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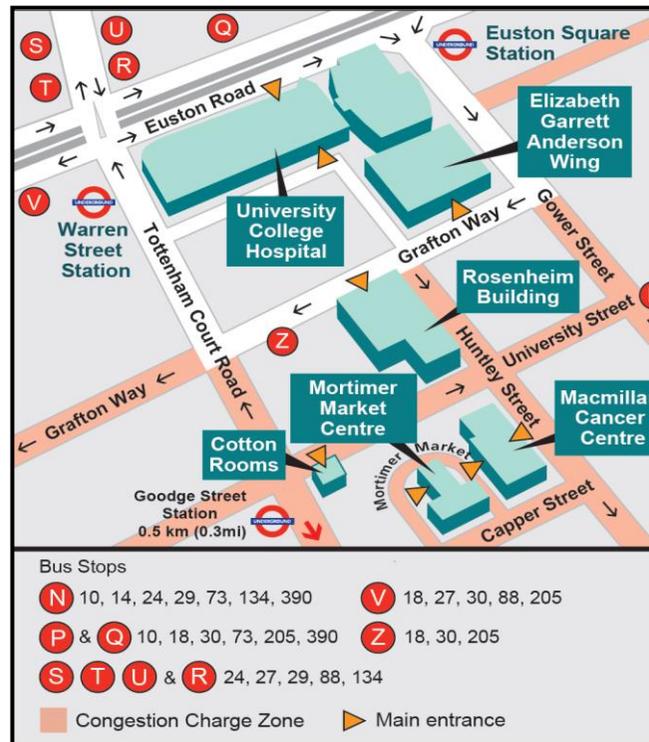
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University College Hospital

GI Rapid Access MDC

Gastrointestinal Services Division



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Your appointment will be held at the UCH Macmillan Cancer Centre. At the Centre, as well as seeing patients who have a cancer diagnosis or are being investigated for a suspected cancer, we also see patients who do not have cancer. For certain groups of patients who do not have cancer, the Cancer Centre is the most appropriate place for them to be assessed and cared for. This is due to the specialist services and treatments offered within the building. The doctor who referred you should have discussed the reason for your referral with you. Please contact them if you are concerned about the reason for your referral.

Why have I been referred urgently to hospital?

You've been referred to a Multidisciplinary Diagnostic Centre (MDC) because your GP feels your symptoms urgently need further investigation and has referred you to a specialist. There are many common conditions that these symptoms could be linked to, including the possibility of cancer.

Does this mean I have Cancer?

Having an urgent referral does not necessarily mean you have cancer. Most people who have an urgent referral don't have cancer. However, you have been referred because you need to see a specialist or have some investigations quickly to help find out what is wrong with you.

In the event that cancer is diagnosed, then ensuring that the diagnosis is made early means treatment is likely to be more effective. This is why it is important that you are seen within two weeks of the referral being made.

What will happen next?

The hospital will call you to confirm the time of your appointment. This will usually be by the end of the next working day.

Once you have been given your appointment it is very important that you attend. Please let the hospital know immediately if you are unable to keep your appointment. You will then need to arrange an alternative appointment.

What will happen at the hospital?

When you have your hospital appointment you will see our nurse specialist who will give you some more information about what will happen next. You may also require some tests which will help both the specialist and your GP understand what is causing your symptoms.