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## The vascular clinic

The vascular clinic at Charing Cross Hospital can be a very busy place. Several teams can be running clinics at the same time but we always aim to keep the waiting times to an absolute minimum.

This leaflet explains the process and layout of the clinic. Please make sure that you are on time for your appointment.

The vascular department consists of doctors, nurses and vascular scientists. The vascular staff are involved in the diagnosis and treatment of conditions affecting blood flow around the body.

Please bring any regular medications that you may be due to take while you are attending the clinic to prevent any missed doses.

You may have an ultrasound scan as well as a consultation with the doctor, so please be prepared to be in the department for up to 4 hours. You may see several members of staff.

Please ask a member of staff if you have any questions.

## How to find 4 north vascular outpatients

Your appointment will be in vascular outpatients on the fourth floor of the north wing at Charing Cross Hospital.

When entering the hospital through the main entrance from Fulham Palace Road, walk straight through the hospital lobby to the lifts. The lift block is past the shop and Costa™ Coffee. Take the lift to the fourth floor, or find the stairs to the right hand side, straight behind the lift block.

When you arrive on the fourth floor, the department is located in the north wing – look out for the vascular outpatients clinic sign above the door.

## Vascular ultrasound scan

The ultrasound scan allows us to look at the arteries or veins in your neck, arms, legs or abdomen (tummy). Sometimes we may also measure the blood pressure in your arms and legs.

The exact type of scan you have will depend on your symptoms.

There are no known risks from the sound waves used in an ultrasound scan.

External ultrasound scans don't have any side effects and are generally painless, although you may experience some discomfort as the probe is pressed over your skin.

Please be aware that for the scan you may be asked to remove items of clothing so we can access the area of the body to be scanned. Chaperones are available upon request.

During the scan we will use the ultrasound probe to spread a clear gel over the area being examined.

You will not feel any pain but you may feel some pressure because the probe may need to be pressed firmly against your skin to get a clear picture.

## Follow-up appointment

If a follow-up appointment is made for you on the day please, make sure you know when and where this is before leaving the department. If you have any queries about this appointment or any further vascular appointments please call: **020 3311 7360**.

## Further information

For more information about the vascular service at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, please visit:  
[www.imperial.nhs.uk/our-services/surgery/vascular-surgery](http://www.imperial.nhs.uk/our-services/surgery/vascular-surgery)

If you would like more information on vascular conditions, please visit:  
[www.circulationfoundation.org.uk/](http://www.circulationfoundation.org.uk/)

## Pharmacy

The pharmacy is located on the ground floor. When entering the hospital from Fulham Palace Road, walk to the left of the reception desk and continue straight - the pharmacy is on the left hand side.

## How do I make a comment about my visit?

We aim to provide the best possible service and staff will be happy to answer any of the questions you may have. If you have any **suggestions** or **comments** about your visit, please either speak to a member of staff or contact the patient advice and liaison service (**PALS**) on **020 3313 0088** You can also email PALS at [imperial.pals@nhs.net](mailto:imperial.pals@nhs.net) The PALS team will listen to your concerns, suggestions or queries and is often able to help solve problems on your behalf.

Alternatively, you may wish to complain by contacting our complaints department:

Complaints department, fourth floor, Salton House, St Mary's Hospital, Praed Street London W2 1NY

Email: [ICHC-tr.Complaints@nhs.net](mailto:ICHC-tr.Complaints@nhs.net)  
Telephone: **020 3312 1337 / 1349**

## Alternative formats

This leaflet can be provided on request in large print or easy read, as a sound recording, in Braille or in alternative languages. Please email the communications team:  
[imperial.communications@nhs.net](mailto:imperial.communications@nhs.net)

## Wi-fi

Wi-fi is available at our Trust. For more information visit our website:  
[www.imperial.nhs.uk](http://www.imperial.nhs.uk)

# Vascular outpatients at Charing Cross Hospital

## Information for patients, relatives and carers



Vascular outpatients  
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