



# Preparing for your planned procedure: coronavirus precautions

## Other formats

If you need this information in another format such as audio CD, Braille, large print, high contrast, British Sign Language or translated into another language, please contact the PALS desk on 01271 314090 or at [ndht.pals@nhs.net](mailto:ndht.pals@nhs.net).

During the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, our staff have been working hard to ensure that all patients receive the care they need, not just those patients with coronavirus.

We have changed how we deliver many of our services so that we only ask you to attend face-to-face services when it is necessary and where it can be done safely without putting you, other patients, or our staff at greater risk of catching coronavirus.

Our clinical teams have reviewed all patients waiting for procedures and we are pleased to be able to schedule more people for planned procedures. We have put many measures in place to make sure that all patients are protected from the virus and would like to reassure you that your procedure can be done safely.

This leaflet will guide you through your visit to hospital during the coronavirus pandemic.

Please note that the guidance in this leaflet may change at short notice in response to national or local developments during the coronavirus pandemic.

## Coronavirus in the South West

We have all been asked to stay at home for a long time so it is understandable that leaving your home, even for something as important as going to hospital, can be a worry.

The spread of coronavirus has been different across the country and the South West has had some of the lowest numbers of cases and deaths. In turn, North Devon and Torridge have had some of the lowest numbers in the South West.

The safety of patients and staff is our top priority, so despite these low numbers, we want to reassure you that we have put in place a range of measures at North Devon District Hospital to keep everyone safe from coronavirus.

Our clinical spaces and waiting areas are less crowded because we are doing more telephone and video appointments, and have limited visitor numbers

We have separate areas to keep patients who might or do have coronavirus apart from others

We are carrying out lots of testing



For adults and children undergoing an operation or endoscopy procedure you should self-isolate immediately after your swab test until you come in to hospital for your operation or procedure. This is based on guidance from NHS England the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE).

The guidance for self-isolating is similar to the government guidance for people who have coronavirus or live with someone who has coronavirus. This means that you:

Stay at home immediately after the swab test until you come in to hospital for your operation or procedure.

Do not go to work, school or public places,

Do not go shopping attend any gatherings, including



## Have your say

Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust aims to provide high quality services. However, please tell us when something could be improved. If you have a comment or compliment about a service or treatment, please raise your comments with a member of staff or the PALS team in the first instance.

'Care Opinion' comments forms are on all wards or online at [www.careopinion.org.uk](http://www.careopinion.org.uk).

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