

Respiratory Patient Initiated Follow-Up (PIFU) – Asthma

Other formats

If you need this information in another format such as audio CD, Braille, large print, high contrast, British Sign Language or translated into another language, please contact the PALS desk on 01271 314090 or at ndht.pals@nhs.net.

You have been given a Patient Initiated Follow-Up (PIFU) appointment in the respiratory service because your condition is currently very stable but may flare up in the future.

What does PIFU mean?

PIFU means that you do not need to be seen by us regularly. Asthma can be stable for long periods of time and it is not necessary for you to come and see us when you are well. However, if your condition worsens or becomes unstable then it would be appropriate for us to see you to offer advice and further treatment.

Having a PIFU appointment means you can contact us if you think we need to see you and we should also be able to see you more quickly.

What symptoms would mean I needed to come back to the Respiratory clinic?

We would want to see you if:

- you are needing frequent courses of steroid tablets (prednisolone) and / or antibiotics (more than one course every 6 weeks)
- your symptoms are worse and you and your GP are struggling to control them.

How do I contact the hospital to get an appointment?

There are two ways to contact us:

1. Complete the 'Respiratory PIFU appointment' form on our Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust website:

www.northdevonhealth.nhs.uk/services/respiratory-service/open-respiratory-appointment-required/

or

2. Call the respiratory secretary on 01271 349589

PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) ensures that the NHS listens to patients, relatives, carers and friends, answers questions and resolves concerns as quickly as possible. If you have a query or concern call 01271 314090 or email ndht.pals@nhs.net. You can also visit the PALS and Information Centre in person at North Devon District Hospital, Barnstaple.

Have your say

Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust aims to provide high quality services. However, please tell us when something could be improved. If you have a comment or compliment about a service or treatment, please raise your comments with a member of staff or the PALS team in the first instance.

'Care Opinion' comments forms are on all wards or online at www.careopinion.org.uk.

Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust
Raleigh Park, Barnstaple
Devon EX31 4JB
Tel. 01271 322577
www.northdevonhealth.nhs.uk

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Tel: 01271 313970 / email: ndht.contactus@nhs.net