
The Leeds Teaching Hospitals



NHS Trust

DEPARTMENT OF NEUROSCIENCES
LEEDS GENERAL INFIRMARY

Personal VP Shunt Health Record



Please keep your health record safe

General discharge information

You have been discharged from hospital following an operation to have a VP shunt.

VP shunts are used to treat hydrocephalus.

If you have been discharged before your sutures have been removed then an appointment will be made at your GP's for your practice nurse to remove these.

You must inform the DVLA that you have had surgery.

They will advise you of any restrictions.

They can be contacted at:

DVLA
Longview Road
Morrison
Swansea
SA99 1TU

You may drink alcohol in moderation, unless you are taking medication. Please discuss this with the medical staff and the pharmacist.

If you take part in sports there is no reason as to why these cannot be resumed following insertion of your shunt. However extra care needs to be taken with contact sports.

A vast number of shunts last for many years and cause very few problems but if problems do occur the most common ones are due to shunt blockage or infection.

If you develop any problems with your shunt you will need medical attention. This will be provided at the Leeds General Infirmary.

The VP Shunt Care Pathway

The Neurosciences department at Leeds General Infirmary have developed a care pathway for patients who have a VP shunt. The pathway describes the care you will receive if you experience any problems with your shunt.

The care pathway enables you to have 24 hour direct access to ward 24 and any emergency treatment you may require.

When you have had an operation for an insertion of a shunt you will be discharged home with a copy of your most recent CT scan as well as this health record.

If you develop any problems with your shunt you will need to ring ward 24 and speak to the nurse in charge who will arrange for you to be seen on the ward.

You will need to bring this health record and your CT scan with you.

This Health Record contains essential information for the doctors and nurses such as the treatment that you have received as well as vital information such as your hospital number and any allergies you may have.

When you attend the ward the doctor will arrange for you to have a CT scan.

It is imperative that you bring your copy of your last CT scan with you. This is so the doctors can compare your new scan with your existing scan to identify if there are any problems with your shunt.

Signs and symptoms of a blocked / infected shunt

If you develop any of the following symptoms please contact ward 24 on 0113 392 7124.

- Headache - usually worse when coughing, sneezing, straining
- Vomiting
- Dizziness or faintness
- Visual problems
- Problems with concentration
- Abdominal pain
- Fever
- Loss of concentration / balance
- Swelling along the shunt tract
- Drowsiness

Your personal health record

DETAILS.....

.....

.....

.....

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

.....

DATE OF BIRTH.....

TELEPHONE NUMBER.....

NEXT OF KIN DETAILS.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

GP NAME.....

GP ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

.....

CONSULTANT NAME.....

HOSPITAL UNIT NUMBER.....

MEDICAL DETAILS.....

ALLERGIES.....

PAST MEDICAL HISTORY.....

TYPE OF HYDROCEPHALUS.....

OPERATION DETAILS.....

DATES OF SURGERY.....

PRESSURE SETTINGS.....

SHUNT NAME / TYPE.....

