Tumour	Group of cells in the body that have gone wrong.
Malignant tumour	A tumour that can spread to different parts of the body.
Diagnosis	A diagnosis is when the doctors know what type of disease you have.
NHS	The National Health Service is the publicly funded healthcare system for England.
Symptom	Signs that tell you there is something wrong with the body. For example headache or feeling tired all the time.

Use this space to make any notes.