

Your introductory visit to the Dorset Prosthetic Centre

This leaflet is written for patients who have recently undergone an amputation and who are visiting the Dorset Prosthetics Centre for the first time. It aims to tell you what an Introductory Visit is and to tell you what will happen when you attend the centre.

What is the appointment for?

The appointment is an opportunity to visit the centre, to meet members of the team and discuss the future as an artificial limb (prosthetic) user.

Who will I see?

You may be seen by one or more of the following team members

Tim Randell Clinical Specialist Physiotherapist

Emma Proctor Nurse Specialist

Joanne Teanby Clinical Specialist Occupational Therapist

Where is the appointment?

Your appointment is at the Dorset Prosthetic Centre which is located next to the Urgent Treatment Centre and ED minors.

What time is the appointment?

Appointments are generally arranged for mornings at 11am. You will be contacted by telephone to arrange the day and this will be followed up with an appointment letter to confirm this.

Can I bring someone with me?

You are welcome to bring someone with you to this appointment. It may be helpful for a partner or carer to come and listen to what is said to you, contribute to the discussion, and to see for themselves what the centre is like. This will help them support you in the future.

If you attend the centre regularly in the future it will not always be possible for your partner/carer to be in the fitting room due because of space limitation and single sex fitting rooms. Your partner/carer are welcome to sit in the waiting areas. However, if this is a problem for you, please speak to one of the clinicians.

What will happen at the appointment?

You will be seen by two members of the clinical staff who will:

Ask you about your previous medical history and your current social situation e.g. what type of accommodation you live in and what you do every day and what help you currently have. This is so that we can build a picture of what you need to be able to do to be independent at home.

Ask you about your level of fitness now and what it was like before your surgery. Also, discuss your hobbies and any job, either voluntary or paid, that you currently do or undertook prior to your surgery. This is so that they we can plan your rehabilitation programme towards limb wearing.

Ask you about the goals that you want to aim for in the future and discuss how and if these can be achieved.

Show you an artificial limb (prosthesis) that would be suitable for you, and talk to you about what it means to wear an artificial limb.

You may want to go away and think about whether you want an artificial limb. This is encouraged and the staff will contact you at a later date to find out the decision that you have made.

I am diabetic. Do I need to bring anything with me?

If you are diabetic please bring your lunchtime medication and something to eat with you.

Who do I contact regarding my appointment?

If you have any concerns or questions about your visit and need to speak to someone please telephone and ask for

Penny Moore, Tim Randell, Joanne Teanby - Tel: **0300 019 4363**

Please note if you are unable to keep your appointment please contact the clinic, **0300 019 4363**, so your appointment can be rearranged.

How do I get to my appointment?

Please see the enclosed travel information.

The Royal Bournemouth Hospital, Castle Lane East, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH7 7DW

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