

Community Endoscopy Service

InHealth (previously known as Prime Diagnostics Ltd), provides direct access non-two week wait community based gastroscopy (including transnasal endoscopy), flexible sigmoidoscopy and colonoscopy services, that are delivered from a dedicated unit at Ravenswood (next to the GP practice).

The service undertakes routine work to help to relieve the pressure on endoscopic services at Ipswich Hospital. It also allows GPs to directly refer for an endoscopy without the need for an outpatient appointment.

From 1st May 2015, a new version of the referral form (version 2.5) will have to be completed when making referrals to the service provided by InHealth.

How to refer?

- C&B using the referral form attached (which will be on your clinical system). Please telephone the number below if you need telephone advice before referring.
- All referrals triaged by an endoscopist to ensure they are clinically appropriate. If the referral needs to be seen in secondary care it will be forwarded directly and the GP practice informed.
- Patients have choice and can be referred to IHT directly
- If you are referring to this service please do not refer to another provider (to avoid duplicate testing).
- If referring to Ipswich Hospital post endoscopy please include the report and results when referring as IHT will not have access to these.

Reporting

- All Endoscopies will be fully reported:
 - If no suspected serious pathology found report back to the practice, via NHS email, on the day of the scope. If relevant the endoscopists will provide management advice and arrange follow ups.
 - If serious suspected pathology is found during the procedure, the endoscopists will advise the patient, contact the GP by telephone and make a two week referral on the same day to the patient's choice of hospital.
 - If serious pathology is found at histology the patient will be given an appointment at the next session and then referred to the hospital of their choice on a two week wait.
 - For those patients requiring follow up, e.g. patients with polyps, the service will actively manage their surveillance needs in accordance with BSG guidelines.
 - If a serious condition, such as Crohn's disease, is found on scoping; a management plan and the results will be reported back to the GP practice on the same day.

Benefits to patients

- Choice of provider
- Short waiting times.
- Easy to park – no charges.
- Generous timeslots - most patients seen on time as only routine referrals accepted.

Contact details

- Unit address - 1st Floor, 22 Hening Avenue, Ravenswood, Ipswich IP3 9QJ
 - Booking Team telephone: 0333 202 3187 (Fax 0845 437 0343)
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- Email inhealth.endo@nhs.net
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