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You are entitled to a copy of any letter we write about you. Please ask if you want one when you come to the hospital.

Please complete The Friends & Family Test to tell us about your experience at: www.salisbury.nhs.uk/FriendsFamily or download our App from the Apple App store or Google Play Store.

The evidence used in the preparation of this leaflet is available on request. Please email: patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk if you would like a reference list.

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The Plastics Trauma Clinic

Welcome to the Plastics Trauma Clinic. Here is some information on the service and how the clinic works.

The Plastics Surgery Service is a regional unit that covers the south of England, including Wiltshire, Dorset, Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands.

The Plastic Surgery Trauma Clinic is run from Monday to Friday, and starts at 9am. It is generally staffed by a plastics nurse practitioner (a senior nurse) and a doctor.

If you have been told to have nothing to eat or drink (nil by mouth) and would like a drink, please ask the receptionist who can ask staff for advice. PLEASE DO NOT CHEW GUM if nil by mouth. If you have been prescribed antibiotics and pain relief, please continue to take them or ask for advice if you are nil by mouth.

Staff in the plastic surgery trauma clinic provide emergency treatment and the number of patients and the severity of the injuries that they see can be unpredictable. While we aim to treat all of our patients as soon as possible, there may be a delay for some, as staff prioritise treatment according to clinical need. If you hear another patient being called ahead of you, please bear with us.

Please note that although you may have been asked not to eat and drink before your appointment, this does not necessarily mean you will have an operation the same day. First you will be assessed, then clinically prioritised. The timing of your operation will depend on the number of patients admitted that day and the nature of their injuries. Because of this unpredictability, there is still a possibility that your operation may be cancelled, even if you are admitted the same day.

Staff in the Surgical Admissions Lounge, together with the trauma team will try to keep you up-to-date throughout the day.

If you need additional treatment such as a plaster cast or physiotherapy, please allow for extra time for this. We will try and accommodate any additional treatment as best we can and, if possible, on the same day.

We appreciate that you may have had to travel a significant distance and may face additional car parking charges. If you have waited for at least two hours please speak to a member of staff.

Thank you for your patience.

Plastics Trauma Team