
The Leeds Teaching Hospitals



NHS Trust

INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

Discharge advice following Cerebral Abscess



Medication

You will be discharged home on antibiotics, do not miss a dose and please follow the instructions on the packet and in the pharmacy information leaflet. Some people experience side effects such as skin rashes or diarrhoea. If these symptoms persist, please see your GP.

Your doctor will have told you how long we expect you to need the tablets for but you will be seen regularly once discharged home to monitor your progress, initially you will be seen every 1-2 weeks and your doctor may ask for further CT scans to ensure the antibiotics are working.

You may need to take steroid tablets to reduce the swelling around your abscess. Your GP will be advised when to reduce the dose. **You must never just stop taking steroids**, please see your GP if you have any concerns.

You may have been commenced on anti-convulsant tablets to prevent you having epileptic fits due to the abscess. It is important that you take these tablets even though you feel well. This medication will be reviewed at your outpatient appointments.

Avoid alcohol with all your medication.

Your nurse will discuss your medication with you prior to discharge, please ask if you have any queries.

Lifestyle

As your illness is caused by infection, you can expect to feel tired for a while, this will pass. It is important that you have regular rest periods and gradually increase your activity to a normal level.

One of the risks associated with cerebral abscess is epileptic fits due to the infection irritating your brain. You need to be aware that there is small risk that this may happen at home. Please ask your nurse for information for you and your family on how to manage

this situation should it occur. Please contact your GP if you are concerned.

You should not return to work until you have agreed a date with your consultant. Sick notes can initially be obtained from the ward and your GP will issue further sick notes.

Driving

It is your responsibility to inform the DVLA of your recent surgery and they will advise you of any restrictions.

Contact them at:

DVLC
Longview Road
Morrison
Swansea
SA991TU

You should also contact your insurance company.

Please contact us if

You develop any or the following symptoms:

- ✓ Recurrent seizures or fits
 - ✓ Sudden fever
 - ✓ Increased headache
 - ✓ Increased drowsiness
 - ✓ Vomiting
 - ✓ Difficulty in speaking or understanding what is being said to you.
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Your family should contact us if you become very sleepy or slightly confused.

If you have any further problems or queries following your discharge, please feel free to contact us on the below numbers:

Ward 23: **0113 3927123** or Ward 24: **0113 3927124**