

PIFU Pathway

Shared and informed decision making is essential for PIFU to work effectively.

To help you make the right decision for you these are some of the things to consider about a PIFU pathway following TIA.

PIFU means you will not have another appointment in this clinic. A plan will be communicated to you and your GP by letter following today's appointment. This will help support future management.

Any outstanding tests will take place as planned and we will write with results.

A follow up appointment will only be made if you request this in the next 6 months. After this time you will be discharged from our care.

Advantages:

- PIFU pathways are more convenient for people. We won't ask you to come and see us at the hospital again if you don't need us. This saves you time and sometimes money (for travel and parking).
- We will have considered your case on an individual basis to ensure this would be safe and appropriate before mentioning this option to you. We are confident that you are on the right treatment and have no on-going symptoms. We have systems to ensure outstanding tests are completed and will be communicated to you and your GP.
- PIFU leaves the door open. If you need to see us, you can self-refer directly back within the next 6 months (you will not need to go via your GP). This will be easy to arrange, by phone with a direct line to our team. We will aim to see you or provide a telephone appointment within 2 weeks of contacting us.
- PIFU pathways release capacity (by only seeing people when they need us). This is a more efficient use of health services. By removing non-essential appointments it means we have more flexibility to see you quickly if this is needed.
- Research in other areas has found only 1 in 5 people need to come back.

Disadvantages:

- PIFU doesn't suit everyone and isn't appropriate for everyone we see. There are some situations when we would not suggest this.
- PIFU means no further scheduled time with the clinical team after your initial appointment (one less appointment, compared to a non-PIFU pathway).
- We want you to feel comfortable and confident with the support you have received following your TIA. If you feel you would find it hard to access us or don't feel confident to manage your health in the early phase following your TIA then you don't need to agree to a PIFU pathway.