

Private Referrals - patient and consultant info leaflet

Dear patient,

On occasions we identify the need for you to be seen by a consultant for specialist investigations, advice and/or treatment. If you decide to see a consultant privately you will have to make the appointment yourself. As soon as you have booked this appointment you will need to inform the practice of the consultant's name, and when and where the appointment is to take place, so that we can send a referral letter about your relevant medical history.

The private consultant may decide that investigations are required, which can either be done privately, or on the NHS. Please note that if you decide to have investigations on the NHS **your private consultant will have to transfer your care to the NHS**. It is not for the GP to arrange the transfer of care to the NHS or to arrange the investigations.

It is also important to note that if you have had investigations arranged by the consultant (privately or on the NHS) you should expect the consultant to communicate the results of these investigations direct to you (in person, by phone or by letter/email). If you have difficulty obtaining results from investigations arranged by the consultant (private or NHS) please contact the consultant's secretary direct.