



Information for
patients and
carers

TIA clinic at Royal Preston Hospital

Referral to the clinic

You may have been referred to the clinic by your GP, after a visit to the A&E department, or by another specialist. Your referral will be triaged by one of the stroke clinicians who will then decide if the TIA clinic is appropriate for you to attend. If not we will advise alternatives to your GP/referring doctor.

Where is the clinic and how soon will I be seen?

On Monday to Friday the clinic is situated in the Day Treatment Centre at Royal Preston Hospital (located after the children's entrance at the front of RPH). During weekends/bank holidays the clinic takes place on Ward 21 on the 4th floor of the hospital (on arrival at Ward 21 please alert a member of staff that you have a clinic appointment).

We aim to see all patients within 24 hours of receiving the referral, however sometimes the clinic can be full, therefore we will offer you the next available appointment.

The team

The TIA clinic is run by a stroke consultant/nurse consultant or registrar. A nurse or assistant practitioner.

As we are a teaching hospital student nurses or medical students may observe and learn from the clinic.

What to expect in TIA clinic

The nurse or assistant practitioner organising the clinic will check your observations, perform an ECG and take a history. You will then be seen

by the stroke consultant or registrar to discuss the reasons why you have been referred to the TIA clinic. Following this if a TIA is suspected the stroke consultant or registrar will arrange an investigation during the clinic, in order to make a diagnosis. The clinic has two MRI brain scan appointment slots and two Carotid Doppler slots. If these slots are full the consultant may bring you back on another day for these investigations. The TIA clinic can have up to 4 patients in, some patients need more time than others, therefore please bear this in mind if there are any delays.

Investigations

The main investigations for a suspected TIA are an MRI-B scan and Carotid Doppler. Outpatient investigations may include a 72 hour heart monitor and ECHO scan. Bloods tests may also be requested.

What happens after the investigations are completed?

If a TIA is suspected the stroke consultant will arrange investigations during the appointment in order to make a diagnosis. You may also be given a prescription to collect dependant on the diagnosis before leaving. Depending on the investigation results you may be admitted from the clinic to the stroke ward.

Driving

Whilst you are being treated as a suspected TIA, you cannot drive in line with DVLA guidance for 28 days from your symptoms. This will be discussed further at the clinic. This is due to safety reasons.

Follow up

Your GP will receive a letter informing them of your visit to clinic and the outcome. If you experience further stroke/TIA symptoms it is important you come to seek urgent medical attention.

Act **FAST** and call 999.



Facial
weakness



Arm
weakness



Speech
problems



Time
to call 999

(Stroke Association)

Contact details

Should you require further advice or information please contact:
Ward 21 on telephone number: **01772 524284**

Sources of further information

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk

www.nhs.uk

www.accessable.co.uk

www.patient.co.uk

www.stroke.org.uk

[Stroke - Overview \(lthtr.nhs.uk\)](http://Stroke-Overview(lthtr.nhs.uk))

All our patient information leaflets are available on our website for patients to access and download:

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets

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If you want to stop smoking, you can also contact the Quit Squad Freephone 0800 328 6297.

Please ask if you would like help in understanding this information. This information can be made available in large print and in other languages.

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