What questions could I ask at my appointment?

- If my symptoms get worse, who should I contact?
- Should I make any changes to the medication I am taking?
- What tests will I need to have?
- How long will the tests take?
- What will the tests feel like?
- Do the tests have any after effects? How long will it take to get my test results?
- Who will give me the test results?
- If I have any questions after the appointment, who should I ask?

If you would like to access further support you may find the below contacts useful:

Macmillan Support Line (National number) 0808 808 0000. This service is open 7 days a week 08:00 – 20:00 or visit www.macmillan.org.uk for information

Macmillan services:

Lincoln Hospital	01522 573799
Boston Pilgrim Hospital	01205 446392
Grantham Hospital	01476 464978

Lincolnshire Cancer Support website link
Home: Cancer Support Lincolnshire

Connect to Support – Cancer Information and Support | Lincolnshire (connecttosupport.org)

Please remember...

Most patients referred in this way do NOT have cancer - but we want to rule the possibility as quickly as possible.

If you have any questions about your appointment please contact:

Hospital	Telephone Number
Lincoln County Hospital	01522 573200
Grantham Hospital	01476 565232
Boston Pilgrim Hospital	01522 512512
Louth Hospital	01507 600100
Grimsby Hospital	03033 306538
Scunthorpe Hospital	03033 306543
Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospital	01302 644378
Nottingham University Hospitals	01159 691169
Kings Mill Hospital	01623 622515
Newark Hospital	01623 681681
Peterborough City Hospital	01733 678000
Queen Elizabeth Hospital	01553 613613
University Hospitals Leicester	0300 3031563

If your appointment is with a private provider please contact your GP surgery for contact details.

JANUARY 2024

NHS

Referrals

Urgent Suspected Cancer Pathway

The Urgent Suspected Cancer Pathway allows healthcare professionals to refer people urgently with specific symptoms that might suggest an underlying cancer diagnosis.

Appointment date/time:

DATE:

TIME:

Why do I need an URGENT referral?

Your healthcare professional is referring you on the Urgent Suspected Cancer pathway because of concerns surrounding the symptoms you discussed during your appointment.

Does this mean I have cancer?

No – this urgent appointment aims to rule out cancer as soon as possible.
Most people **will not have cancer,** but if you do, early diagnosis and treatment are important. It is normal to worry when you have an urgent referral to the hospital.
Remember more than 9 out of every 10 people referred this way **will not be diagnosed with cancer.**
Where possible, please attend at the earliest given appointment.

After FOUR weeks...
If you have not received contact from the hospital
PLEASE CALL YOUR SURGERY (and ask for the Medical Secretaries)

Will I need tests?

You will most likely need to undergo some form of diagnostic tests to help your specialist determine the cause for your symptoms. Please monitor your 'withheld number' calls so the team can book your appointment. Diagnostic tests can include scans, blood tests and internal telescopes. The clinician doing your test on the day will not usually be able to tell you your results. If not, your specialist will arrange to contact you.

What happens in the next week?

1. You will be contacted by the hospital for your next appointment; please ensure your contact details are up to date at the surgery.

2. The hospital will call you using an 'unknown' number.
If you or your relative has communication or mobility needs, please make the booking team aware when they contact you to arrange your appointment

3. If you are unable to attend a hospital appointment, please let the hospital know straight away so the appointment can be offered to someone else.

At your hospital appointment

The booking team will confirm whether you are coming in straight for a diagnostic test or to have an appointment with a specialist first. You may need to describe your symptoms again, so it could help to write things down in advance.
You could also bring someone with you, such as family member, friend or a carer.
It would be helpful to bring your current medication with you in their original packaging or a mobile phone with **NHS App.** To download the App please follow the link:

NHS App for Android

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.nhs.online.nhsonline

NHS App for Apple

https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/nhs-app/id1388411277?ls=1&mt=8