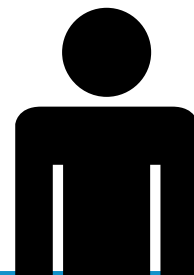


# Your fast-track appointment for possible prostate cancer



You have been referred to hospital because it's possible you have prostate cancer.

Most men who are referred in this way will **NOT** have prostate cancer.

Some prostate cancers may never need treatment, but some do need treating straight away.

It's important to attend any appointments offered, so that you can find out if you have prostate cancer that needs treatment. If you do have prostate cancer, the hospital will make sure you get the treatment or monitoring you need.

## Why will the hospital contact me?

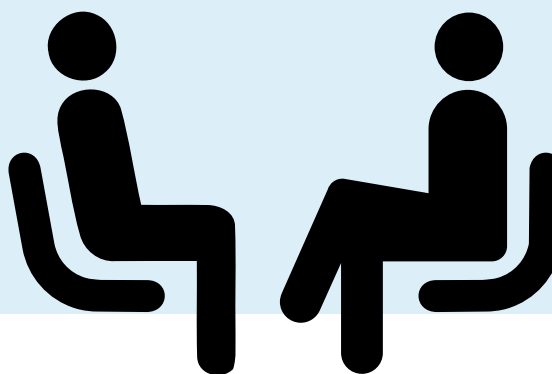
Your GP is referring you to the hospital's urology team, who specialise in problems with the urinary and reproductive systems, because of one or more of the following:

- Your PSA blood level is higher than it should be.
- You have had a digital rectal examination (DRE) and your prostate feels hard or lumpy.
- You have symptoms that might be a sign of a prostate problem.

You may be contacted by the hospital by phone, so please let your GP and hospital know if your telephone number changes.

You will need to be able to go to appointments over the next four weeks.

If you're not going to be available, for example if you're going on holiday, tell your GP. They may decide to refer you at a later date. However, it's best to avoid delays in case you do have a problem that needs treating.



Let your GP know if you need an interpreter or have accessibility needs.

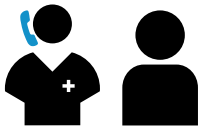
**Remember** – hospital car parks are often busy, so leave extra time to park if you're driving.



# What will happen now?

The hospital aims to tell you whether or not you have prostate cancer within **28 days (4 weeks)**.

## 1 Hospital contact you



This will be either:

- a letter to arrange an appointment with the hospital's urology team
- a phone call from a specialist, so they can get more information from you.

**If you don't hear anything within 7 days, call their patient booking service (see below).**

If you have a phone call with a specialist, they may decide you don't need an appointment, for example if you have symptoms that are caused by a urine infection. If you no longer need an appointment, you won't need to follow the rest of the stages on this page.



## 2 Hospital appointment



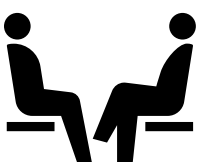
You'll usually see a urologist or a clinical nurse specialist. They may ask you about any symptoms, do a physical exam, and explain what will happen next. The following steps may happen for you on different days.

## 3 Prostate MRI scan



This scan will show any areas of the prostate that might contain cancer. Some hospitals may send you for an MRI scan before you see a urologist or clinical nurse specialist. Not everyone can have an MRI scan, your specialist will advise you on this.

## 4 Discuss MRI scan results and, if needed, do a biopsy



If your scans show anything unusual, the specialist will usually recommend doing a prostate biopsy. This is where small pieces of tissue are taken from the prostate and looked at under a microscope to check for cancer.

## 5 Appointment to discuss biopsy results and next steps



You'll find out if you have prostate cancer at this appointment, so try to bring a relative or friend. If you have prostate cancer, a doctor or specialist nurse will explain your options and help you decide what to do next.



## Any questions?

For questions about appointments, call the hospital's patient booking service or reception. You can find the number in your appointment letter, online or in the phone book.

If you're diagnosed with prostate cancer, you'll get details of a specialist nurse to contact if you have any questions. You can also contact Prostate Cancer UK's Specialist Nurses, in confidence, on **0800 074 8383**, or online at [prostatecanceruk.org/referral](https://prostatecanceruk.org/referral)  
The website has more information on tests, treatments and support.