A patient’s guide to the Ambulatory Care Unit
What is the Ambulatory Care Unit?
The Ambulatory Care Unit (sometimes called ACU) is a new service, which offers same day care to patients at the hospital. This means that patients are assessed, diagnosed, treated and are able to go home the same day, without being admitted into hospital overnight.

This Guide gives an overview about how the service works. Please be aware that your individual journey through ACU may vary slightly.

How does the Ambulatory Care Unit work?
1. Before You Arrive
You may have been referred to the Ambulatory Care Unit by your GP, A & E or some other route.

2. Arrive at ACU
You will be greeted by a member of staff, who will introduce themselves and the unit facilities. You will also be given an indication of how long you will be on the unit.

3. Initial Assessment
A senior nurse or doctor will undertake an Initial Assessment, where they will ask you to explain your symptoms and the background to your illness.
4. Investigations
You may have to wait while staff arrange investigations, such as x-rays, blood tests and/or scans.

5. Treatment
Once the results from your tests are known the staff will create a treatment plan for you, which will usually begin on the unit. Where possible arrangements will be made for you to continue the treatment at your place of residence.

6. Next Steps
Once your care in Ambulatory Care Unit is complete you can go home. The staff will let you know the next steps for your treatment before you leave, which may include return to the unit for continued treatment and review. If you have any queries or concerns after you leave the unit please call us to discuss or if your conditions worsens call your family doctor.

How to find us:
From the Main Reception go down the main corridor and the Ambulatory Care Unit is approximately half way down on your right, down the same corridor as Ward 47.

From the Emergency Department (A&E) go up the corridor onto the main corridor, turn left the Ambulatory Care Unit is further up on the right.
If you require a special edition of this leaflet
This leaflet is available in large print, Braille, on compact disk and in other languages on request. Please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on:

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WZZ5336nSept12pi
Produced by Medical Photography and Illustration, COCH