

GP Newsletter Autumn 2020

Call us 01233 423000

Kennington Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 0YS

Proud to Support the NHS

We have been proud to work with the NHS during the COVID-19 pandemic, providing time critical surgeries and boosting capacity to treat patients waiting for treatment. We will continue to support our NHS colleagues over

the coming months while the national contract between the NHS and private hospitals remains in place. Being able to help has been an honour and a privilege for all the staff at One Ashford Hospital.

Ready for New Referrals

Meanwhile, we are pleased to announce that we now have more capacity to welcome back our private patients for outpatient appointments and surgical procedures. Our Outpatient, Physiotherapy and Imaging departments are open and we can now accept your referrals for any patients wishing to pay for their own treatment or who have insurance. Insured patients will just need to check their policy will cover them for the treatment they need.

To ensure the safety of our patients and staff we are running at reduced capacity but we will usually be able to see and treat your patients quickly. The CCG have instructed us to clear our backlog of e-referral patients, whose surgery was put on hold in March, when we started work with the NHS to support the COVID-19 crisis. The recent changes to the NHS contract we are working under, allows us now to restart that service, but with the backlog we have it will take about 6 months to ensure these patients have their surgery.

At present we can accept new e-referral patients, and can do diagnostic and conservative outpatient treatments, but if they require surgery the wait will unfortunately be longer than 6 months due to our current backlog of e-referral patients.

A COVID-19 Secure Hospital

One Ashford Hospital continues to be a COVID-19 secure hospital. To ensure the safety of our patients at all times, we've adapted the way we work and have implemented the following new measures:

- Patients will be asked to enter the hospital no earlier than 10 minutes before their appointment time, in order to reduce the amount of people in the hospital.
- Adults must come into the hospital on their own (any person accompanying a patient should wait outside). Children may be accompanied by one adult.
- Patients will have their temperatures taken upon arrival and asked to complete a COVID-19 symptom form. Anyone with a temperature above 37.8°C or displaying symptoms will be asked to return home and contact NHS 111 for guidance.
- Patients will be given a face mask upon arrival to wear.

- Hand sanitiser is placed throughout the hospital. Patients will be required to use it upon arrival and when moving around the hospital.
- Safety measures have been put in place to ensure the correct use of PPE by the consultants and staff.
- Our clinic rooms have been reconfigured to try and ensure social distancing during patient consultations. If an examination is required, PPE will be worn.
- Patients and their household will be required to practise strict and sensible social distancing 14 days prior to receiving surgical treatment, and quarantine for 72 hours before admission, following their COVID-19 test.

Please note, while the government has reduced social distancing to 1m+, to ensure the utmost safety of our patients and staff at all times, we will continue to keep to a social distance of 2m, wherever possible.

Our Services

- Acupuncture
- Audiology
- Cardiology
- Colorectal surgery
- Cosmetic surgery
- Dermatology
- Diagnostics (MRI, X-ray, ultrasound)
- Ear, nose and throat
- Endocrinology (thyroid, diabetes, hormone imbalance)
- Endoscopy
- Gastroenterology
- General surgery
- Gynaecology
- Neurology
- Orthopaedics
- PaediatricOutpatients
- Pain management
- Podiatric surgery
- Physiotherapy and sports massage
- Psychology services
- Renal and urology
- Rheumatology
- Spinal
- Vascular surgery

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Can Knee Injections Help Arthritic Pain?



Mr Chan Jeer, Consultant Orthopaedic knee surgeon discusses the benefit of knee injections for arthritic pain.

"As part of the strategy to deal with arthritic knee joints, a surgeon will always try and exhaust simple conservative measures before resorting to end-stage joint replacement as a curative option.

One of the best ways to help arthritic pain in a knee is to perform an injection, for which there are many varieties available. The simplest thing that can be injected into the knee is a combination of local anaesthetic and steroid. I personally try to avoid steroid injections into the knee as they can have an adverse effect

in the future when it comes to joint replacement, with an increased potential risk of infection in the joint replacement if there has been a previous steroid injection.

My preferred injection would be a viscosupplement and this injection can provide up to 50% reduction in arthritic joint pain for up to six months.

Visco-supplements are administered as a single injection to the knee as an outpatient. If there is a lot of swelling in the knee then an attempt is made to remove some of that fluid prior to the injection. The product works by reducing inflammation in the knee and risks of complications are very rare. The injection is repeatable, and in my opinion an excellent way of offsetting the requirement for surgery."

Meet our New Consultants



Mr Biju Aravind Consultant Colorectal and General Surgeon



Mr John DavisonConsultant Plastic Surgeon



Mr Bal Dhinsa Consultant T&O Surgeon (foot and ankle)



Mr Nitin Shrotri Consultant Urological Surgeon



Mr Kemal Tekeli Consultant Maxillofacial and Plastic Surgeon



Mr Milan Thomas Consultant Urological Surgeon

Accessing Treatment at One Ashford Hospital

We welcome patients with private medical insurance and accept all major insurers. We offer our self-pay patients fixed price packages, fully inclusive of hospital and consultant fees.

We offer 0% interest on monthly payments across 12 months, and low interest finance on loans between 12 and 60 months.*



* Terms and conditions apply.

Consultant Led CPD Training Events

Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, our CPD training events will primarily be carried out online. We are currently looking into events that can be held in person, whilst meeting social distancing guidelines. We will of course keep you informed of any changes to the delivery of our events.

Further details of all events can be found on our GP Zone at: www.onehealthcare.co.uk/gp

A number of our Consultants are happy to deliver online training sessions on a topic of your choice.

To find out more, please email: ashford.events@onehealthcare .co.uk

