

Patient Leaflet

Welcome

Thank you for attending a photo clinic appointment.

Your primary care clinician is concerned that you could have skin cancer and would like a skin dermatologist (skin specialist) to assess this further. The hospital offers a service to assess skin lesions such as yours remotely saving patients having to travel to the hospital.

In order for this assessment to take place photographs of the skin lesion and clinical information will be sent securely to the hospital dermatology department where it will be reviewed by a dermatologist **within two weeks**.

You will then be contacted by the hospital either by letter or by phone to be given a diagnosis and informed whether any further assessment is needed **within 28 days**.

If you need to attend a hospital appointment following review of your images the hospital will contact you directly to book an appointment. **Please do not attend the hospital unless you are contacted** – the review of the images taken today may appear in your NHS App but it is not an appointment you need to attend.

Your appointment

The Health Care Assistant you are seeing will take three separate photographs of the area of concern on your skin, one to identify the area of the body and two more close up photographs



What are the benefits of this service?

Offering a remote service will save many people having to travel to the hospital for an outpatient appointment. A remote assessment service has been successfully trialled in Bristol and is in use across the country with positive feedback from patients.

What happens next?

- Once you have attended the photo clinic appointment a referral will be sent securely to the hospital dermatology department.
- The referral will be reviewed by a dermatologist.
- You will be contacted by the hospital either by letter or by phone to be given a diagnosis and informed whether any further assessment is needed.

Your feedback matters

We would really like to have feedback on your experience of this service. Has it worked for you? We may contact you by letter or phone in the next 4 weeks to ask for feedback.

Storage of the photographs and confidentiality

Our files are stored and accessed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR 2018.)

Your photographs are named and transferred to our image database for permanent storage as part of a hospital medical record. Your images are accessible only by the staff involved in your care.

Chaperones

If you would like a chaperone present, then please ask the member of staff undertaking your appointment.