

## Patient information leaflet- Urgent referrals

### Why have I been referred to the Hospital?

This may be for a number of reasons:

- You may have signs or symptoms that mean you urgently need further tests, such as an Ultrasound scan, MRI or Image guided biopsy.
- You may have a suspected diagnosis of cancer.
- In some instances following your investigations you may receive an appointment to see a doctor at The Royal Marsden Hospital in London or another specialist at The Royal Sussex County Hospital in Brighton.

### Who runs the service?

The Musculoskeletal Radiologists are specialists experienced in the diagnoses of soft tissue lumps and bumps. The team will ensure that the necessary tests and investigations are carried out and reviewed in order to make a final diagnosis of your problem. Your GP will be notified of the outcome and will discuss the results and treatment plan with you as soon as possible.

### What do I need to do now?

- Make sure that your GP has your correct address and telephone number, **including mobile phone number**, if you have one.
- The hospital will try to phone you to arrange a scan appointment, so the correct contact telephone number is very important. If they are not able to make telephone contact, they will send an appointment letter. **Please take the earliest appointment offered.**
- **Please try not to cancel your appointment.** Please let the hospital know **immediately** if you are unable to attend, so that the appointment can be offered to someone else. It is really **important** that you arrange an alternative date and time if cancelling this appointment. Please telephone the Imaging Booking Team at the Royal Sussex County Hospital on 01273 664575.
- If you have not been contacted by the Royal Sussex County Hospital within one week of seeing your GP and being given this leaflet, please telephone the hospital's Imaging Booking Team on 01273 664575.
- Please feel free to bring someone with you to this appointment. If you wish, they can come in with you whilst you have your scan. Do not feel that you have to attend alone.
- At the end of your appointment, the hospital staff will give you more information about what will happen next and they will write to your GP advising of any further appointments that may be required.
- If you have difficulty travelling to the hospital, do ask for information about help with transport when making your appointment, including help with travel costs if you are on a low income.

If you have further questions regarding your referral please contact your GP.