

ENT (Ear, Nose, Throat) Preadmission Information

Patient information - Otolaryngology Department



Where do I go when I arrive?

- Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Outpatient Department, on the 5th floor, Riverside Block, Christchurch Hospital.
- You will be registered and your details checked.
- Depending on age, some people may have an ECG (heart test). If this is required, you will be sent a letter to go to the ECG Department on the ground floor near the main entrance before your

Pre-Admission Appointment.

Why do you need to attend a Preadmission Clinic?

- To review your medical fitness for anaesthesia and surgery.
- To provide you with information about what to expect before, during and after the surgery.
- To sign a Consent Form for the operation.

What happens at the Preadmission Appointment?

At the time of your appointment, you will meet a Nurse, a junior Doctor (House Surgeon), and the Surgeon who will most likely do your operation.

Some patients may need to see the Anaesthetist.

There may be some tests required, e.g. blood test, chest x-ray or photos, etc.

The Nurse will co-ordinate your preadmission and explain the day's proceedings, check your medical history, outline the operation and the after care required.

The House Surgeon will check that you are fit and well for your operation.

You will be asked about previous hospital admissions and operations, medical conditions and any allergies to medication or food.

The Surgeon will explain the operation and ask you to sign a Consent Form giving permission for the operation.

The Anaesthetist will generally see you on the day of your operation.

Occasionally they may need to see you at the Preadmission Clinic.

Please feel free to ask questions about your operation.

Before leaving, please check with the Preadmission Nurse to see if there are any changes to your planned operation and to ensure that everything has been completed.

How long should my Preadmission Appointment take?

Please allow up to 4 hours. This may sometimes take longer if more tests or investigations are required.

What do I bring?

- All current medication.
- Any relevant x-rays that you keep at home.

Tea and coffee are available. If you are diabetic or have small children with you, it is advisable to bring a snack. Snack machines and cafeterias are available in the hospital.

Please ask hospital staff where these are located.

Medications?

If you are currently taking Warfarin, Aspirin, Solprin, Aspro, Aspro-Clear, Codis, or Cartia or if there is Asprin or Salicylic Acid written on the medical label, please contact the ENT Preadmission Office, Phone: 364 1466. These medications may need to be stopped prior to surgery.

Period of time in hospital

Most surgical procedures require an overnight stay in hospital with a post-operative period of time off school/work. If you require further information regarding this, please ring (03) 364 1466.

Who should come with me?

- A parent or legal guardian is required to sign the Consent Form of any child under 16 years.

Note: If the parent or legal guardian cannot attend the Preadmission Appointment, they should contact the ENT Preadmission Nurse to make other arrangements. If this is not done, the operation may be postponed.

- A support person may be helpful. Only limited seating is available in the Outpatient Department, so please bring only those people needed for your preadmission.
- If possible, it would be advisable to arrange childcare for other children.

Baby changing facilities are available. Please ask the ENT Outpatient reception staff or your nurse if these facilities are required.

Will I have to pay?

There is no charge for your Preadmission Appointment or operation if you are a New Zealand resident. If you are travelling from another hospital board area, you may be eligible for travel assistance. Please ask your nurse or the reception staff for clarification about this.

ENT Outpatient Department

Christchurch Hospital

Private Bag 4710

Christchurch

Telephone: (03) 364 0990

Fax: (03) 364 0273

Preadmission Nurse

Telephone: (03) 364 1466

For more information about:

- your health and medication, go to www.healthinfo.org.nz
- hospital and specialist services, go to www.cdhb.health.nz