

CARDIOLOGY CLINICS

A GUIDE FOR PATIENTS



CARDIOLOGY CLINICS

What is cardiology?

Cardiology is the study of heart conditions.

Your appointment and parking

The letter which comes with this leaflet contains the details of your appointment.

Your appointment will be held at a GP surgery which offers free parking. Obviously finding free spaces can sometimes be difficult so please leave plenty of time.

When you arrive

On arrival you should report to the reception desk. Please bring your appointment letter with you.

You will be asked to have an Electrocardiogram (ECG) which is a simple and useful test which records the rhythm and electrical activity of your heart. This will be carried out prior to your appointment. Please ensure you arrive 15 minutes prior to your appointment time in order to have your ECG. There is no preparation required for this test.

Who will I see?

You will be seen by either a Consultant Cardiologist or a member of their team such as a GP Clinician. Your case will have been reviewed by a Consultant Cardiologist who will decide who you should be seen by.

What will happen during the consultation?

You will be asked questions about your general health and the symptoms you are having. The clinician you see will want to know about any medication you are currently taking so please bring them or a list with you. He/she will make a full assessment of your condition and explain appropriate treatment options.

How long will it take?

New appointments usually last about 35 minutes and a follow up appointment 25 minutes.

What happens next?

Any suggested treatment and options will be explained fully during your consultation in order for you to make an informed decision. If you require medication you will be given a letter to take to your GP who will prescribe the appropriate medication.

Concerns and queries

If you have any concerns about this service please contact the Suffolk GP Federation Referral Booking Service on 0845 241 3313 or 01473 344930 and select option 4 for Cardiology

Details about the organisation running this service

The service is provided by Suffolk GP Federation CIC in partnership with Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust.